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Subject: Officer Watkins / Snider
Date: Thu, 06 Oct 2011 12:12:06 -0400

Director Ford:

It has come to our attention that Corrections Officer Gary Watkins recently retired from the Volusia County Division of Corrections.

It is our understanding that Officer Watkins, a nearly 30 year veteran within the Volusia County law enforcement community, was only granted a 20% pay out of his accrued personal leave time. (an 80% penalty)

That this penalty was authorized by your office, apparently in response to Officer Watkins' alleged failure to give a two week written notice.

However, it is our understanding that you authorized the 100% payment of accrued personal leave to ex-Officer Snider, even though he failed to supply the same appropriate notice and, in light of the fact that his departure was connected to misconduct.

The below link is to our web page which contains the documents attached to the Snider situation. These documents were provided by the county via public records requests.

<http://volusiaexposed.com/corrections/snider.html>

We are working on an article that will compare the resignations of both Officer Snider and Watkins – both of which apparently transpired while you were the Corrections Director.

We shall be presenting the documents in both officer's cases and exploring /questioning why although both officers apparently did not submit a two week resignation notice, only the officer that was being separated for misconduct (Snider – as per his CJSTC 61 / 61A form) was eligible for payment of 100% of his accrued personal leave. We anticipate a rather extensive public record request in preparation for this investigative article. (county emails, personnel documents, division / county policies etc.)

Please accept this as an opportunity for you to explain why these

officers' separations and personal leave payments were apparently handled differently (if indeed they were handled differently). If our understanding regarding either Snider's or Watkins' personal leave payouts are incorrect, in any manner, we would greatly appreciate your clarifications. Absent these officers separations being handled differently, VolusiaExposed would have to re-evaluate whether this matter is of significant interest or publication value.

However, if they were treated differently, and absent a rationale explanation from your office, VolusiaExposed.Com would like to probe whether these incidents provide insight into the practice of retaliation and disparative treatment within the Volusia County Department of Public Protection.

Thank You

VolusiaExposed.Com

"Behavior which appears superficially correct but is intrinsically corrupt always irritates those who see below the surface."- James Bryant Conant

cc. County Personnel Director, Tom Motes

Volusia County Department of Public Protection Director, Mike Coffin