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To: VolusiaExposed.Com <VolusiaExposed@cfl.rr.com>
Subject: RE: [Fwd: RE: SVAA & VCSO]
Date: Tue, 24 Jan 2012 10:49:18 -0500

Thank you for your kind remarks on our fairness and openness, and also for your recognition of our efforts at transparency. I certainly understand Volusia Exposed's long-held position regarding the investigation of in-custody deaths. In response to your inquiry and invitation to comment, here's our point-of-view:

The distinction is really quite simple. The investigation into the Southeast Volusia Advertising Authority is criminal in nature, and jail death investigations for the most part are not.

Due to the potential for criminal wrong-doing, the investigation of the Advertising Authority was turned over to FDLE for reasons already explained to you in a previous e-mail. By contrast, investigations into in-custody deaths at the jail generally are not criminal in nature. In those cases, our investigative function is to confirm the manner and cause of death. As you know, these deaths almost always turn out to be the result of either suicide or natural causes. We see no conflict in investigating these deaths at the jail and feel certain that the public does not as well.

Naturally, if the investigation reveals potential wrong-doing on the part of jail personnel, the County's Corrections Division has the authority to conduct an administrative investigation or refer the matter to FDLE if it deems necessary and appropriate.

Regards,
Gary