

On Wednesday, June 5, 2024 at 11:52am, I received a text message on my personal cellphone from Tiffany Faucette stating, "Hey its Tiffany can you come to the office please."

At 11:52am, I received a text message on my personal cellphone from General Manager Grace Noonan stating, "We need an officer."

This happened to be my day off, which I was summoned to a District Attorneys meeting regarding a Homicide Case which I was a responding officer that took the initial report. This meeting began at 10:30am and lasted until 1pm. During this time, my cellphone was turned off. I was in a meeting with several individuals from the DA's office as well as Franklin County Sheriff's Office Investigators.

At 2:35pm, I received a phone call from BOD President Steve Ragagila. Steve had me on the speaker phone with Grace Noonan. Steve began to raise his voice and asked If I had been checking my phone. I informed him I checked several emails this morning. Steve proceeded to ask, why then am I hearing about an incident that took place at the POA Office where an irate resident barged into the office and barricaded herself in Jennifers Office. It took POA staff to force their way into that office because they feared for Jennifers life. All they could hear was yelling and banging around. We had a life-threatening situation and Grace couldn't even get ahold of an officer. We had no LRPD response.

I informed Steve that it was my day off and I was in court all morning. I asked him why no one called 911. Grace proceeded to say that she called the LRPD Office and sent me a text message asking for an officer. I responded by saying, If this was a life threatening situation why wouldn't anyone call 911, I have told the community on several occasions that the fastest way to get an officer to respond is to call 911. We have one officer working per shift and isn't always at the office. I then asked Grace, if she knew that the POA office had silent alarm buttons, Grace said she knew about them, and I asked why Ashely or Tiffany didn't press them to alert the 911 Dispatch Center. Grace continued to say well we didn't think we needed to that's why we called you all.

Steve proceeded to say he wanted an officer to come take a report and he wants the individual prosecuted to the full extent of the law. I hung up the phone and called the on-duty officer, Officer Shumate. I informed him of the situation at the POA office. Sergeant Wescott and Officer Shumate responded to the POA office and interviewed staff and reviewed security camera footage from inside the POA office.

I received a call back from Sergeant Wescott informing me he had concluded his investigation. Sergeant Wescott stated the incident described by BOD President never happened that way. Wescott stated he reviewed the camera footage, and the individual gets let into the office and walks to Jennifers Office where you see the door close. The door reopens shortly after and the individual walks out. At no time did he witness any confrontation by the individual or POA staff. Wescott stated he and Officer Shumate attempted to talk to the General Manager and BOD President, but they refused to speak to them stating they were not involved in the incident. Wescott typed up a report detailing the information of the incident.

X

Gabriel A.Fanara
Interim Chief