

What you will find here is an email to news reporter, Mike Deeson, because he said to contact him if I was having trouble getting Public Records under Florida's chapter 119 Public Records Law. In this email, I mention that I also spoke with Lakeland Police Lt. Joe Hinson, but that even he did not help me, and, **even to this day**, my records request was not granted. -Tue. 14 Sept. 2010 --*Gordon Wayne Watts, LAKELAND, Fla.*

Subj: **Correction email: Mike, Reg.: Chapter 119 Problems**
Date: 3/15/2006
To: MDeeson@TampaBays10.com, Gww1210
CC: Gww12102002@yahoo.com, Gww1210@gmail.com

CORRECTION: You can scratch off the 21st below, Mike, since that was on a Saturday: I did not ask to speak to anyone in any important department that day: Nothing's open in the Police Department on Saturday's except the dispatch: All business hours dept's are closed: Plus, I made a few spelling errors below: Please accept this email instead of my previous one. (So, the only days in question are the morning hours of the 19th, 20th, and 23rd -and possibly the 18th, but I am not sure of that.)

Gordon in Lakeland

In a message dated 3/15/2006 6:38:05 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, Gww1210 writes:
Mike, (Cc to all my email addys)

You told me to email you the documents I wanted from the Lakeland Police Department if they gave me any problems with my Public Records Request, as described by Chapter 119 laws.

Well, first I apologize for being tardy: I worked a lot this weekend, and then fell sick with the flu, and then I had to take my mother's cat to the vet due to a freak accident with the house fan (we HAVE no AC in the house, just a big fan), but anyhow, here is the tale of the tape:

Gloria in the "records" department (which handles paper records, like calls to service, reports, etc.), who initially gave me some trouble and referred me to Brenda Wallis in "Crime Analysis," an automatic charge of about \$23.50, did come through with a master list of calls. However, she did not have enough time to get all the records, as it was near 5pm, but I don't feel comfortable going back, because a couple of officers gave me the "evil eye," with one (Officer Smith) coming over to where I was and (temporarily) standing about one inch from me, as if to send me a message. (Maybe I am misreading him? Maybe he does that to everyone to keep order and means no harm.)

However, on Monday, 03-06-2006 (nine days ago), I left a message with Kris Katchadourian, at extension 8911, asking for copies of the phone calls that I had made to dispatch, and she NEVER returned my message.

This, Mike, is the ~THIRD~ time that "comm" (abbreviation for "communications") has refused my chapter 119 requests, and I do believe that I saw a story recently in the news that governmental agencies have NOT been making sure the public has access to government records, as the law requires, so this would make a story, if you so choose. (I am willing to cooperate with any reasonable requests to aid you, if you want to do any story: You can be assured I am not afraid to tell it like it is and look into the camera without fear, but I DO fear walking into the police department without others watching me closely.)

The time period of the phone calls in question is the early morning hours of Jan 19, 20, and 21, as 8am to 11:11am, on the 23rd of January.

What you will find (if they release the records, Mike) is a dispatcher telling me that I can not go directly to the Chief. (I had mistakenly thought I had talked to the top investigator in Internal Affairs, because her number was on literature they handed out.)

What you then find is me following the dispatcher's orders to follow the "chain of command," and speak to a Sgt. Debra More in Internal Affairs, but, Mike, when I went in to talk to her (only following orders, and doing what I was told), I nearly got arrested on the spot for supposedly not accepting the initial findings of internal affairs. (I have ample proof that officers perjured both in court and in affidavits they signed, by comparing the statements with known facts, such as another tape I could get, which showed I was not "warned out of the area," as the affidavit claims.)

Then, on the 24th, the next day after I had left my final message for Sgt. More, I tried to report a disabled vehicle causing a driving hazard, in front of my home, and I found my phone number blocked from calling the police department. My father witnessed this, and the phone company confirmed this; Is it not illegal for the police to block your number!?

Remember when I said this was the third time record release has been refused?

Well, one time, I asked for a copy of a tape of when a cop made a derogatory comment about me, when I and a neighbor reported a tall man knocking on doors at around 11 o'clock pm. They NEVER released that tape, even though I provided the EXACT time of it's occurrence (when I heard it on my police scanner). The sergeant, however, did discipline officer Ron Rose, and he apologized and has tried to be a good cop, as far as I can tell.

Wednesday, April 26, 2006 America Online: Gww1210

Another time, after I was false arrested, I asked for a copy of the comm tape showing the dispatcher never said what the cops alleged in their statement, where they perjured, and they NEVER released that tape to me, which was demanded under discovery rules and certainly accessible under chapter 119 public records to me. They finally, after a long time, released it to my public defender, and the state backed off, but I was denied a jury trial (unconstitutionally, I feel), so I accepted the money-for-dropped charges deal the state offered!

I do have one admission to make, though: One of those times above, when I asked for release of some tapes, Lieutenant Joe Henson refused to accept my cash deposit (a requirement), and said the department would get any records I asked for, even if they were stupid requests, but he never pulled through and granted my request. While I was very upset, I think he may have been trying to save me some money by refusing my request, since he seemed like a nice guy, and talked about his motorcycle hobby, when I asked him about his belt buckle. (But, even if he wanted to save me some money or hassle, his actions violated chapter 119.)

I apologize that I don't have the exact times of the calls in this case, but Mike, I am human and make mistakes, yet this does not alleviate the release of the records. Their refusal, Mike, is not a mistake: It is intentional. (Plus, I gave up on taking note of time, after the first few refusals of Comm: After all, what difference would it make: They still would not release the records.)

My phone number was blocked in retaliation for my attempts to follow the chain of command as the dispatcher had instructed me; yet, even had she not told me, I have an inherent right to ask to speak to the chief if I feel I have a case: After all, I had *never* asked before to speak with the chief, and one time won't break the bank, so why the fuss? (after my number was blocked, I could not directly call extension 8911, and someone had to transfer me.)

The department might attempt to place me as a trouble maker, since I have called the police a few more times than average, but each time it was warranted: For example, just last week, I was woken out of a dead sleep by a crash in front of my home, but my mother (who lives with my father and myself) was watching TV and did not hear it, and refused to report it or be witness. (I was afraid that there may be injuries, so I called the cops; But I was also afraid the cars might leave before the cops got there, and the cops might try to use this as an excuse to false arrest me again, on supposed false 911 calls, but the wreck was loud.)

My point is that, while a few of the trouble-maker cops like my mother more than me, this is not warranted, and most cops seem good, so I want to rid the department of the few bad cops who despise honest citizens -and have no problem refusing to comply with the few "Public Records" chapter 119 requests I make.

*** BOTTOM LINE: *** The few trouble-maker cops out there see "little people" as easy targets, and refuse our records requests, but, should a COP need access to some records, they WILL grant THEM access, but the "little guy," like me, needs more help than the big and strong "rich and powerful," I think. (I don't favor denying them access to records to which they are entitled, since they have a job to do, but you see my point.) The cops don't want to release these tapes, since they will show their culpability -again.

Not expecting anything except your best effort, but I shall cooperate with any plans you have.

Important Numbers:

Main Number (Dispatch) - 863-834-6900
Lakeland Police Dept Records: 863-834-6936
Records Supervisor extension: 863-834-6969
Crime Analysis: 863-834-6983
Communications records: 863-834-8911

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ALWAYS FAITHFUL - To God

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Truth is the strongest, most stable force in the Universe.
TRUTH doesn't bend to the will of tyrants.
Gordon Wayne Watts
Get Truth.

"First, they [Nazis] came for the Jews. I was silent. I was not a Jew. Then they came for the Communists. I was silent. I was not a Communist. Then they came for the trade unionists. I was silent. I was not a trade unionist. Then they came for me. There was no one left to speak for me." (Martin Niemoller, given credit for a quotation in The Harper Religious and Inspirational Quotation Companion, ed. Margaret Pepper (New York: Harper & Row, 1989), 429 -as cited on page 44, note 17, of Religious Cleansing in the American Republic, by Keith A. Fornier, Copyright 1993, by Liberty, Life, and Family Publications.

(Actually, they may not have come for the Jews first, as it's far more likely they came for the prisoners, mentally handicapped, and other so-called "inferiors" first -as historians tell us -so they could get "practiced up;" But, they did come for them -due to the silence of their neighbors -and due, in part, to their own silence. So the general idea is correct: "Speak up now, or forever hold your peace." -Gordon)

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