



Florida Department of Law Enforcement

OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE INVESTIGATIONS

***Edgewater Police Chief David Arcieri:
Alleged Obstruction of 2011 FDLE Investigation***

INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

INVESTIGATIVE PREDICATE

On January 4, 2013, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), Office of Executive Investigations, received correspondence from Edgewater City Manager Tracey Barlow. In his correspondence, Mr. Barlow explained that he had obtained additional information related to a 2011 FDLE investigation (EI-73-8546) regarding Edgewater Police Chief David Arcieri and the circumstances under which he obtained a degree from Daytona State College. Additional information obtained by Mr. Barlow alleged that Chief Arcieri attempted to obstruct the 2011 investigation by discouraging employees from cooperating with FDLE.

INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS

In the original FDLE investigation, a complaint was received alleging that Chief Arcieri utilized employees of the Edgewater Police Department to complete his college course work in an effort to obtain a two year degree. The complainant identified three (3) police officers who were alleged to have completed numerous school assignments for Chief Arcieri. When interviewed, two (2) of the officers, including Chad Anderson, testified they did not complete any course work for Chief Arcieri. The third officer indicated that she and Chief Arcieri mutually shared information related to quiz and test material. The third officer further indicated that she was never compelled by Chief Arcieri to complete any course work for him. The FDLE investigation was presented to the Office of the State Attorney and it was determined that there was insufficient evidence to pursue criminal prosecution.

In January 2013, Edgewater City Manager Tracy Barlow informed FDLE that, during a conversation with Officer Anderson, he (Anderson) admitted to withholding information from FDLE during the 2011 investigation. Barlow further stated Officer Anderson alleged that Chief Arcieri approached Officer Anderson prior to Officer Anderson giving testimony during the 2011 investigation and threatened Officer Anderson's employment status if he disclosed his involvement in completing Chief Arcieri's college course work.

FDLE re-interviewed Officer Anderson who confirmed the information presented by Barlow. Officer Anderson again stated that he did not complete any course work for Chief Arcieri. Officer Anderson further stated, however, that he did not provide FDLE with complete information concerning his part in the sharing of college course material, including tests/quizzes, with Chief Arcieri during his initial interview because he believed there would be negative repercussions related to his employment with the Edgewater Police Department. Officer Anderson stated that he based this belief upon previous statements made by Chief Arcieri. Officer Anderson advised that, although Chief Arcieri did not make direct threats regarding Officer Anderson's employment, Officer Anderson felt that there was an implied threat.

FDLE also interviewed Chief Arcieri regarding the allegations made by Officer Anderson. Chief Arcieri stated that he did share college course work back and forth with Officer Anderson, but it was his belief that it had been a mutually beneficial arrangement. Chief Arcieri stated that, at no time, did he ever threaten and/or imply to any employee of the Edgewater Police Department that there would be negative employment repercussions if they cooperated with the FDLE investigation.

STATE ATTORNEY REVIEW

On February 7, 2013, James Disinger, Assistant State Attorney of the Seventh Judicial Circuit, was provided with this Executive Summary for review and any action deemed appropriate.