Sheriff's Office

Holusia County

Ben F. Johnson, Sheriff

To:

Sheriff Ben F. Johnson

Date: September 21, 2008

From:

Sergeant Joel Turney

File: 054M192.08

Subject: Florida Highway Patrol Trooper Brooks

On 09/21/2008, at approximately 0100 Hours, I encountered Trooper Brooks at the District IV office. Trooper Brooks was conducting a hit and run investigation. Deputy Sean Johnson had a subject in custody for DUI that was also a suspect in Trooper Brooks' hit and run case. Deputy Daniel Shivers was at the office as the breath test operator. There were no other personnel present at the District IV office.

During the conversation between the trooper and deputies present, Deputy Shivers asked Trooper Brooks "What's up with your Lieutenant running for Sheriff?" A conversation ensued in which Trooper Brooks explained what the Lieutenant had to do to run for Sheriff, and the fact the lieutenant would have to transfer to another troop if he does not win the upcoming election. During the conversation, Trooper Brooks stated that Lieutenant Vaughn had accused him of engaging in inappropriate activity with his girlfriend, Deputy Kenzi Wolf, at the FHP station in Deland. He also advised the lieutenant had investigated his cases with the state attorney's office, because the lieutenant felt he had "overcharged" subjects.

Without being prompted, Trooper Brooks stated he was tired of receiving complaints and calls about Sheriff Johnson driving drunk. Trooper Brooks stated he has been driving around the west side of the county while on duty, looking for Sheriff Johnson driving drunk.

I did not reply to Trooper Brooks' comments about Sheriff Johnson. Deputy Johnson and Deputy Shivers also did not reply. Nothing else notable was mentioned between the trooper and the deputies. Trooper Brooks left the office a short time later upon completion of his hit and run investigation.

Nited: Mist 9/23/UF