

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

To:

Capt. Nikki Dofflemyer

Internal Affairs

From:

Vames R. Ryan, Deputy Director Department of Public Protection

File: DPP-11-098

Date: September 22, 2011

Subject: Internal Investigation

Based on information contained in an undated anonymous letter, you are directed to conduct an internal investigation inquiring into allegations of specific, inappropriate relationships among several current/ former employees of the Beach Safety Division.

The completed investigation shall be submitted no later than October 21, 2011 to my attention along with your recommended findings.

By copy of this memorandum, the Beach Safety Director will provide assistance in obtaining additional documentation and interviews as may be required.

Cc: Mike D. Coffin, Director, Dept. of Public Protection Kevin Sweat, Director, Beach Safety Division

JRR/map

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Director Coffin:

you might want to know what is going on in one of the departments you are responsible for-

There is a rumor- speculation that Captain Rich Gardner is sleeping with officer Paige Winters (still on probation)

there is also another rumor that he has also been sleeping with another female officer while on duty and on a personal level. (she was vying for an investigator spot under Captain Gardner, as well as nominated by him for officer of the year 2 years in a row, is this the "right of passage" to get the spot?

He has also been known to hack into her Face book account and her bank account information, as well as an ongoing issue where she asked him to come over and secure her weapon as she was unstable. We tell our employees they are not allowed to pull up to a tower and talk to a lifeguard, yet he is a Captain and she is a trainee and with all the heat from other similar incidents something needs to be done.

After Capt. Gardner is aware of this complaint, he will begin asking around and attempting to find out where this originated, he intimidates people, protect your employees.

You might want to look into Captain Ray Manchester texting girls on his county issued cell phones while working the parking garage until early in the morning, one in particular is Kim Keil, (2008) as well as MANY other inappropriate issues that are going on inside this department that Kevin knows all about.

There was a sexual complaint about a night shift officer and a female having sex in the Ormond Beach lifeguard station, Capt. Gardner and Pat Casey responded and took a complaint and "talked the girl out of going forward with it" this is another cover up issue that needs to be looked into. (separate from the Nowviskie complaint)

Captain Williams was known to have younger girls take showers with him at the Ormond lifeguard station while on duty after the morning drills, this was brought to Kevins attention but no one ever heard about it being investigated- as he retired abruptly once this came to light-another cover up? (Jessica Addington) and others Danielle Smith, Sasha Medina, he would also drink with underage lifeguards on his boat.

To say Kevin Sweat did not know about any of these incidents would show that he has no idea what is going on in his department and lets them run free without supervision.

You also have multiple officers all the way up to the Chief that do a lot of personal business on duty, getting a haircut on Main St, running errands etc. in county vehicles and personal vehicles, even leaving work early and showing up late.

2007 time- Kevin Sweat also directed a full time employee (Rodrigo Miranda) to take his county vehicle up to his personal home and pressure clean his house while the employee was on duty, then when that same employee puts his daughter on the front of a 4 wheeler and drove her in circle in front of a council member, Kevin disciplines him for "improper use of county

equipment" because the council member "saw" it. Special treatment for the Chief?

Officer Texter has made several inappropriate comments towards girls as well as driving around with a bag-binder with several Polaroid pictures of girl breast and other sexual positions that he took with a county issued camera. This is a known fact within the department including Capt. Manchester, Capt. Gardner, Capt. Williams, Capt. Cunningham and others. There was also another complaint (Internal Affair Investigation) about Officer Texter ref. a comment made to a female along the lines of "do I make you wet" and Kevin "explained" how the investigating officer should handle it in the absence of Capt. Gardner. This is only a small amount of information that is out there, I think you need to clean up your department.

As well as your next supervisor Andrew Ethridge is in line for a promotion has been arrested 2 times regarding domestic battery while working for the county, yet he continues to be employed with his LEO certificate and now will become a supervisor. He constantly becomes possessive of fellow female employees and has been known to have sexual relations while on and off duty with them. This si also a known issue amongst other employees and supervisors.

Your agency is corrupt with several different issues as well as covers ups regularly. Such as with Capt. Gardner, once he realized that he might be in trouble for different issues he got into the county employment help program to help cover it up, you have other officers that show up with strong odors of alcohol on their breath and in their system while carrying a gun and this is a KNOWN fact amongst fellow employees, his supervisors, and all the way up to Kevin.

I think SOMEONE that isn't going to try to cover this up needs to take a very close look at these issues. A copy was sent out 3 weeks ago and nothing has been done to even kind of curtail these actions.

This letter will also be mailed to the News Journal, Orlando Sentinel, as well as other media sources if nothing is done about this situation.

A Concerned Employee