OPEN LETTER TO SHERIFF MICHAEL CHITWOOD

Michael Chitwood Volusia County Sheriff <u>mchitwood@volusiasheriff.gov</u>

Ref: Alleged AK-47 gun fire directed towards Volusia County deputies by two middle school children (June 2021)

August 3, 2023

Sheriff Chitwood:

As you may – **OR** may not be aware of – VolusiaExposed.Com has published several articles, in which we voiced concerns regarding a June 2021 shooting incident between two middle school children and the Volusia Sheriff's Office (VSO). **(below are two linked examples)**

February 22, 2023 DARK JUSTICE WITHIN THE 7th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT 15 Year-old girl railroaded into 20 year prison sentence http://volusiaexposed.com/corrections/2023/jacksonnelsonhearing1272023a.html

May 22, 2023 The Concocted Criminal Prosecution Of Ms. Nicole Jackson-Maldonado http://volusiaexposed.com/corrections/2023/jacksonmaldonado32023.html

While we (VolusiaExposed.Com) in no way condone the children's actions – we have experienced difficulties in aligning some of the provided facts - with **YOUR** vocalized narrative against these children. In the particular – your accusation that at least one of the children fired the AK-47 military style rife at your deputies. (see below linked video)

Sheriff Chitwood's press briefing note comments around 1:13 minutes regarding AK-47 gun fire <u>https://youtu.be/1VMwsKcRRJI</u>

In our **OPINION** - the AK-47 aspect of this shooting incident provided the catalyst which transported this incident on to the worldwide media stage. In short, the alleged firing of that **particular weapon** gave the incident it's "*Bonnie and Clyde*" media legs.

This publication is of the **OPINION** - that absent the false narrative of AK-47 gun fire – that the *"Bonnie & Clyde"* moniker would have never attached – thereby negating worldwide media coverage. **(below are just two examples of many international media articles referencing the AK-47)**

Kids, 12 and 14, charged in 'Bonnie and Clyde' shootout with police

https://globalnews.ca/news/7914787/children-police-shootout-ak47-shotgun-florida/

Boy, 12, accused of firing on police with AK-47 in Florida 'Bonnie and Clyde' rampage makes first court appearance https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/crime/volusia-county-shootout-travis-obrien-b1859148.html

As you are aware - VSO Detective Cordell Lemay's investigative report concluded that the children had NOT fired the AK-47 rifle. (see below linked VSO report – last sentence within the second to the last paragraph of the report)

VSO Detective Cordell LeMay's Investigative Report <u>http://volusiaexposed.com/vcso/2022/nicolejackson92022/chargingreport.pdf</u>

Recently, and after a five (5) month delay – our publication received the Florida Department Of Law Enforcement (FDLE) investigative report into this very same shooting incident. (see below linked copy of the FDLE report)

FDLE report - VSO vs. Two middle schoolers http://volusiaexposed.com/corrections/2023/jacksonmaldonado72023/fdleinvestigation.pdf

From our review of the FDLE report – no law enforcement witnesses – including those that fired their weapons at the children would or could verify that the children fired the AK-47 rifle.

Within this FDLE report the ONLY person that stated that the AK-47 was fired was the twelve year-old male child – stating that he had fired the weapon towards the responding deputies. The FDLE report also documents that the child was experiencing a diabetic emergency (see page 38 – blood sugar of 443) – and was providing incoherent, rambling and inaccurate statements (see pages 17-20 of the FDLE report)

Given your **particular statement** within the above linked video (press briefing) - that the male child fired the AK-47 at your deputies at 8:54 pm – our publication wishes to inquire the following:

1. Were you an eyewitness to the shooting incident? Did you actually – personally witness any of these two children fire the AK-47 rifle at your deputies?

2. If you were **not** an eye witness – then what facts and evidence did you use to justify your verbal statement that the male child fired the AK-47 rifle at your deputies.

3. Do you stand by your statement that the AK-47 was fired at your deputies?

Sheriff, in the past – you have been critical of both civilians and judges - that you alleged provided false narratives against your deputies / officers. (see below links for particular examples)

July 8, 2021

STATE ATTORNEY DECLINES TO PROSECUTE WOMAN THAT SHERIFF SAYS LIED ABOUT DEPUTY http://volusiaexposed.com/vcso/2021/stuckcloseout72021.html In your above linked February 21, 2012 letter to Circuit Court Judge Joe Will – you state that the judge "labeled" two of your Daytona Beach police officers as "liars". **(In 2012 your were the DBPD police chief)**

In 2021 – you alleged that civilian Tammy Stuck had provided a false narrative against one of your deputies. You had her criminally charged for the alleged false narrative. However, upon a review by the local State Attorney's Office (SAO) (see below linked SAO written conclusion) – the SAO concluded that Mrs. Stuck's statement (narrative) was a political opinion – and not a crime. http://volusiaexposed.com/vcso/2021/stuckcloseout72021/stuckcloseout.pdf

Within your February 2012 letter to Judge Joe Will – your stated - **"No police chief or police organization condones officers fabricating evidence, falsifying police reports, lying in court or lying during internal proceedings."**

Additionally – within your 2012 letter to Judge Joe Will – your quoted Founding Father John Adams – **"Facts are stubborn things; and whatever may be our wishes, our inclinations, or the dictates of our passion; they cannot alter the state of facts and evidence".**

Sir – do you believe it to be appropriate – and / or ethical - for a police administrator to advise the media that a child – at a particular time (8:54pm) - opened fire on his deputies with a military rifle – when the facts and evidence do not support that?

Sheriff – surely if you can be critical of civilians and Circuit Court judges – then this publication is within our rights, and obligations to challenge YOU to support your statement with facts and evidence - that during the 2021 shooting incident - the children either fired OR did not fire the AK-47 rounds at your deputies.

Regards,

VolusiaExposed.Com editor@volusiaexposed.com

"Truth will ultimately prevail where there is pains to bring it to light." ~ George Washington

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