

"wagner@hssinternational.com" wrote:

Willie:

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As you are aware by now, Lt. Fauchier told me to "bring in all of your stuff," but Sergeant Lovelady said to stand down, and to disregard it for now. Lovelady said to wait for him to fix things on Monday.

Anyway, I'm writing you this email (no, I have not sent it to anyone else in this department), because this entire episode is pure bullshit, and you know it... (Don't read between the lines, I have absolutely nothing against you – you have only done me good, and have been a great mentor).

Of course, I am "terminated" over business cards it seems. According to Lovelady my card has to say "Reserve Division" on it. That's funny, because a year ago when I had Cathy look over the business card ordering form she is the one who told me what wording needed to be on it. Nothing, I repeat, nothing was said about the words "Reserve Division." But, just so I could play it safe (because there never seems to be one correct answer there) I went to Reserve Deputy Poon, who I respected and knew had been with the Department for a while, and asked him for one of his business cards. He gave me one. Well, what do you know – no words indicating, "Reserve" anywhere on his business card. So, let's run through this. I had Cathy help me out, I had one tangible example from another Reserve deputy, and I thought I was good to go – in good faith. So, is it any wonder to anybody why my cards look like everybody else's?

And, if I were being so damn "sneaky" why would I leave a business card with Investigator Wilson of the Bomb Squad? If I had anything to hide, anything at all, I could have easily have said, "I don't have any cards on me, sorry." But, I went in there, and here are my exact words to Wilson, "Hi, I'm Reserve Sergeant Wagner with the Reserve Dignitary Protection Unit. We're having a meeting over there (I pointed to the trailer) tonight. I have here an inert bomb that a friend of mine made a few years ago. I use it in training. Can you look at this thing? I don't know much about bombs. I want to see if it is actually constructed properly. I want to know if it would be a viable weapon if it were hooked up to real explosives." Now, Willie, why would I go through so much trouble to use the word "Reserve?" Because I told you guys in that witch hunt of a meeting Tuesday that I would use the word "Reserve" in front of everything. I'm proud to be a Reserve, and titles don't *float my boat* anyway. It's the same job a regular does anyway. I've done both in my time – honestly what do I care. You and I both know HSS does not hang on my position here one iota (of course the Assistant Sheriff called me a liar several times when I tried to tell him that). Anyway, I'm rabbit trailing. Basically, the first words out of Wilson's mouth were, "Who ever made this is a nut." In utter surprise I asked, "What do you mean nut?" She said, "I mean nut. This is the type of device that someone like the Unibomber would make." Then she gave me a long lesson on the differences between various types of bomb makers – amateurs, terrorists and psychos. So, I asked, "From a scale of amateur to very sophisticated, where would this bomb place?" She answered (while gesturing with her hand by her face to show a level), "Very sophisticated." Well, no shocker there.

I tried to warn everyone that Joseph Thinn is a potentially dangerous person. You, yourself commented on him once you heard him, and Lt. Fauchier said, and I quote, "That guy's a real wing nut." Everyone in that room saw him storm out of there while yelling how I betrayed him. When I handed Jessica that memo to give to the Assistant Sheriff, not one person took me seriously. In fact, what was it that Jaramillo told me as he waved around the memo I submitted, oh yea, that I was "just trying to smear his (Thinn) name" that I was "just trying to get a reaction" that "you don't actually believe he's a threat," and Jaramillo went on and on. I forget how many times he

called me a liar.

Well, since nobody else seemed to give a crap about my safety, even after meeting Thinn and seeing what a wako he really is, I took a device that Thinn had made to get an expert opinion on it. Funny that the words Investigator Wilson chose were mentally ill related when looking at an inanimate object that this guy had made. No shit!

I knew this guy, HSS fired him, and I wanted nothing to do with him. Jaramillo is the one who forced me to sit in this guy's presence, after a search that would make any airport screener look like a pro, without first investigating the matter like any other law enforcement agency would when handling a complaint (hmmm, after 12 years in law enforcement I believe it goes like this: 1. Talk to the complainant and get a statement. 2. Determine if a crime had been committed, or a violation of any County or Department rules. 3. Assign a direct supervisor or Internal Affairs personnel to determine if the complaint is founded or unfounded. 4. Get statements from the deputy. 5. Take appropriate action... Of course, I am talking about a normal "look into it" procedure and not a witch hunt method, which the rules never apply anyway).

Well, on track, don't you remember me calling you Thursday after noon asking you, "Tonight is our DPU meeting. Are you going to be there?" You told me, "I will be in and out, but I'll be there." I said, "Okay, I will see you there." I went to the Bomb Squad, got the confirmation that I wanted, and then went directly to your office to tell you about this device. At the Tuesday meeting I had already told you that Thinn had made training devices for CMPD when we did some scenarios there for SWAT training. Of course, this was years before Thinn turned nuts. I wanted to let you and Lt. Fauchier know first hand that I was not a liar like Jaramillo accused me of, and that I have legitimate reason to fear Thinn, and I would hope that the Sheriff's Department would be somewhat concerned since Thinn demonstrated to members of this department that he is hostile, upset – and now you know he can make a bomb that can take out the entire floor of the command structure of this department (according to Investigator Wilson). Of course, NONE OF US WOULD BE IN THIS MESS had everyone just let me meet with Jaramillo before meeting like I requested 5 times prior to the meeting. FIVE TIMES!

And, I don't care what Jaramillo thinks of me, or if he carries out his threats against me, and my corporation. Had I just said nothing, and not tell anyone about this guy, and something were to have happened (or is happen in the future), that would have been irresponsible of me. That would have been the true sin. Trying to warn my fellow officers is worthy of this bullshit wrath. So, I sat there for 20 minutes in Jaramillo's chair getting insulted, called a liar, and embarrassed. For what? Because, I was fucking right. Because he was embarrassed that he had to acknowledge that it was indeed a civil matter, and not a Sheriff's matter. Now, because Jaramillo forced this meeting to take place I now have this pissed off psycho even angrier at me than he was a year ago. The very next day Thinn called me on my cell phone and threatened me, and I hung up on his ass. How is this suppose to make my wife feel, or my family, or those in my corporation. This recent flare up might not have occurred had I not been forced into a room with Thinn. Jaramillo's pissed? I'M FUCKING LIVID! Not, at the Department per se, but at the stupidity of a high-ranking official creating that situation when I tried to prevent it. Oh, but now that Thinn stormed out angrier than a hornet, let's talk about why the fuck you're lucky that you're keeping your badge and gun. Well, at least the Bomb Squad (I also spoke to the Lieutenant of the Squad with Lovelady) seems to now think that we need to know about this guy. Funny how a little proof can back up a sworn officer's statement. Heaven forbid if I was believed based just on my word. Enough said about the bomb issue. At least I warned everyone, and I'm still checking my cars and home daily – do you have to? I got to live with this asshole possibly getting me at anytime. But again, at least you guys know, and the Irvine P.D. (DR # 02-1199).

Let's move on to another point. Jaramillo was right about one thing, I am "very intelligent" and I do know what I am doing. And, you and I know that this business card issue and the Thinn issue, is just a sideshow. You knew what I'd be facing going into that meeting before I even went. You even coached me on how to respond to Jaramillo. And, according to Jaramillo himself, he knew about this Thinn thing in March – why it took 9 months before I finally was pulled into it is a mystery. Anyway, We both know that the main reason I was pulled into that meeting was to:

1. Let me know that a few egos don't like my association with HSS International
2. That, how dare I say that I am on the Dignitary Protection Unit (DPU)
3. And that I am using my position to generate business

First of all, a two-minute phone conversation with Thinn would have revealed that his gripe with me and with HSS International was a civil matter, which had ABSOLUTELY NOTHING to do with the Sheriff's Department.

For the Assistant Sheriff to say to me that I was using my position with the Sheriff's Department to "make a buck," and that I am *leading people on* to believe that I am the Sergeant of the regular DPU or VPU (whatever, they call it), and that I am posing as a "Regular" Sergeant is flat out false. You know that from DAY ONE that I was up front with this department concerning my full time job. I told my interviewers that I train police and military units, I told my background investigator, I told you – and I've always had your support. Everyone told me in my hiring process that my talents were desirable to the department, even Sergeant Wallstrom said to you, "See the caliber of people that we are getting." Was it not you who promoted me a year ago and said, "Sergeant. That's going to look good in the book isn't it? (the HSS brochure). What do your buddies think? Come on, who takes care of you." For two years I have handed out the brochure to anyone who talked about training. I have always said, "This is a company I run, if anyone is interested you may attend. This is not a Sheriff's course." A pile of these brochures sits 24 hours a day in the Association Store (I am a member of the Association and see nothing wrong with them promoting officer training), and for goodness sake Willie, this Department sends personnel to HSS Courses, and has for years. I don't know what Jaramillo was getting at when we was trying to find out how many OCSD deputies went to the YAMAM training. I wrote a letter to Lt. Lazaro and told him that we had two FREE slots for his personnel. He sent one. We had 35 law enforcement officers there that day. Some departments officially sent their people there, some guys bought there own way in (hoorah!), but we were not trying to make it out that HSS was training the OCSD. We don't need to list any departments to attract students. We only did it this one time because – for all reasons – we had to much space on the bottom and had to fill it with something. So, we listed the department were the students were from. Nobody, and I repeat, nobody has ever complained about it. But, because my department seems not to like it, fine, it will never happen again. I told my staff never to mention any department on a flyer. It really doesn't matter. But, going back to what I was getting at, we have trained personnel from this department, not just the Reserve Division, but others as well. Dan Erber is putting a detailed list together as we speak. Plus, a few years ago the A.C.T. staff had me come in and evaluate their training methods for cell extractions and defensive tactics for inmate situations. This was way before I became a deputy, oh sorry, Reserve Deputy, here. HSS gave this department free time and even offered a couple of FREE courses to show this department the quality of training that HSS provides. Many of the staff that we showed really wanted our program after we gave a demonstration, and said it was needed. The project never got off of the ground because – well, let's just say that not all supervisors feel that officer-safety training is really needed. However, many institutions have sponsored HSS training, and we are one of only a handful of vendors authorized to train the California Department of Corrections. I have personally trained personnel from approximately a dozen facilities (everything from cell block deputies to entire SRT teams). But, I don't blame you for sitting back there in the meeting and not saying anything about you even sending Reserves to HSS training. Jaramillo would have shut you down, then and there. Even the SWAT Captain did not volunteer any information than what he was asked to do.

Now, related to the training inquisition, I had no idea that having the word "Sheriff" (nothing indicates the Orange County Sheriff's on our material- no patches, no badges, no insignias) was a big deal. I guess if I had been more "sneaking" as Jaramillo put it, I should have not handed out an HSS brochure to my chain of command at the Christmas party. I guess I should have made sure Haidl didn't get his hands on one, or Fauchier, or Lovelady, or you. What a crock! I have nothing to hide, and according to Hensley have done nothing illegal. If this department did not like me indicating that my category was "Sheriff" on an HSS brochure then how about a respectful, "Hey, we'd appreciate it if you don't use the word 'Sheriff,' thanks" and I would have listened. Like, who gives a shit anyway outside of this department? It's a typical case of the left hand not knowing what the right hand is doing. In 11 years of stating that my category of law enforcement was "Police" then "Sheriff" while with HSS, not one

person, not one organization, has ever, EVER, said anything about that. In fact, the only complaint to HSS that I can remember, having to do with a name, is when the Phoenix FBI SWAT team asked us to remove their unit patch from our brochure because someone in Washington, D.C. did not like it in there. On our next printing, it was gone. The FBI never said, take us off of your WHO YOU'VE TRAINED list, they just had an issue with the patch. We didn't ask why. Maybe it was an "unofficial" patch, maybe the HRT team in D.C. got bent out of shape, who knows why. On the other hand, the U.S. Marshals SOG (America's oldest counter-terrorist team) insists that we use their unit patch on the back of our brochure – go figure. Maybe that's because we officially train their personnel all across America. Now there's a group that has their shit together. But no one has ever stated that using the words, Police, Sheriff, Federal Agent, Marine, etc. was illegal or unethical if the instructor was indeed working in that capacity – whether he is a Reserve or Regular. And, by the way, and I know you know this already, HSS does not see a difference between Reserves and Regulars. We have both in our cadre, but we don't state it. The military Reservists now in Afghanistan would tell you that their job is no different than the regulars. The Reserve Pilot's bomb drops just as fast as the "full-time" F-18 pilot's bomb. When I put on an OCSD uniform, or a business suit to protect a diplomat, that you assign me to, how is that job any different from a regular – especially for us Level I Reserves. Half the guys on our DPU unit have more experience and training than the "Regulars." Who on the Regular DPU is more connected, and more experienced than Hensley. I didn't see any of them shaking the President's hand two weeks ago. You and I have talked, as well as all of our unit, and all of us are tired of this "us vs. them" mentality. I surprised how Jaramillo seemed to have confirmed this "group think" mentality, and raked me over the coals for not stating Reserve Sergeant on the brochure. To me, if someone has on the OCSD badge, and they are out there doing the job, they are a fucking equal. Maybe it's just me, but the Regular and the Reserve bleed just as easy, and I got to make sure that does not happen to either when I work with them.

Bottom line is that I have been so open about HSS International. More than open. I have hid nothing. And, whether I am with this department or not does not affect HSS one bit. I don't think the US Navy or the INS are going to suddenly drop their request for training because Wagner is not an OCSD deputy, or the German government is going to retract their contract. Departments and military units have me teach them because I am a fucking expert. And, all of our instructors are experts in their field. That's why we thrive. You and I both know that my level of training surpasses even the majority of regulars. I have access to training that most people dream about. I get invited to, not only train, but to participate in their training and actual real-life missions, with some of the world's best units and top counter-terrorist teams (North America, South America, Europe and the Middle East), I train entire FBI SWAT offices, DEA agents, I've jumped out of helicopters with Marine Units, I've practiced waterborne assaults with members of the Honolulu SWAT team, and the list goes on and on, and on. This is the reason from day one, before I was even sworn in into this department, that you wanted me on the DPU unit. So, nobody can sit there and tell me that I am using the department. The department is using me. I volunteer my time. I don't get paid. I put my skin on the line. I am always asking to be put on the front lines. And for what? So, a few jealous assholes can bad mouth me, my organization, and the Reserve DPU. Why would the Sergeant of the VDP say to me, "Not everyone endorses HSS" as him and I were leaving Jaramillo's office to retrieve my firearm from his desk drawer (my own departmental issued 9mm weapon was taken from me, a sworn officer, to attend the Jaramillo meeting. I guess I can be trusted before and after, but not during the meeting). I don't need to go into all of the political crap that Hensley must face just trying to get a professional team together – you already know the story there. The only reason I am here with the Sheriff's Department is because I love law enforcement. I love the work, and I never want to leave it. I may not have the time for it full time, but I am never going to give it up.

Now, I find myself being thrown out of the department, and my supervisor, Lieutenant Fauchier, does not even tell me why. No exit papers to sign, no accusations, no briefing, nothing. Just a few blurted words, "Bring in all your stuff" like I were an inmate at the IRC. Can this department, in all clear conscience, terminate me, destroy a 12 year law enforcement career (10 of those years full-time), even though I have a perfect record and have given 100% of myself? Is it that fucking easy to do to a fellow law enforcement brother? And for what? Because I was forced to attend a meeting that had multiple agendas and stacked against me before I even walked in? Because I was right about the threat level of Thinn? Because I warned everyone a year ago, and now it has to be dealt with? Because I use a business card that I sought instructions on, and got the okay on? Because there is a pissing match

between the regular DPU and the Reserve DPU? Because I work for one of the top five training organizations in the U.S. and have always given this department and its personnel a discount? Because I volunteered free training to the OCSD SWAT team and Regular DPU and nobody seems to want a "Reserve" in their fiefdom. If they didn't want it fine. I brought in instructors from some of the top units in the world and had them train Reserves only. I guess the department has their shit so together that they don't need to see the latest tactics from Israeli Yamam, German GSG9, guys who deal with the Basque Separatists, or even the guru of British surveillance that I'm flying out in March. I know Jaramillo does not give a shit, because instead of praising me for offering training to the SWAT Team or full-time DPU, which the SWAT Captain confirmed that he has sent personnel to, I get dumped on. Well, fuck me for caring about my department and trying to contribute. Piss on me for trying to pass on some life-saving, officer safety techniques that I learned from the world's best. Yea, I got the message loud and clear on Tuesday about what Jaramillo thought about me, HSS, and Reserves in general.

If it's that easy to ruin a person's career, then I really need to speak to Sheriff Carona. I have to speak to the man himself, to look him in the eyes, and tell me if that's the kind of Department he is running. If it is, then yes, I am definitely the wrong person for this job. I actually believe in *integrity, telling the truth, sacrifice*, and everything I learned (from the Orange County Sheriff's Academy in fact, over a decade ago). Fortunately, my livelihood does not depend on the Sheriff, I don't care about preserving my own little empire, or climbing the pole of success, I just need to hear it from the horse's mouth, the Sheriff, what he believes about this whole incident. He's a Christian man, and he's going to look at this with a little more wisdom than it has been handled.

Again Willie, Lieutenant, your support has been great these past two years. I have only spoken highly of you since I have known you. I have had a great time just coming in your office and shooting the breeze about military matters, the DPU, and catch you up on my latest "adventure." I also respect Lovelady, and what appears to be genuine concern for the people under him, and I feel sorry that he now has been dragged into this mess, and must try to justify what is being done here. All I could hope for is that when asked, the truth is given from you - nothing more, nothing less. Of course, I'm not sure of my current status, so I hope you would let the Sheriff know that I need to speak with him. After all, I am a tax payer, I loyally served his department, I was his bodyguard once, and with Jaramillo unprofessionally calling me names and threatening me with criminal charges and destroying my business, I feel I have no other alternative than to go to the top of my chain of command.

On a personal note, I don't really have the time to go through all of this crap, or spend countless hours trying to defend myself. But, it looks like I have no choice. So much for Jaramillo's statement that this *would not leave his office*. You know me pretty well. I never asked for this "fight," and never wanted it. But, I WILL NOT PERMIT MY CAREER TO BE DESTROYED because of improper procedures and a few embarrassed higher ups, and a paranoid Lieutenant in the bomb squad. What's up with that? You were not there, but Lovelady was. I forgot the guy's name, but Lovelady had to convince this guy that I was "on their side." This LT. basically said I had no business training with simulated explosive devices (my C4 was children's playdo). Lovelady tried to explain to him that it was part of the DPU training. I think the guy was absolutely correct in asking more questions about me, and why I brought in a device into his squad, and making sure he verified my employment with the Reserves. Bravo for him. I think someone should give him a commendation, because there is a guy who is taking domestic terrorism seriously. But please, he told me that it was a felony to have a device like that. Again, Lovelady had to say to him, "These Reserves are used more than the regulars. They are supposed to look for bombs." Anyway, that's all I need, is to have the Sheriff's Department arrest me for using training tools. I guess I can carry a gun around 24-7, but I can't train my troops on how to search cars and buildings with realistic training tools. I guess I am suppose to say during training, "Everyone use your imagination." Do I need to cancel February 2<sup>nd</sup> training, because a friend of mine with the Los Angeles Sheriff's is supposed to teach a bomb detection course for our monthly training, and he is bringing inert devices. Devices that our guys are likely to come across - not nuclear weapons or anything like that. So, needless to say, I told the Bomb Squad, on Lovelady's recommendation, "You can keep this training tool until we need it." Oh brother! It's all part of that mentality, "we want you to train on car formations, but we won't provide your unit with cars." "We want you to look for bombs when you are protecting the Sheriff or the U.S. Treasurer, but we don't want you having anything that looks like a bomb." I know, I know, I am preaching to the

choir.

I hope the rest of your weekend is great, because mine will not be. I am just going to be documenting everything, and blowing this weekend on this uncalled for task. You know how to get a hold of me.

Respectfully,

Jim