

**Pam Lewis - Document for Filing, State v. Wiggins, 22CC-2018-CR-267**

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Email  
FILED June 10 20 21  
8:13 AM  
Pamela A. Lewis  
Circuit Court Clerk MOH

All,

Please find attached for filing Defendant's Filing No. 69, Motion to Strike Notice of Intention to Seek Death Penalty, Dismiss Indictment and Disqualify the Office of District Attorney General for the 23rd Judicial District.

Sincerely,

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR DICKSON COUNTY, TENNESSEE  
AT CHARLOTTE  
23<sup>RD</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Emil  
FILED June 10 20 21  
8:13 AM  
Pamela A. Lewis /MDH  
Circuit Court Clerk

STATE OF TENNESSEE )  
)  
vs. ) NO. 22CC-2018-CR-267  
) David D. Wolfe, Judge  
STEVEN JOSHUA WIGGINS ) Death Penalty

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**DEFENDANT FILING NO. 69**

**MOTION TO STRIKE NOTICE OF INTENTION TO SEEK DEATH PENALTY,  
DISMISS INDICTMENT AND DISQUALIFY THE OFFICE OF DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
GENERAL FOR THE 23RD JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

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Comes now the Defendant, STEVEN JOSHUA WIGGINS, through undersigned counsel, pursuant to the provisions of the Federal and State Constitutions, namely: Due Process Clause (5<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment, U.S. Constitution; Article I §§ 8 and 17, Tennessee Constitution); Equal Protection Clause (14<sup>th</sup> Amendment, U.S. Constitution; Article XI, § 8, Tennessee Constitution); Effective Assistance of Counsel (6<sup>th</sup> Amendment, U.S. Constitution; Article I, § 9, Tennessee Constitution); Prohibition Against Cruel and Unusual Punishment (8<sup>th</sup> Amendment, U.S. Constitution; Article I, § 16, Tennessee Constitution); and respectfully moves this Honorable Court to strike the Notice of Intention to Seek Death Penalty, dismiss the Indictment, and disqualify the Office of the District Attorney General for the 23rd Judicial District from further participation in the prosecution of Mr. Wiggins due to the Attorney General's constitutionally intolerable conflict of interest.

In support of this Motion, STEVEN JOSHUA WIGGINS represents unto this Honorable Court the following:

### **INTRODUCTION**

On June 7, 2018, a 12-count Indictment was filed in this Court charging Mr. Wiggins with First Degree Murder and related offenses. On June 8, 2018, the State filed its Notice of Intention to Seek the Death Penalty for Mr. Wiggins. Mr. Wiggins is accused of shooting and killing Sgt. Daniel Baker of the Dickson County Sheriff's Department on May 30, 2018, and various related offenses. Trial of this matter is scheduled to begin on July 26, 2021.

District Attorney General Crouch has an apparent personal fidelity and bias towards Sgt. Baker's family, colleagues and law enforcement such that he cannot be impartial in matters relating to Sgt. Baker. On April 27, 2021, General Crouch, agents of the TBI, officers of the Dickson County Police Department and the City of Dickson were sued in the United States District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee for violating the civil rights of Joshua Garton. Earlier this year, at General Crouch's behest, Mr. Garton was arrested, interrogated and jailed for nearly two weeks for the constitutionally protected conduct of posting on Facebook a fake meme purporting to disrespect Sgt. Baker's grave. The charge against him was ultimately dismissed following a preliminary hearing.

General Crouch's conduct in the Garton case underscores his apparently strong personal interest in, and bias in favor of, Sgt. Baker, his family and law enforcement. It therefore exposes an unconstitutional conflict between that personal interest and his duty as a public prosecutor to fairly and impartially seek justice on behalf of the people as a whole in the case against Mr. Wiggins.

A prosecutor “is the representative not of an ordinary party to a controversy, but of a sovereignty whose obligation to govern impartially is as compelling as its obligation to govern at all; and whose interest, therefore, in a criminal prosecution is not that it shall win a case, but that justice shall be done.” *Berger v. United States*, 295 U.S. 78, 88 (1935). The appearance of impropriety created by General Crouch’s continued efforts to convict Mr. Wiggins and put him to death in the face of his demonstrated lack of objectivity is palpable and unacceptable. General Crouch and his staff must therefore be disqualified from further participation in this case.

### **Background of Bias**

District Attorney General Crouch has been publicly and closely aligned with Sgt. Baker, his family and law enforcement throughout the pendency of this case, all of whom want Mr. Wiggins to be convicted, sentenced to death and executed, and have said so to the media. In the days following the death of Sgt. Baker, Sheriff Bledsoe spoke to reporters numerous times on camera and stated his desire that Mr. Wiggins be sentenced to death: “I want the maximum penalty the law will allow in this case;” “I pray to God that our court will be a terror to him on the punishment he receives;” “I similarly pray that he will get the maximum punishment and our court will be a terror to him for the evil he has done.”

Following the announcement of the federal indictment of Mr. Wiggins for the death of Sgt. Baker, on August 8, 2019, Mrs. Baker released the following statement to the media:

I am pleased to hear that there will now be two paths in motion to potentially achieve the necessary outcome of Wiggins being put to death. It is my hope that this case is made an example for all to see, exactly, without question what America will do to “cop killers”! This year, 29 officers have been killed by gun violence. One of those 29 was Sgt. Steve Hinkle, killed in February, here in TN. I do not understand how there are people out in this world that feel it is ok to disrespect law enforcement officials and/or just gun them down. I truly believe that this is not a gun problem . . . it’s a people problem! To make America great again: Trump – build the wall, Parents – discipline your children, and capital punishment in a timely manner!

*See Ex. 1.*

On May 31, 2018, General Crouch posted to his Facebook page a press release announcing the establishment of a reward fund for information leading to Mr. Wiggins' arrest. *See Ex. 2.* A viewer commented on the post: "Through private donations, we can get the reward to \$100,000 to deliver him dead to authorities. Small contribution toward 'justice.'" *Id.* Another wrote: "General, thank you for your hard work and tireless support for our Law Enforcement Officers." *Id.* On December 6, 2018, General Crouch posted to his Facebook page a photo of a wreath adorned with ornaments, made by his wife, in memory of victims of homicide in the judicial district in 2018, including Sgt. Baker. *See Ex. 3.* He also posted a separate photograph on the same day that showed a closeup of the ornaments with the victims' names engraved on them. *See Ex. 4.* On an unknown date, General Crouch became a Facebook "friend" of a page entitled Remembering Daniel Baker. *See Ex. 5.* His profile picture, which was a photograph of a Dickson County Deputy Sheriff's badge with a mourning band on it, appeared next to his name. *Id.*

On February 22, 2019, General Crouch, Sheriff Bledsoe and others met with State Representative Mary Littleton in the state capitol building on the day that she was presenting the Sgt. Daniel Baker Act to the House. General Crouch had already announced that he was seeking the death penalty for Mr. Wiggins. The Sgt. Daniel Baker Act was a piece of legislation that limited the number of appeals available to death sentenced inmates for the purpose of speeding up executions. Rep. Littleton posted to her public Facebook page a photo of herself with the smiling group, which included General Crouch, Mrs. Baker and Sheriff Bledsoe. *See Ex. 6.* Mrs. Baker was wearing a shirt emblazoned with the word "ENOUGH" and referencing the "thin blue line." *Id.* Rep. Littleton also posted to her Facebook page a photograph of the House chamber with the caption: "Tonight I presented HB258 the 'SGT Baker Act' on the floor. My heart was

full to see Lisa Baker, Family and Friends watch as it passed.” General Crouch reposted Rep. Littleton’s post to his own page on March 18, 2019. *See* Ex. 7. He also reposted a similar post by Rep. Michael Curcio. *See* Ex. 25.

On April 10, 2019, General Crouch was back at the capitol building to observe the passage of the Sgt. Daniel Baker Act. He posted on his Facebook account a photograph of himself with Rep. Littleton and others. *See* Ex. 8. General Crouch also accompanied Mrs. Baker and Sheriff Bledsoe on a trip to Nashville on July 15, 2019 to attend the ceremonial signing of the Sgt. Daniel Baker Act by Governor Lee. The Senate GOP Caucus posted a photograph of them together with the Governor and others on their Twitter account. *See* Ex. 9. Many others posted similar photographs. *See* Ex. 10.

The week of May 13, 2019 was National Police Week in Washington, D.C. Sgt. Baker’s name was read at a ceremony honoring officers who lost their lives the previous year and his name was etched onto the law enforcement memorial wall. General Crouch attended the event with Mrs. Baker and then-Sheriff Bledsoe. He publicized his attendance by posting photos of the event on his Facebook page. *See* Ex. 11. On September 21, 2019, General Crouch was part of a group dubbed “Baker’s Dozen” that ran together in the Wounded Warrior Run. General Crouch posted a photograph of the group, including himself, on his Facebook page writing that they were “running in honor of Sgt. Daniel Baker” and tagging Mrs. Baker. *See* Ex. 12. To this day, the profile picture on General Crouch’s Facebook page is a photograph of a Dickson County Deputy Sheriff’s badge adorned with a black and blue-striped mourning band. The public list of his Facebook “friends” includes Mrs. Baker.

### **Arrest of a Private Citizen for constitutionally protected speech**

In January 2021, a young man named Joshua Garton posted a fake photograph with a political caption, or meme, on the social media website Facebook.com. *See* Ex. 13. The photograph was taken from the cover of the 2009 album “Pissing on Your Grave” by the band known as The Rites and depicted two individuals urinating on a gravestone. *Id.* In Mr. Garton’s post, the photo had been altered by adding an image of Sgt. Baker superimposed on the gravestone. *Id.* The photograph was accompanied by a caption that read: “Just showing my respect to deputy Daniel Baker from the #dicksoncountypolicedepartment.” *Id.*

District Attorney General Ray Crouch, Jr., was so presumably outraged by Mr. Garton’s post that on January 22, 2021, he directed the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (“TBI”) to launch a criminal investigation into the matter and identify the individual who created and uploaded it.<sup>1</sup> *Id.* Even though the TBI recognized that the photograph was fake almost immediately, it posted an alert on its own Twitter account urging members of the public to come forward with any information about who was responsible for its creation. *See*, Ex. 14. From tips that came in as a result, and a digital investigation by one of its Technical Services Unit agents, the TBI identified Joshua Garton as their suspect. That same day Mr. Garton was arrested, interrogated and booked into the Dickson County Jail on a charge of misdemeanor Harassment under Tenn. Code § 39-17-308. *See* Ex. 15. His bail was set at \$76,000 – in a one-count misdemeanor case - and, unfortunately, Mr. Garton was unable to pay it. *Id.* He therefore remained in jail for the next 12 days until February 3, 2021, when he appeared in court for a

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<sup>1</sup> Mr. Garton had posted the meme on an account with the name “Joseph Callaway,” not his own name.

preliminary hearing. At the conclusion of the hearing, General Sessions Court Judge Craig Monsue dismissed the case for lack of probable cause. *See* Ex. 16.

Judge Monsue's decision to dismiss the case was indisputably correct. Under the relevant section of the statute, posting an image on social media may constitute Harassment only if the poster "[m]aliciously intends the communication to be a threat of harm to the victim" and "[a] reasonable person would perceive the communication to be a threat of harm." Tenn. Code § 39-17-308(a)(4)(A)-(B). Plainly, the Facebook post contained no threat of harm to anyone. Additionally, the statute requires that the poster act "with the intent that the image is viewed by the victim." *Id.* According to media reports, Mr. Garton posted the meme on his private Facebook page; it only came to the attention of General Crouch and others after other people shared it and distributed it. There is therefore no basis to infer that Mr. Garton intended for the image be communicated to Sgt. Baker's family or colleagues.

Not only did Mr. Garton's post fail to constitute a crime under the statute, it was political speech protected by the First Amendment. "[T]he First Amendment protects a significant amount of verbal criticism and challenge directed at police officers . . . The freedom of individuals verbally to oppose or challenge police action without thereby risking arrest is one of the principal characteristics by which we distinguish a free nation from a police state . . . [W]e have repeatedly invalidated laws that provide the police with unfettered discretion to arrest individuals for words or conduct that annoy or offend them." *City of Houston v. Hill*, 482 U.S. 451, 461-65 (1987). *See also Lewis v. City of New Orleans*, 415 U.S. 130, 132-34 (1974) (invalidating city ordinance that permitted arrest and prosecution for yelling and cursing at police officers during traffic stop).

At the time he directed the charging and jailing of Mr. Garton, District Attorney General Crouch surely knew that he was proceeding without probable cause to believe that a crime had



been committed, for it was unequivocally apparent from a straightforward reading of the applicable laws. *See Garton v. Crouch et al.*, No. 3:21-cv-00338, ECF No. 1 (Complaint) (M.D. Tenn. April 27, 2021) (“The Defendants did not have probable cause to arrest the Plaintiff or to believe that he had committed any crime, and they knew it.”). He was therefore acting in a manner that directly contravened both the State and Federal Constitutions and his overall obligation as a prosecutor to seek justice. *See Bailey v. United States*, 586 U.S. 186, 192-93 (2013) (noting that arrest of a person is permissible under the Fourth Amendment only if there exists probable cause to believe that he has committed a crime) (quoting *Dunaway v. New York*, 442 U.S. 200, 213 (1979); *State v. Berrios*, 235 S.W.3d 99, 104 (Tenn. 2007) (noting that Article 1, § 7 of the Tennessee Constitution requires that arrest be predicated on probable cause); Tenn. R. Sup. Ct 8, Rule 3.8(a) (“The prosecutor in a criminal case . . . shall refrain from prosecuting a charge that the prosecutor knows is not supported by probable cause”).

Once the news broke, legal commentators and even members of the general public recognized immediately that General Crouch’s actions were unlawful and they were outraged. The Facebook page of the TBI was flooded with negative comments. *See Ex. 17*. Hundreds of critical comments appeared on Twitter. *See Ex. 18*. The TBI office and the Dickson County Sheriff’s Office were bombarded with telephone calls from concerned citizens. *See Ex. 13 at 13-14*. On January 23, 2021, journalist Jerry Lambe of Lawandcrime.com posted an article about the case entitled ‘*Constitutionally Illiterate*’ Tennessee Authorities Arrest Man for ‘Posting and Anti-Police Meme’ on Social Media. *See Ex. 19*. The article drew numerous comments from the public that were highly critical of the arrest. *Id.* On January 25, 2021, Tyler Broker wrote a column for the online legal news site Abovethelaw.com, entitled *A Morally Reprehensible Act is Made Worse by a Legally Inexcusable Arrest*, in which he stated that “it is absurdly obvious to

anyone competent or at least dedicated to following the Constitution, that Garton's post was protected speech." See Ex. 20. Reporter C.J. Ciaramella also wrote an article about the case for the site Reason.com. See Ex. 21. In it, he described Mr. Garton as having "committed the unwritten crime of hurting a police officer's feelings, also known as 'contempt of cop,'" and he reposted critical tweets by Nashville civil rights attorney Daniel Horwitz, who now represents Mr. Garton. *Id.*

The same day, Jaron Schneider, editor-in-chief of the website Petapixel.com also wrote and posted a piece about the case online. See Ex. 22. Petapixel.com has 500,000 followers on Facebook and one million followers on Twitter. The article generated 38 comments, including one from a reader in the UK that stated: "what's the point in your First Amendment if this is allowed to happen? Even a school child could see that this blatantly violates it." *Id.* And attorney and regular media commentator Steve Lehto of Atlas, Michigan posted a video of himself discussing the Garton case on his Youtube.com channel. Lehto was scathingly critical of General Crouch's actions in the video, which has since been viewed 53,002 times and attracted 1,074 comments and 2,800 likes from viewers. The comments overwhelmingly condemn the conduct of General Crouch, the TBI and the arresting officers. See Ex. 23.

On April 27, 2021, Mr. Garton filed a civil rights suit against General Crouch, agents of the TBI, officers of the Dickson County Police Department and the City of Dickson in the United States District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee. See Ex 13. The complaint alleges that the defendants' actions in arresting, charging and jailing Mr. Garton with no probable cause to believe he had committed a crime constituted Malicious Prosecution, False Arrest and First Amendment Retaliation in violation of 42 U.S.C § 1983. It also includes claims for relief grounded in Civil Conspiracy/Agency Liability and the City of Dickson's Unconstitutional

Policies and Practices and seeks declarative and injunctive relief as well as at least \$1,000,000 in damages.

Reporter Nick Beres of News Channel 5 posted a report about the lawsuit on Facebook on April 28, 2021. The post received 288 comments and 96 shares, the vast majority of which were critical of law enforcement and supportive of Garton. *See* Ex. 24.

### **ARGUMENT**

**I. THE OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY GENERAL HAS A CONFLICT OF INTEREST SUCH THAT ITS CONTINUED PARTICIPATION IN THE PROSECUTION OF MR. WIGGINS WOULD VIOLATE HIS RIGHT TO A FAIR TRIAL GUARANTEED BY THE DUE PROCESS CLAUSE AND ARTICLE 1, § 8 OF THE TENNESSEE CONSTITUTION.**

District Attorney General Crouch and his office must be disqualified from further participation in the prosecution of Mr. Wiggins due to an actual and/or apparent conflict of interest that cannot be cured by the disqualification of General Crouch alone. All criminal defendants have a constitutionally guaranteed due process right to a fair trial. *See generally Darden v. Wainwright*, 477 U.S. 168, 181 (1986). But “death is different.” *Ring v. Arizona*, 536 U.S. 584, 606 (2002). In a capital case, where the defendant faces not only the loss of his liberty but the extinction of his very life, heightened procedural protections are required. Under the Eighth Amendment, “[t]he qualitative difference of death from all other punishments requires a correspondingly greater degree of scrutiny of the capital sentencing determination.” *Caldwell v. Mississippi*, 472 U.S. 320, 329 (1985). The involvement of an interested prosecutor violates the Eighth Amendment, the Due Process Clause and the Law of the Land provision in Article 1, § 8 of the Tennessee Constitution. *See Marshall v. Jerrico, Inc.*, 446 U.S. 238, 252 (1980); *State v. Eldridge*, 952 S.W.2d 775, 782 (Tenn. Crim. App. 1997).

The determination of whether a conflict of interest exists that requires that a prosecutor's office be disqualified in a criminal case is a three-step inquiry. First, "the trial court must determine whether there is an actual conflict of interest, which includes any circumstances in which an attorney cannot exercise his or her independent professional judgment free of 'compromising interests and loyalties.'" *State v. Culbreath*, 30 S.W.3d 309, 312 (Tenn. 2000). Second, "[i]f there is no actual conflict of interest, the court must nonetheless consider whether conduct has created an appearance of impropriety." *Id.* at 312-13. And third, "[i]f disqualification is required under either theory, the trial court must also determine whether the conflict of interest or appearance of impropriety requires disqualification of the entire District Attorney General's office." *Id.* at 313 (citing *State v. Tate*, 925 S.W.2d 548, 550 (Tenn. Crim. App. 1995)).

If a court fails to remove a disqualified prosecutor, its decision is reviewed for abuse of discretion. *See Tate*, 925 S.W.2d at 549-50. However, the failure to remove such a prosecutor is structural error – no harmlessness review can take place and no prejudice to the defendant need be shown. *See Young v. United States ex rel. Vuitton Et Fils S.A.*, 481 U.S. 787, 811-14 (1987) (noting that where prosecutor had conflict of interest harmlessness inquiry is "inappropriate" because it would require "unguided speculation" and concern for actual prejudice "misses the point, for what is at stake is the public perception of the integrity of our criminal justice system"). *See also Eldridge*, 951 S.W.2d at 784 (noting that conflicted prosecutor is one of the "violations [that] represent defects in the structure of the trial mechanism and thus defy analysis by the harmless error standards").

**A. The Special Ethical and Legal Obligations of a Prosecutor**

The duties and obligations of a prosecutor are unlike those of a private attorney in several important respects. Crucially, the prosecutor's client is not an individual but the public at large. A prosecutor "is the representative not of an ordinary party to a controversy, but of a sovereignty whose obligation to govern impartially is as compelling as its obligation to govern at all; and whose interest, therefore, in a criminal prosecution is not that it shall win a case, but that justice shall be done." *Berger v. United States*, 295 U.S. 78, 88 (1935). *See also* Carol A. Corrigan, *On Prosecutorial Ethics*, 13 Hastings Const. L.Q. 537, 538-89 (1986) ("The prosecutor speaks not solely for the victim, or the police, or those who support them, but for all the People. That body of "The People" includes the defendant and his family and those who care about him. It also includes the vast majority of citizens who know nothing about a particular case, but who give over to the prosecutor the authority to seek a just result in their name.").

While in an ordinary situation the client defines the objectives of the representation and the lawyer's actions are constrained to those that further those objectives, a prosecutor plays both roles on behalf of the public. He therefore has extremely broad discretion with little, if any, oversight:

A prosecutor exercises considerable discretion in matters such as the determination of which persons should be targets of investigation, what methods of investigation should be used, what information will be sought as evidence, which persons should be charged with what offenses, which persons should be utilized as witnesses, whether to enter into plea bargains and the terms on which they will be established, and whether any individuals should be granted immunity. These decisions, critical to the conduct of a prosecution, are all made outside the supervision of a court.

*Culbreath*, 30 S.W.3d at 316 (quoting *Young v. United States ex rel. Vuitton Et Fils S.A.*, 481 U.S. 787, 807 (1987)).

He or she is answerable to no superior has virtually unbridled discretion in determining whether to prosecute and for what offense. No court may interfere with his discretion to prosecute, and in the formulation of this decision he or she is answerable to no one. In a very real sense this is the most powerful office in Tennessee today. Its responsibilities are awesome; the potential for abuse is frightening.

*State v. Superior Oil*, 875 S.W.2d 658, 660 (Tenn. 1994) (quoting *Dearborne v. State*, 575 S.W.2d 259, 262 (Tenn. 1978)).

A prosecutor must therefore carry out, and be seen to carry out, his duties in an unbiased and impartial manner at all times. “[P]rosecutors are expected to be impartial in the sense that they must seek the truth and not merely obtain convictions. They are also to be impartial in the sense that charging decisions should be based upon the evidence, without discrimination or bias for or against any groups or individuals.” *Culbreath*, 30 S.W.3d at 314. *See also People v. Superior Court (Greer)*, 561 P.2d 1164, 1172 (Cal. 1977) (“it is precisely because the prosecutor enjoys such broad discretion that the public he serves and those he accuses may justifiably demand that he perform his functions with the highest degree of integrity and impartiality, and with the appearance thereof”); *People v. Eubanks*, 927 P.2d 310, 315-16 (Cal. 1997) (noting that “the district attorney is expected to exercise his or her discretionary functions in the interests of the People at large, and not under the influence and control of an interested individual”).

These realities are reflected in the constraints placed upon the exercise of prosecutorial power by the state ethics rules. *See generally* Tenn. R. Sup. Ct 8, Rule 3.8. As Comment [1] to Rule 3.8 notes, “[a] prosecutor has the responsibility of a minister of justice whose duty is to seek justice rather than merely to advocate for the State’s victory at any given cost.” The Comment also quotes from the court’s opinion in *Culbreath* regarding the prosecutor’s duty to be impartial.

**B. General Crouch Has an Actual Conflict of Interest in the Prosecution and Sentencing of Steven Wiggins**

As evidenced by his treatment of Joshua Garton and his affiliations on social media, General Crouch is laboring under an actual conflict of interest because of the inherent incompatibility of his fealty to Sgt. Baker, Sgt. Baker's family and law enforcement in general. "[A]n actual conflict of interest includes any circumstances in which an attorney cannot exercise his or her independent professional judgment free of 'compromising interests and loyalties.'" *State v. White*, 114 S.W.3d 469, 476 (Tenn. 2003) (quoting *Culbreath*, 30 S.W.3d at 312-13)). See also Tenn. R. Sup. Ct. 8, Rule 1.7 (a)(2) ("A concurrent conflict of interest exists if . . . there is a significant risk that the representation of one or more clients will be materially limited by . . . a personal interest of the lawyer"); American Bar Association ("ABA"), *Criminal Justice Standards for the Prosecution Function* Std. 3-1.7(f) (4th ed. 2017) ("The prosecutor should not permit the prosecutor's professional judgment or obligations to be affected by the prosecutor's personal . . . interests or relationships").

Put another way, an actual conflict exists "whenever there is a reasonable possibility that the DA's office may not exercise its discretionary function in an evenhanded manner." *People v. Eubanks*, 927 P.2d 310, 318 (Cal. 1997) (internal quotations omitted). The type of personal conflict at issue in this case is a particularly grave threat to prosecutor's ability to impartially represent the interests of the public at large. *Id.* at 319 (noting that prosecutor's "personal interest or emotional involvement will have a particularly strong tendency to imply extraneous motivation" and gives rise to a conflict where circumstances "link the prosecutor too closely to a private party, for example a victim, who in turn has a personal interest in the defendant's prosecution and conviction").

There is plainly at least a significant risk that General Crouch's representation of the public interest in this case will be materially limited by his personal interest in, and relationships with, Sgt. Baker and Sgt. Baker's family and law enforcement. Mr. Wiggins has been unable to locate any authority based upon these precise facts, but cases assessing analogous situations are instructive. In *State v. Eldridge*, 951 S.W.2d 775, 781-82 (Tenn. Crim. App. 1997), attorneys for the victim in a civil case involving the same facts appeared as special prosecutors in the criminal case against the defendant. The appellate court found that the arrangement violated due process and constituted plain error, vacated the conviction and remanded for a new trial. *Id.* at 782-84. The harm, the court found, was that it placed the special prosecutor "in the awkward position of representing both the government and the individual victim or family of the victim." *Id.* at 781.

The Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals reached a similar conclusion where a prosecutor simultaneously represented the defendant's wife in a divorce proceeding involving the same assault that was the subject of the criminal charge. *Ganger v. Peyton*, 379 F.2d 709, 712-14 (4th Cir. 1967). Reversing the defendant's conviction as a violation of "the requirement of fundamental fairness assured by the Due Process Clause," the court noted:

Representing Granger's wife in the divorce proceeding suggests the strong possibility that the prosecuting attorney may have abdicated to the prosecuting witness (Granger's wife) in the criminal case the exercise of his responsibility and discretion in making charging decisions. If she did not actually make the decision to prosecute for felonious assault, certainly her interests were influential, and those conflicting interests may have impeded appropriate plea bargaining.

*Id.* at 713.

Additionally, in two cases the California Supreme Court upheld the decisions of the trial courts to disqualify the prosecutor for conflicts of interest. In *Greer*, 561 P.2d at 478-479, a murder case, the decedent's mother had worked as a clerk in the prosecutor's office for a year. And in *People v. Connor*, 666 P.2d 5, 6-7 (Cal. 1983), a deputy prosecutor was present, and in



some danger, during a shooting incident at the courthouse in which the defendant killed a deputy sheriff. The court found it “reasonable to conclude” that the events “may well prejudice the [deputy prosecutor’s] coworkers” and could “consciously or unconsciously . . . adversely affect[]” the prosecutor’s exercise of his discretionary powers either before or after trial, including his plea bargaining and sentencing recommendations. *Id.* at 9.

Here, obviously, General Crouch does not formally represent Sgt. Baker’s family or other members of law enforcement, nor do they work in his office. However, the impermissible division of loyalties is analogous. General Crouch has demonstrated a strong personal interest in the wellbeing of those individuals, who have expressed their desire for one outcome only, namely a conviction and death sentence for Steven Wiggins. But General Crouch’s duty to fairly and impartially seek justice on behalf of the people requires that he exercise his discretion in many different ways that may or may not result in that outcome.

Indeed, the case for disqualification of General Crouch due to an actual conflict is even more compelling here than in the cases cited above because there is no need to speculate whether his personal feelings might cloud his professional judgment. General Crouch’s affinity and fidelity to Sgt. Baker’s family and law enforcement caused him to prosecute Joshua Garton for engaging in constitutionally protected speech. Based upon his actions in the Garton matter, it is impossible to have confidence that he can act impartially in the prosecution of the person accused of killing the Sgt. Baker.

General Crouch’s continued involvement in the prosecution of Mr. Wiggins is even more troubling in light of his affiliations on social media. The contents of General Crouch’s social media throughout the prosecution of Steven Wiggins clearly illustrates his unwavering and

continuing loyalty to Sgt. Baker, Sgt. Baker's family and law enforcement. Such blatant bias has no place in the determination of whether to seek the death penalty and requires disqualification.

**C. The Prosecution of Steven Wiggins by General Crouch Creates an Intolerable Appearance of Impropriety**

In addition to the actual conflict of interest, General Crouch's actions in the Garton case create an overwhelming appearance of impropriety in this one that separately necessitates his disqualification. The requirement that a prosecutor whose conduct has created an appearance of impropriety be disqualified stems from the vital need to promote public confidence in the judicial system and the broader democracy:

To ensure and maintain public confidence in the integrity of the government, public officials, including prosecutors, must act impartially and responsibly. Government officials must be held to high ethical standards to make certain their activities are conducted in the public's interest. Furthermore, governments have a responsibility to the public to avoid even the appearance of impropriety and to act to reduce the opportunities and incentives for unethical behavior by their officials and employees. This is true of the prosecuting attorney because an appearance of impropriety on the part of a government attorney will inevitably harm not only the individual attorney, but also the entire system of government that allows such improprieties to take place.

*Culbreath*, 30 S.W.3d at 316 (quoting Roberta K. Flowers, *What You See is What You Get*:

*Applying the Appearance of Impropriety Standard to Prosecutors*, 63 Mo. L. Rev. 60, 68

(1998)). *See also State v. Tate*, 925 S.W.2d 548, 555 (Tenn. Crim. App. 1995) ("We cannot

allow public confidence in the complete fairness and impartiality of our tribunals to be eroded

and nothing which casts any doubt on the fairness of the proceedings should be tolerated.")

Accordingly, the "perception of a fair trial is just as important as the reality." *Id.* at 558. Never is this principal as important as it is in a capital case, where the prosecutor seeks to take the defendant's life.

Even more specifically, “[o]ne of the reasons often cited for the institution of public prosecutions is that Americans believed that an officer in a position of public trust could make decisions more impartially than could the victims of crimes or other private complainants, persons who often brought prosecutions under the older English system of criminal justice. This advantage of public prosecution is lost if those exercising the discretionary duties of the district attorney are subject to conflicting personal interests which might tend to compromise their impartiality.” *Greer*, 561 P.2d at 1172 (internal citations omitted). *See also People v. Gentile*, 127 A.D.2d 686, 689 (N.Y. App. Div. 1987) (noting that due to prosecutor’s “admittedly close personal relationship with the complainants (he became engaged to [one complainant’s] daughter) and his confessed deep emotional involvement in the case, he should neither have triad this case nor been involved in its course”).

To determine whether an appearance of impropriety severe enough to warrant disqualification has arisen, courts must apply an objective standard and view the facts from the perspective of a reasonable layperson. *Clinard v. Blackwood*, 46 S.W.3d 177, 187 (Tenn. 2001). “[A]n appearance of impropriety exists in those situations in which an ordinary knowledgeable citizen acquainted with the facts would conclude that the representation poses substantial risk of disservice to either the public interest or the interest of one of the clients.” *Id.* (internal quotations and alterations omitted).

In this instance, an ordinary, knowledgeable citizen familiar with General Crouch’s actions in the Garton case as well as his affiliations on social media would necessarily conclude that the right of Steven Wiggins to a fair trial and the right of the public to efficient and evenhanded administration of justice are at risk. As noted above, based upon General Crouch’s violation of the constitutional rights of Joshua Garton, no citizen could have confidence that he

will make impartial decisions in the case against Sgt. Baker's alleged killer. Indeed, a number of the comments that were made online when the treatment of Joshua Garton became public called for General Crouch to lose his position altogether. *See, e.g.*, Ex. 23 at 17. (Comment: "Apparently the DA signed off on this too. If there is any justice the DA will be disbarred." Reply: "Ha. DA's are the biggest criminals you will ever know and are protected. They uphold the crooked system." Reply: "There won't be justice though ... Reply: fuck disbarred, DA shouldbe [sic] charged and sued personally. They broke the law. Reply: The DA has and will enjoy qualified immunity. The taxpayers will be held accountable for ALL of these peoples actions."); *id.* at 20; (Comment: "If DAs and judges don't need to be held accountable for their actions, why does ANYONE need to be held accountable for their actions ?????"); *id.* at 27 (Comment: "Could this lead to an actual firing of the DA and/or police chief(s)? Or another case of 'swept under the rug,' 'police unions rehires,' DA going on to the 'Big Bucks' law firm"); *id.* at 77 (Comment: "All of the 'officials' involved in making this arrest happen, deserve to lose their jobs AND be banned from any such position of power again"). For these reasons, General Crouch should be disqualified.

**D. Because General Crouch is Fully Immersed in the Case and is the Elected Prosecutor in Charge, the Entire District Attorney General's Office Must be Disqualified**

The third step of the analysis under *Culbreath* is to determine whether General Crouch alone or his entire office must be disqualified from this prosecution. Because General Crouch is the head of the institution, the entire District Attorney General's Office must be disqualified from prosecuting Mr. Wiggins and seeking the death penalty against him. To avoid disqualification of the whole office, it is "incumbent on the state to prove by clear and convincing evidence that the challenged attorney has been sufficiently screened from the

remainder of the staff and its work on the pending case.” *Tate*, 925 S.W.2d at 558 (holding that entire district attorney general’s office must be removed where former judge on defendant’s case took over as District Attorney General and no attempts were made to screen his involvement in defendant’s case); *Culbreath*, 30 S.W.2d at 316 (affirming decision to remove entire District Attorney General’s Office where investigation of defendant was conducted by private attorney who received private funds from special interest group).

That showing, of course, is impossible to make in this matter. General Crouch has been intimately involved in the prosecution of Mr. Wiggins from its inception and he has been the public face of the office’s efforts at all times. Moreover, he is the head of the office and so his assistants are obliged to remain loyal to him and his announced positions and policies or risk dismissal. “The public interest in the efficient administration of justice requires that decisions made by . . . assistant prosecutors conform with the broad objectives chosen by the prosecutor.” *Livas v. Petka*, 711 F.2d 798, 801 (7th Cir. 1983). A head prosecutor is fully entitled to fire any of his assistants who do not subscribe to or follow those objectives. *See Latham v. Office of Atty. Gen. of State of Ohio*, 395 F.3d 261, 269 (6th Cir. 2005). The conflict of interest and appearance of impropriety engendered by General Crouch require that his whole office be disqualified from prosecuting and seeking to execute Steven Wiggins.

**II. DUE PROCESS REQUIRES THAT THE INDICTMENT SOUGHT AND OBTAINED BY GENERAL CROUCH AND THE NOTICE OF INTENT TO SEEK THE DEATH PENALTY FILED BY HIM BE DISMISSED.**

The decisions to seek a 12-count indictment against Mr. Wiggins and to seek the death penalty against him are irreparably tainted by General Crouch’s conflict of interest and so both

the Indictment and the Notice of Intent must be dismissed.<sup>2</sup> In *Culbreath*, the court found that the participation of a private attorney in the charging process was a “conflict of interest [that] tainted the entire prosecution of the case well before the charges were presented to the grand jury.” 30 S.W.3d at 318. It therefore held that the proceedings were “inherently improper” and that dismissal of the indictment was the appropriate remedy. *Id.* See also *Greer*, 561 P.2d at 481 n.5 (observing that “the same conflict of interest which disqualifies a prosecutor from participating in the trial of a criminal case may also taint the procedure by which the defendant was charged, if the same district attorney participated therein,” necessitating setting aside the charging document, and noting that state “concedes the incongruity of ordering the district attorney removed from the proceeding but of not setting aside the information filed by [him]”).

As noted above, General Crouch was very much involved in the case from its inception and the charging and death penalty decisions were his alone. Because those decisions were overshadowed and tainted by General Crouch’s personal interest and bias, the Court should dismiss both the Indictment and the Notice of Intent to Seek the Death Penalty.

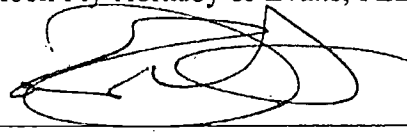
WHEREFORE, STEVEN JOSHUA WIGGINS respectfully requests that this Motion be granted and that the Office of the District Attorney General for 23rd Judicial District be disqualified from the prosecution of this case and the Indictment and Notice of Intent to Seek the Death Penalty be dismissed.

---

<sup>2</sup> Of course, the new prosecutor will be free to seek whatever charges and punishments he or she believes are warranted.

Respectfully submitted,

Bulloch Fly Hornsby & Evans, PLLC



---

LUKE A. EVANS, BPR # 23620

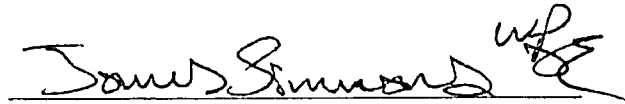
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(615) 896-4154

[lukeevans@bfhelaw.com](mailto:lukeevans@bfhelaw.com)



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JAMES A. SIMMONS, #10107

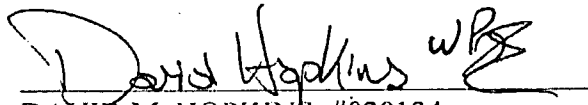
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P.O. Box 2934

Hendersonville, TN 37077

[Jas52@earthlink.net](mailto:Jas52@earthlink.net)



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DAVID M. HOPKINS, #020134

745 S. Church St., Ste A-130

Murfreesboro, TN 37130

[attydavidhopkins@gmail.com](mailto:attydavidhopkins@gmail.com)

(615) 852-8228

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I do hereby certify that a true and exact copy of the foregoing document was mailed, postage pre-paid, and/or emailed, on this the 9th day of June, 2021, to the following:

Ray Crouch, District Atty. Gen.  
David Wyatt, ADA  
Margaret F. Sagi  
Office of the District Attorney General  
23<sup>rd</sup> Judicial District  
PO Box 580  
Charlotte, TN 37036-0580

(wrcrouch@tndgac.org)  
(dwwyatt@tndgac.org)  
(mfsagi@tndagc.org)

Jacob W. Fendley  
Attorney for Erika Anne Castro-Miles  
128 Public Sq  
Clarksville, TN 37040-3443

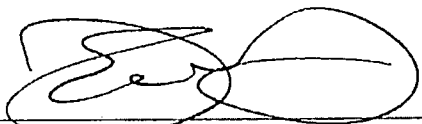
(jake@fendleylaw.com)

Susan Jones, Esq.  
PO Box 444  
Knoxville, TN 37901

(susan.jones@tncourts.gov)

The Honorable David D. Wolfe  
c/o Jennifer M. Frye, Law Clerk  
PO Box 158  
Charlotte, TN 37036

(jennifer.frye@tncourts.gov)

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Luke A. Evans



86°

**BREAKING NEWS** Endangered Child Alert issued for DeKalb County baby

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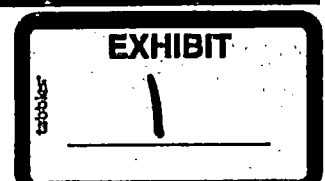
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LOCAL NEWS

## Steven Wiggins indicted, could face death penalty for federal charges



EXHIBIT

tabbles

1

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (WKRN) – Steven Wiggins, the man accused of killing Dickson County Sergeant Daniel Baker, could face the death penalty for federal charges against him involving the case.

A federal grand jury returned a four-count indictment against the 32-year-old on Wednesday for federal carjacking and firearms violations which resulted in Sgt. Baker's death. U.S. Attorney Don Cochran also filed notice with the court that the government intends to seek the death penalty in the case.

**MORE: Testimony reveals new details in shooting death of Sgt. Daniel Baker**

Sgt. Baker was killed on May 30, 2018, after responding to a suspicious vehicle call in Dickson County. According to the indictment and court records, Sgt. Baker determined the car Wiggins was occupying was stolen and ordered him and his passenger out of the car.

Wiggins is accused of firing several shots at Baker. The indictment also alleges that after shooting Baker, Wiggins dragged his body to the patrol car and placed him in the rear seat. Wiggins then reportedly drove the patrol car several miles, parked it and set Sgt. Baker's body on fire.

Wiggins remains jailed in Robertson County.

Sgt. Baker leaves behind his wife, Lisa, and young daughter, Meredith.

Lisa Baker released a statement to News 2:

*I am pleased to hear that there will now be two paths in motion to potentially achieve the necessary outcome of Wiggins being put to death. It is my hope that this case is made an example for all to see, exactly, without question what America will do to "cop killers"! This year, 29 officers have been killed by gun violence. One of those 29 was Sgt. Steve Hinkle, killed in*

86° February, here in TN. I do not understand how there are people out in this world that feel it is ok to disrespect law enforcement officials and/or just gun them down. I truly believe that this is not a gun problem...it's a people problem! To make America great again: Trump-build the wall, Parents-discipline your children, and capital punishment in a timely manner!

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## **Endangered Child Alert issued for DeKalb County baby**

**by Josh Breslow / Aug 15, 2019**

DEKALB COUNTY, Tenn. (WKRN) — The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation has issued an Endangered Child Alert for an 11-month-old boy missing out of DeKalb County.



### Remembering Daniel Baker

We hope people who love Daniel will find comfort in visiting his profile to remember and celebrate his life.

Learn more about the legacy contact setting and memorialized accounts on Facebook



Timeline About Friends Photos More ▾

### Friends

All Friends Current City Hometown Following

Search Friends



Results for: cr



Craig Brightwell

Add Friend



Josh Craig

Add Friend



Ray Crouch Jr.

Add Friend

More About Daniel Baker

### Photos

Daniel's Photos Albums



EXHIBIT

2



See All



## Check-Ins

Recent



Kentucky Lake  
Visited on March 19, 2016



Camden Bottoms  
Visited on January 31, 2016



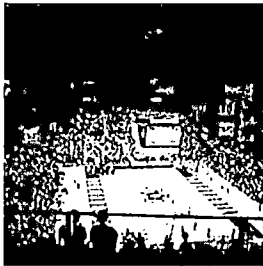
Camden Bottoms  
Visited on January 27, 2016



Camden Bottoms  
Visited on January 26, 2016



Camden Bottoms  
Visited on December 5, 2015



Memorial Gym - Vanderbilt U...  
Visited on February 8, 2014

## Sports

Sports Teams   Athletes



Team Lowrance



## Music

Artists



Def Leppard

102.9 The Buzz

## TV Shows

TV Shows



The Deer Society



910 Outdoors



Let's Fish TV



Tipping Point on ...



Rack Addiction O...



Drury Outdoors



Spook Spann



Professional Ang...



COPS



That '70s Show



Dave Mercer's Fa...



Mojo TV

See All

## Likes

All Likes TV Shows Artists Sports Teams Athletes Restaurants



Yawt Yawt

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Camden Bottoms WMA

Like Follow



Duck River Unit Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge

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Hair Junkies

Like Follow



Abernathy Marine

Like Follow



Gerald Swindle / GMAN

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Tennessee Valley Authority

Like Follow



SEAL Of Honor

Like Follow

See All



Dickson County Sheriff's Office



C & O Marine



Hair Junkies



(9) Ray Crouch Jr.

x +

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OSINT Stack



Ray Crouch Jr.

...

December 6, 2018 Edited

16th Annual Tennessee Season to Remember:  
Tonight we remember victims of homicide. We  
have suffered the loss of many victims in the 23rd  
Judicial District. Thank you Jessica Crouch for  
making ornaments in memory of Sgt. Daniel Baker,  
Joe Clyde Daniels and Brenda Smith. I pray for  
peace and dignity in 2019.

3

Like

Comment

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Write a comment.



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tabbler

EXHIBIT  
3

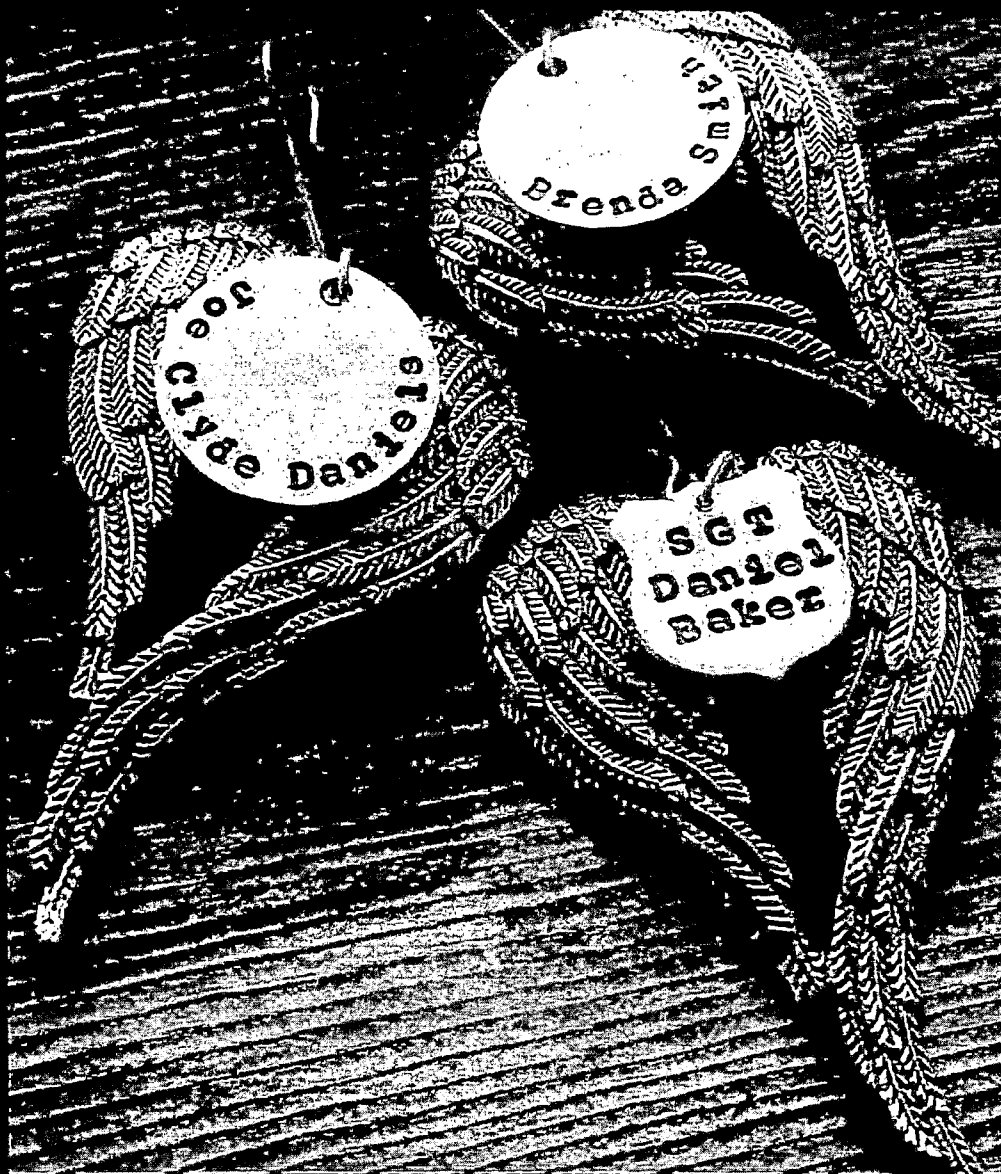


(9) Ray Crouch Jr.

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Ray Crouch Jr.

December 6 2018

11

1 Comment

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Evonne Lynn Davison Beautiful ornaments!

Like Reply 1y

1

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4

EXHIBIT

## HASLAM ANNOUNCES REWARD IN DICKSON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPUTY HOMICIDE CASE

*\$2,500 offered for information in the manhunt for Steven Wiggins*

NASHVILLE – Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam today announced a \$2,500 reward for information leading to the apprehension, arrest and conviction of Steven Wiggins, the suspect wanted for the homicide of Dickson County Sheriff's Office Sgt. Daniel Baker on Wednesday.

Sgt. Baker was found dead inside his vehicle around 7 a.m. Wednesday on Sam Vineyard Road in Dickson County after responding to a report of a suspicious vehicle. Baker, 32, was a former Marine and served as a Dickson County Sheriff's deputy since 2008.

"Crissy and I are praying for the family of Sgt. Baker who died in the line of duty while bravely serving the Dickson County Sheriff's Office. I commend the joint effort of state and local law enforcement as they tirelessly search for the suspect, even as they mourn the loss of one of their own," Haslam said. "We urge anyone with knowledge of the whereabouts of the suspect to come forward to help bring closure to this crime."

The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation has added Wiggins to the state's Top 10 Most Wanted list. The suspect is considered a dangerous felon and the TBI asks anyone with information about the case or who has seen him to call 911 or 1-800-TBI-FIND.

District Attorney General Ray Crouch of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Judicial District requested the reward from the governor to help generate information in this case. More than \$12,000 additional reward money is also being offered from other agencies.



Ray Crouch Jr.

May 21, 2016



80

15 Comments 52 Shares



Like



Comment



Share



Paul Ivey Can you make this to where we can share this General?

Like Reply 2y



Ray Crouch Jr. replied · 5 Replies



Jessica Villar Can we share?

Like Reply 2y

Jessica Villar replied · 3 Replies



Landon Reynolds Through private donations, we can get the reward to \$100,000 to deliver him dead to authorities.

Small contribution toward 'justice'.

Like Reply 2y



Landon Reynolds It is high time we return to the days of rewards 'Wanted Dead or Alive'.

Dead is most cost effective.

Like Reply 2y



Chad Snow General, thank you for your hard work and tireless support for our Law Enforcement Officers.

Like Reply 2y

Write a comment



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EXHIBIT  
UT

OSINT Stack



Representative Mary Littleton

...

February 22, 2019 Edited

Presenting SGT Daniel Baker Act — with Jeff Bledsoe at Cordell Hull Building

2

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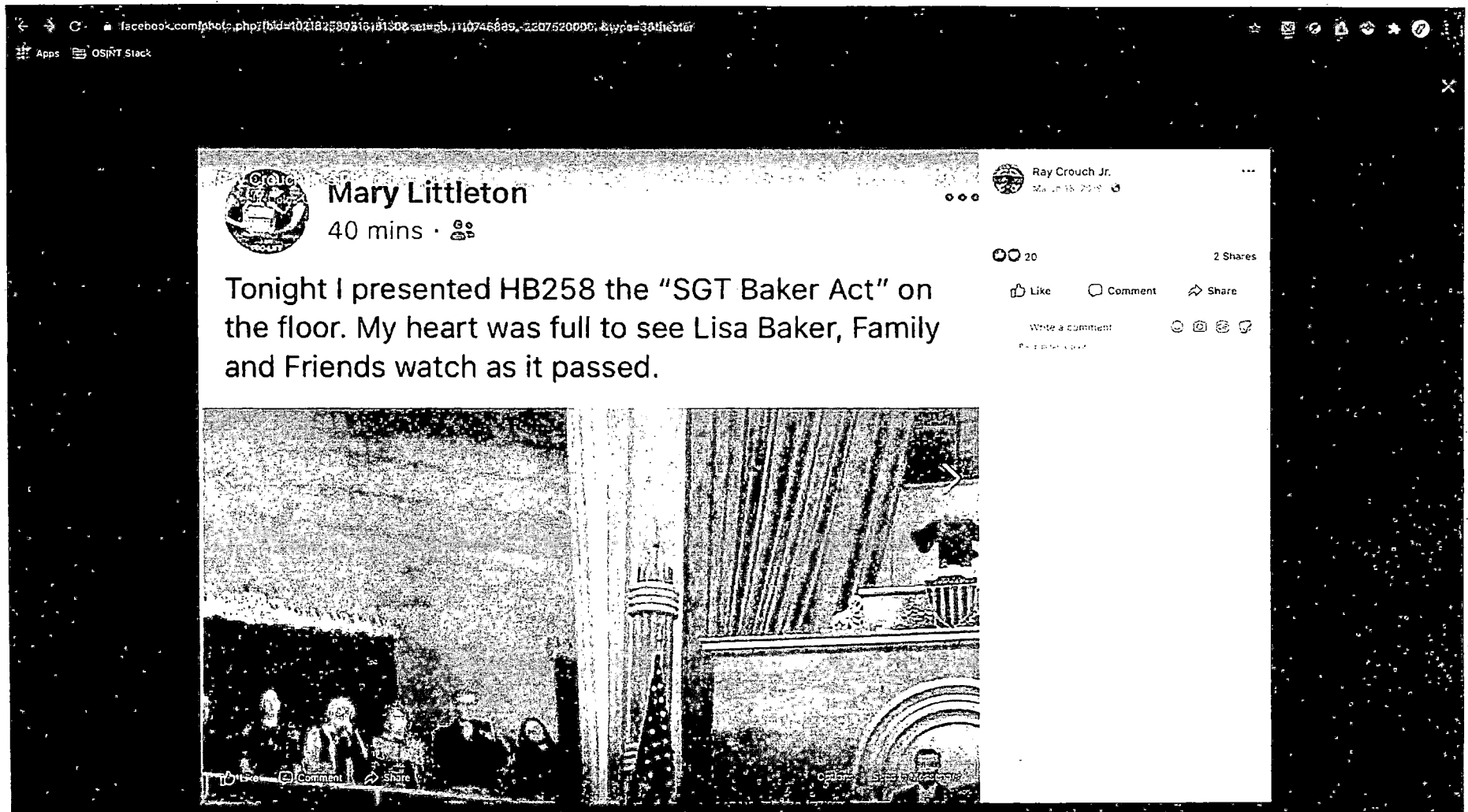
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6

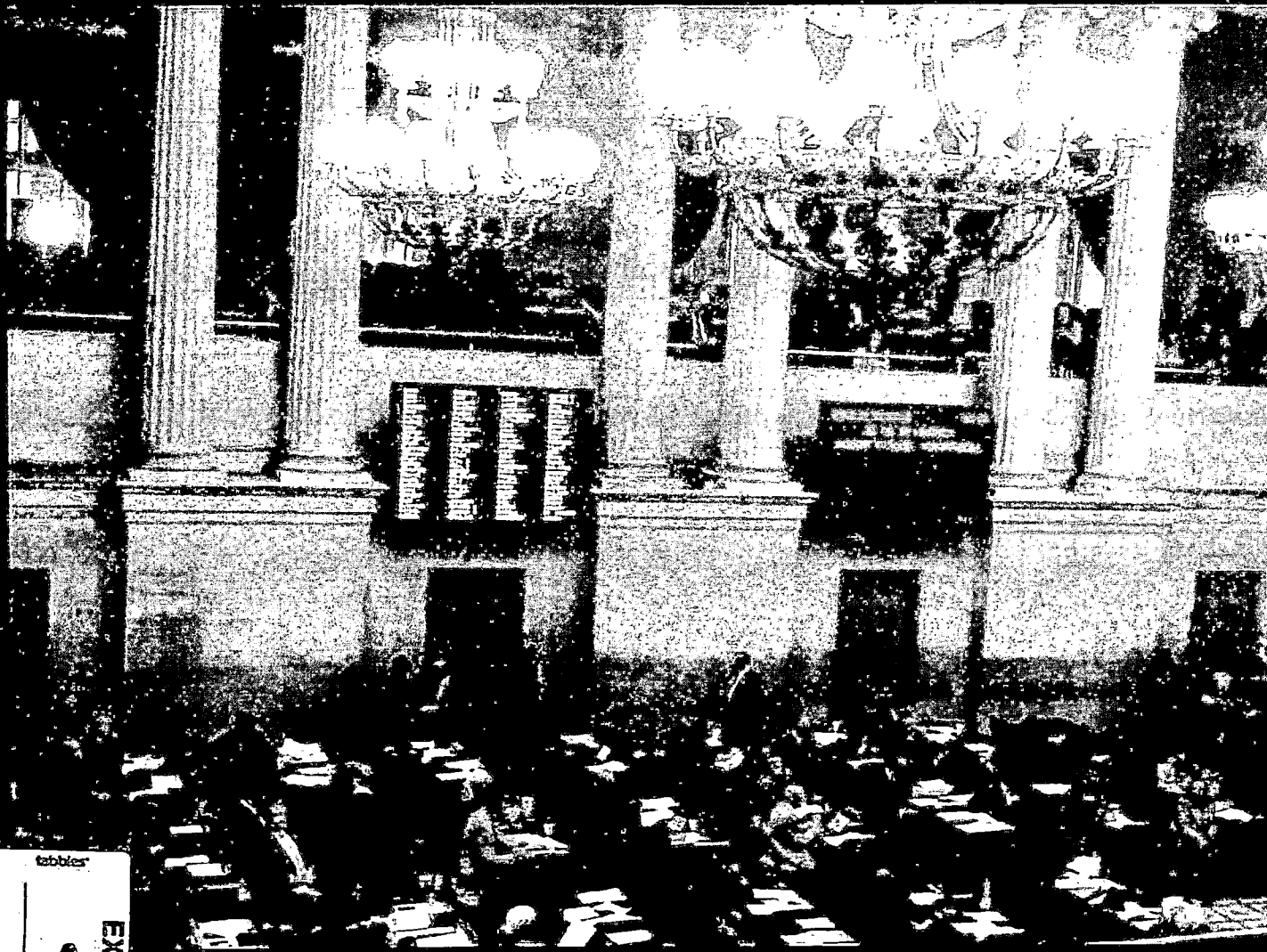
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Ray Crouch Jr.

April 10, 2019



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1 Comment



Pam Edwards



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EXHIBIT



Ray Crouch Jr.

April 10, 2019 · 🌐

With Melinda Miller.



👍 Like

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Write a comment...

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Nick Beres NC5

July 16, 2019

PEOPLE OFTEN ASK ME WHY IT TAKES SO LONG TO EXECUTE AN INMATE IN TENNESSEE?

The simple answer: Appeals.

Well, this may now streamline that process a bit.

Gov. Bill Lee has signed the Sgt. Daniel Baker Act into law.

The law was named in Sgt. Baker's honor because prosecutors are seeking the death penalty against Steven Wiggins and Erika Castro-Miles in connection with the Dickson Coun... See More



528

125 Comments 42 Shares



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Comment



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Most Relevant ▾



Phillip Perkins The best thing the State has done in my lifetime!

1

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Search

TN Senate GOP Caucus

12/15/2019 12:15 PM 23 likes + retweets

Yesterday @GovBillLee signed the Sgt. Daniel Baker Act, named after a Dickson Co Sheriff's officer who was brutally murdered during a traffic stop. The new law expedites TN death penalty appeals cases straight to TN Supreme Court. Great job!

12/15/2019 12:15 PM 23 likes + retweets

Randall Sanders

Why are we expediting death penalty cases? I understand the unbelievable tragedy this case is that prompted it. But with so many wrongful convictions, should we really still be using the death penalty? We will inevitably kill an innocent person with tax payer money.

Angela JP-8

Yes... bring back the death penalty... Shoot a police officer = death penalty.

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Relevant users

TN Senate GOP ...  
News and updates from the Tennessee Senate Majority Caucus /

Gov. Bill Lee  
50th Governor of Tennessee

Sen. John Stevens  
Conservative Republican State Senator rep. N.W.T.N., lawyer, husband, father of 2 girls, sports fan

Trends for you



(9) Ray Crouch Jr.

× +

facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=10218674997762023&set=pb.1110746889.2207520000.&type=3&theater

OSINT Stack



Ray Crouch Jr.

May 13, 2019 · 🌐

Honoring the life of Sgt. Daniel Baker and the many law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty. — with Jeff Bledsoe, Steve Rychlik, Jeremy Ethridge, Aaron Mann, Jennifer Nicole, Sarah McCartney, Jerone Holt and Dustin Steve.

👍❤️👤 758

24 Comments 244 Shares

👍 Like

💬 Comment

➦ Share

View 18 more comments



Johnny Hayes Rip brother

Like Reply 1y



Dianne Edens Thank God for our police force

Like Reply 1y

Kathy Flannigan Wow so many to honor so sad for the ones that have gone

Like Reply 1y



Holly Carter-Deasy God Bless. RIP. Thank you.

Like Reply 1y



Theresa W Moore

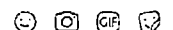


Like Reply 1y



Arthur Donaldson I've been part of that

Write a comment..



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EXHIBIT



Ray Crouch Jr.

September 21, 2019 · 🌐

"Baker's Dozen" running in honor of SGT Daniel Baker at the Wounded Warrior Run. Participants: Schrock Baker, Brandon Smith, Jeremy Ethridge, Sara Vaughn, and Dustin Steve.

👍👍 214

👍 Like

💬 Comme



Emily Catherine Thx guy

💖 SGT Daniel Baker  
A... See More

Like · Reply · 46w



Donny Arnold Looking G

Like · Reply · 46w



Rye Debbie Heggie That Son Was There Running Wounded Warriors

Like · Reply · 46w



Write a comment...

Press Enter to post.

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE  
AT NASHVILLE**

JOSHUA GARTON,

*Plaintiff,*

v.

W. RAY CROUCH, DAVID RAUSCH,  
BRADLEY NEALON, RUSSELL  
WINKLER, JOSHUA MELTON,  
JOSEPH CRAIG, DONALD ARNOLD,  
ANDREW VALLEE, and  
CITY OF DICKSON, TENNESSEE,

*Defendants.*

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Case No. \_\_\_\_\_

JURY DEMANDED

**COMPLAINT**

For his Complaint against the Defendants, Plaintiff Joshua Garton states to the Court and the Jury as follows:

**I. INTRODUCTION**

1. In January 2021, Plaintiff Joshua Garton was investigated and arrested by a joint law enforcement taskforce for posting a fake photograph on social media that was critical of law enforcement. The fake photograph at issue was crudely designed to look as though people were urinating on the grave of a deceased police officer. Mr. Garton's fake photograph also included the overtly political message: "Just showing my respect to Deputy Daniel Baker from the #dicksonpolicedepartment."

2. The Defendants who were responsible for arresting Mr. Garton had actual knowledge—at the time that they arrested and charged him—that the photograph that Mr.

Garton had posted on Facebook was fake. At the urging of Defendant W. Ray Crouch, though—who wanted Mr. Garton punished for disrespecting law enforcement within his jurisdiction—they arrested Mr. Garton anyway and took him into custody. Thereafter, Mr. Garton was charged with a crime, and he was incarcerated for nearly two weeks while he awaited a hearing. Mr. Garton was ultimately released from jail after the bogus charge at issue was dismissed for lack of probable cause following Mr. Garton’s first appearance in court.

3. Internal correspondence among the Defendants obtained through a public records request confirms both the Defendants’ actual knowledge that “we violated [Mr. Garton’s] 1st amendment rights” and the Defendants’ actual knowledge that Mr. Garton “has a right to post.” See Collective **Exhibit #1**, pp. 104–05.<sup>1</sup> Even so, because Mr. Garton had disrespected law enforcement, the Defendants vowed that: “[t]hat doesn’t mean there are no consequences.” *Id.* at p. 105. Accordingly, the Defendants arrested Mr. Garton, charged him with a crime, and held him in jail on a bogus charge for nearly two weeks while he awaited a hearing. In the interim, the Defendants also humiliated Mr. Garton through reputationally damaging press releases and other media that prominently featured Mr. Garton’s mugshot and the fact of his arrest.

4. Upon review by a court, the bogus criminal charge that the Defendants filed against Mr. Garton was dismissed outright for lack of probable cause that Mr. Garton’s speech constituted a criminal offense. Thereafter, one Defendant lamented: “That is not good.” Another Defendant complained—correctly—that: “We are finished.” This action followed.

---

<sup>1</sup> The redactions in the appended public records are the TBI’s. The TBI’s counsel has also refused to affirm or certify independently that the redactions are legally warranted.

## **II. PARTIES**

5. Plaintiff Joshua Garton is a transient resident of Rutherford County who was investigated, arrested, prosecuted, and incarcerated by a joint law enforcement taskforce for disrespecting law enforcement. He is a citizen of Tennessee and may be contacted through his counsel.

6. Defendant W. Ray Crouch is the current District Attorney General for Tennessee's 23rd Judicial District. At all times relevant to this action, Defendant Crouch was professionally obligated to comply with the Constitution, to maintain a minimum level of professional competence, to refrain from abusing the legal process, and to avoid acting in "knowing disregard of obligations" or engaging in "a systematic abuse of prosecutorial discretion." Upon information and belief, Defendant Crouch failed to comply with these obligations by directing law enforcement to investigate, retaliate against, arrest, and charge Mr. Garton because he had disrespected law enforcement. Defendant Crouch is sued in his individual capacity regarding specified tort claims and in his official capacity regarding the Plaintiff's claim for injunctive relief. Defendant Crouch may be served at his residence located at 119 Stratton Blvd., Ashland City, Tennessee, 37015-1613, or wherever he may be found.

7. Defendant David Rausch is the current Director of the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, a statewide law enforcement agency. In that role, upon information and belief, Defendant Rausch participated in the Defendants' investigation of, false arrest of, malicious prosecution of, and unconstitutional retaliation against Mr. Garton. At all times relevant to this action, Defendant Rausch had an obligation to comply with the Constitution and enforce the law, rather than participate in a conspiracy to violate it. During the events giving rise to this Complaint, Defendant Rausch also maintained that

citizens who care about the First Amendment and criticize law enforcement are akin to insurrectionists. Defendant Rausch is sued in his individual capacity regarding specified tort claims and in his official capacity regarding the Plaintiff's claim for injunctive relief. Defendant Rausch may be served at his residence located at 1121 Brentwood Way, Kingston, Tennessee, 37763-3160, or wherever he may be found.

8. Defendant Bradley Nealon is the Deputy Director of the TBI. In that role, upon information and belief, Defendant Nealon participated in the Defendants' investigation of, false arrest of, malicious prosecution of, and unconstitutional retaliation against Mr. Garton. Defendant Nealon is sued in his individual capacity only, and he may be served at his residence located at 1594 Golliher Rd., Rockwood, Tennessee, 37854-5252, or wherever he may be found.

9. Defendant Russell Winkler was at all times relevant to this Complaint the Special Agent in Charge at the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation. In that role, upon information and belief, Defendant Winkler participated in the Defendants' investigation of, false arrest of, malicious prosecution of, and unconstitutional retaliation against Mr. Garton. Defendant Winkler is sued in his individual capacity only, and he may be served at his residence located at 725 Heritage Rd., Lebanon, Tennessee, 37087-6547, or wherever he may be found.

10. Defendant Joshua Melton is the Assistant Director of the Criminal Investigation Division of the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation. In that role, upon information and belief, Defendant Melton participated in the Defendants' investigation of, false arrest of, malicious prosecution of, and unconstitutional retaliation against Mr. Garton. Defendant Melton is sued in his individual capacity only, and he may be served at his residence located at 1433 Swamp Leanna Rd., Murfreesboro, Tennessee, 37129, or

wherever he may be found.

11. Defendant Joseph Craig is an Assistant Special Agent in Charge at the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation. Defendant Craig has served as a TBI agent for twenty-two years and is currently assigned to the Middle Tennessee Criminal Investigations Division, where he supervises field agents covering territory that encompasses Dickson County. In that role, Defendant Craig participated in the Defendants' investigation of, false arrest of, malicious prosecution of, and unconstitutional retaliation against Mr. Garton. At all times relevant to this Complaint, Defendant Craig acted, by virtue of his position as a TBI agent, under color of state law. Defendant Craig is sued in his individual capacity only, and he may be served at his residence located at 2437 New Cut Rd., Greenbrier, Tennessee, 37073-5165, or wherever he may be found.

12. Defendant Andrew Vallee is a Special Agent with the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation. Defendant Vallee is assigned to the Technical Services Unit and specializes in digital forensics, cellular network analysis, WiFi analysis, and various other technology related disciplines. In that role, Defendant Vallee participated in the Defendants' investigation of, false arrest of, malicious prosecution of, and unconstitutional retaliation against Mr. Garton. At all times relevant to this Complaint, Defendant Vallee acted, by virtue of his position as a TBI agent, under color of state law. Defendant Vallee is sued in his individual capacity only, and he may be served at his residence located at 631 Keeton Ave. 1, Old Hickory, Tennessee, 37138-3813, or wherever he may be found.

13. Defendant Donald Arnold is a Captain in the Dickson Police Department who was responsible for working with the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, on behalf of the City of Dickson, to falsely arrest, maliciously prosecute, and unconstitutionally retaliate against Mr. Garton. Defendant Arnold is sued in his individual capacity, and he

may be served at his residence located at 1012 Laurel Hills Dr., Dickson, Tennessee, 37055-4068, or wherever he may be found.

14. Defendant City of Dickson, Tennessee, is a Tennessee municipality. The City of Dickson is liable for its official policies, customs, and practices and for its failure to train its employees when it acts with deliberate indifference to a plaintiff's clearly established constitutional rights, as it did here. The City of Dickson is a political subdivision of the State of Tennessee and, among other functions, it operates and maintains a law enforcement agency known as the Dickson Police Department. At all times relevant to this action, the City of Dickson and its agents acted under color of state law. Service upon the City of Dickson may be made upon Mayor Don L. Weiss Jr., at 600 East Walnut Street, Dickson, TN 37055.

### **III. JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

15. This Court has jurisdiction over the Plaintiff's federal claims in this civil action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1343(a).

16. This Court has supplemental jurisdiction to adjudicate the Plaintiff's state law claims related to the Plaintiff's federal claims in this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367(a).

17. As the judicial district in which a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the Plaintiff's claims occurred, venue is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2).

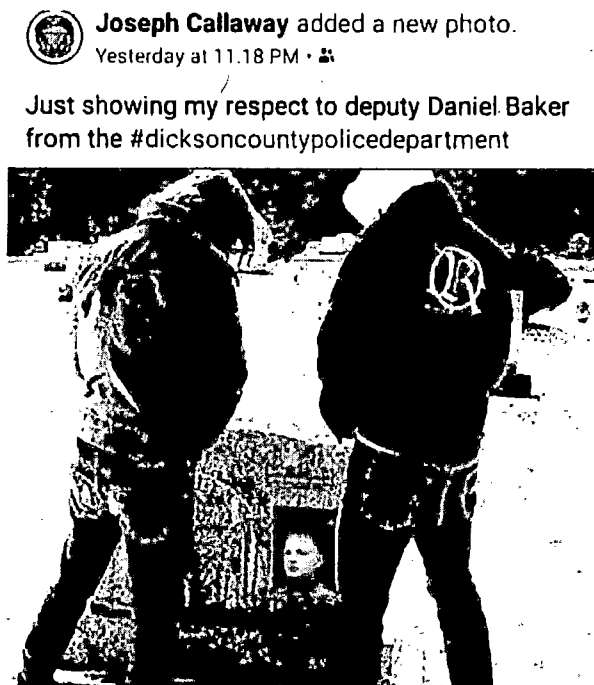
18. As the judicial district in which one or more Defendants reside, and all Defendants being residents of the State of Tennessee, venue is additionally proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(1).



#### IV. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

19. The Plaintiff is a 29-year-old disabled male who suffers from mental illness. As a result of the Defendants' unconstitutional and tortious misconduct, the Plaintiff spent nearly two weeks in jail for a non-existent crime and became homeless.

20. In January 2021, the Plaintiff pseudonymously posted the following political message and accompanying fake photograph—otherwise known as a “meme”<sup>2</sup>—on Facebook, a social media website:



21. The above photograph does not actually depict the gravesite of Sergeant Baker. Indeed, it looks nothing like Sergeant Baker's gravesite. Instead, the photograph was an altered image from The Rites's 2009 album "Pissing On Your Grave" that

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<sup>2</sup> A "meme" is an "interesting item (such as a captioned picture or video) or genre of items that is spread widely online especially through social media." See Merriam-Webster, <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/meme> (last accessed April 15, 2021).

contained a crudely integrated professional headshot of Sergeant Baker, a public figure, paired with the Plaintiff's commentary regarding a matter of public concern.<sup>3</sup>

22. Defendant Crouch was offended by the Plaintiff's meme because it disrespected a deceased member of local law enforcement. Accordingly, Defendant Crouch demanded that the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation and the other Defendants in this matter conduct a criminal investigation regarding it. Thus, at the direction of Defendant Crouch, a joint task force of state and local law enforcement undertook to investigate the Plaintiff's meme in an effort to identify the Plaintiff and arrest him.

23. Through herculean investigative work—including "TBI agents visit[ing] the gravesite of Baker"—the Defendants "quickly determined the photograph [was] not authentic." Defendant Craig, in particular, realized that the meme was a photoshopped image in "a few seconds."

24. The fact that the Plaintiff's meme was not authentic complicated the Defendants' desire to arrest the Plaintiff for an actual criminal offense, such as desecrating a grave. Believing that disrespecting law enforcement still merited "consequences," though, the Defendants—acting in concert with one another—resolved to continue their investigation and arrest the Plaintiff for some other crime instead.

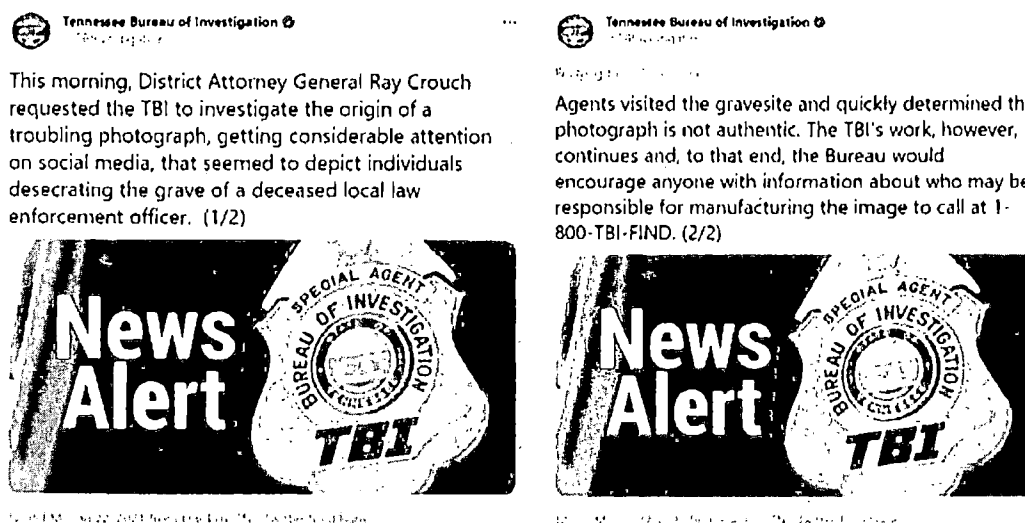
25. Accordingly, even after determining that the meme at issue was not a genuine photograph—and despite lacking any reason to believe a crime had been committed—the TBI launched a manhunt and issued an all-points bulletin asking the

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<sup>3</sup> In May of 2018, Sergeant Daniel Baker of the Dickson Police Department was killed in the line of duty. His death sparked widespread media coverage and, among other things, prompted the Tennessee General Assembly to enact the controversial "Sergeant Daniel Baker Act"—codified at Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-13-206—which accelerates review of death penalty cases and promotes faster executions. At the time, State Representative Mary Littleton (R-Dickson), who sponsored the bill, was quoted in *The Tennessean* at saying the bill was named to "memorialize Sgt. Baker and to continue his memory for those in Dickson County as well as around the state."

public for help identifying the meme's creator.

26. As examples of the TBI's public statements and manhunt regarding the Plaintiff's meme, during the Defendants' investigation into the Plaintiff's meme, and to secure assistance regarding it, the TBI issued the following public "news alert[s]":



27. Ultimately, tips from local citizens and a "technical investigation conducted by [Defendant] Vallee identified [Plaintiff] Joshua Garton as the individual possibly responsible for the posting."

28. After identifying the Plaintiff as the individual responsible for the meme, the Defendants located the Plaintiff, interrogated him, charged him with Harassment, booked him into the Dickson County Jail, and set his bond at a punitive amount of \$76,000.00 to ensure that he would remain incarcerated for an extended period of time.

29. The Defendants did not have probable cause to arrest the Plaintiff or to believe that the Plaintiff had committed any crime, and they knew it. The Plaintiff's photograph concerned a public figure regarding a matter of public concern. It also was not directed to any member of Sergeant Baker's family, though clearly established U.S.

Supreme Court precedent dictated that it would have been constitutionally protected even if it had been. *See generally Snyder v. Phelps*, 562 U.S. 443 (2011). Despite the meme's heavy attention and its recirculation on social media, the Defendants also declined to investigate or arrest any other person who posted the photograph at issue—including individuals who *did* send it to members of Sergeant Baker's family. Instead, as the publisher of the meme at issue and the person who was responsible for its anti-law enforcement message, the Defendants singularly targeted, falsely arrested, and maliciously prosecuted the Plaintiff alone because the Plaintiff was the person who had expressed a viewpoint that disrespected and offended them.

30. At all times relevant to this action, the United States Supreme Court had clearly established that:

Official reprisal for protected speech "offends the Constitution [because] it threatens to inhibit exercise of the protected right," *Crawford-El v. Britton*, 523 U.S. 574, 588, n. 10, 118 S.Ct. 1584, 140 L.Ed.2d 759 (1998), and the law is settled that as a general matter the First Amendment prohibits government officials from subjecting an individual to retaliatory actions, including criminal prosecutions, for speaking out, *id.*, at 592, 118 S.Ct. 1584; *see also Perry v. Sindermann*, 408 U.S. 593, 597, 92 S.Ct. 2694, 33 L.Ed.2d 570 (1972) (noting that the government may not punish a person or deprive him of a benefit on the basis of his "constitutionally protected speech").

*Hartman v. Moore*, 547 U.S. 250, 256 (2006).

31. At all times relevant to this action, the United States Supreme Court had also clearly established that the "bedrock principle underlying the First Amendment is that the government may not prohibit the expression of an idea simply because society finds the idea itself offensive or disagreeable," *Texas v. Johnson*, 491 U.S. 397, 414 (1989), and that "[g]iving offense is a viewpoint." *Matal v. Tam*, 137 S. Ct. 1744, 1763 (2017). Indeed, the United States Supreme Court has held

time and again that "the public expression of ideas may not be prohibited

merely because the ideas are themselves offensive to some of their hearers.” *Street v. New York*, 394 U.S. 576, 592, 89 S.Ct. 1354, 22 L.Ed.2d 572 (1969). *See also Texas v. Johnson*, 491 U.S. 397, 414, 109 S.Ct. 2533, 105 L.Ed.2d 342 (1989) (“If there is a bedrock principle underlying the First Amendment, it is that the government may not prohibit the expression of an idea simply because society finds the idea itself offensive or disagreeable”); *Hustler Magazine, Inc. v. Falwell*, 485 U.S. 46, 55–56, 108 S.Ct. 876, 99 L.Ed.2d 41 (1988); *Coates v. Cincinnati*, 402 U.S. 611, 615, 91 S.Ct. 1686, 29 L.Ed.2d 214 (1971); *Bachellar v. Maryland*, 397 U.S. 564, 567, 90 S.Ct. 1312, 25 L.Ed.2d 570 (1970); *Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School Dist.*, 393 U.S. 503, 509–514, 89 S.Ct. 733, 21 L.Ed.2d 731 (1969); *Cox v. Louisiana*, 379 U.S. 536, 551, 85 S.Ct. 453, 13 L.Ed.2d 471 (1965); *Edwards v. South Carolina*, 372 U.S. 229, 237–238, 83 S.Ct. 680, 9 L.Ed.2d 697 (1963); *Terminiello v. Chicago*, 337 U.S. 1, 4–5, 69 S.Ct. 894, 93 L.Ed. 1131 (1949); *Cantwell v. Connecticut*, 310 U.S. 296, 311, 60 S.Ct. 900, 84 L.Ed. 1213 (1940); *Schneider v. State (Town of Irvington)*, 308 U.S. 147, 161, 60 S.Ct. 146, 84 L.Ed. 155 (1939); *De Jonge v. Oregon*, 299 U.S. 353, 365, 57 S.Ct. 255, 81 L.Ed. 278 (1937).

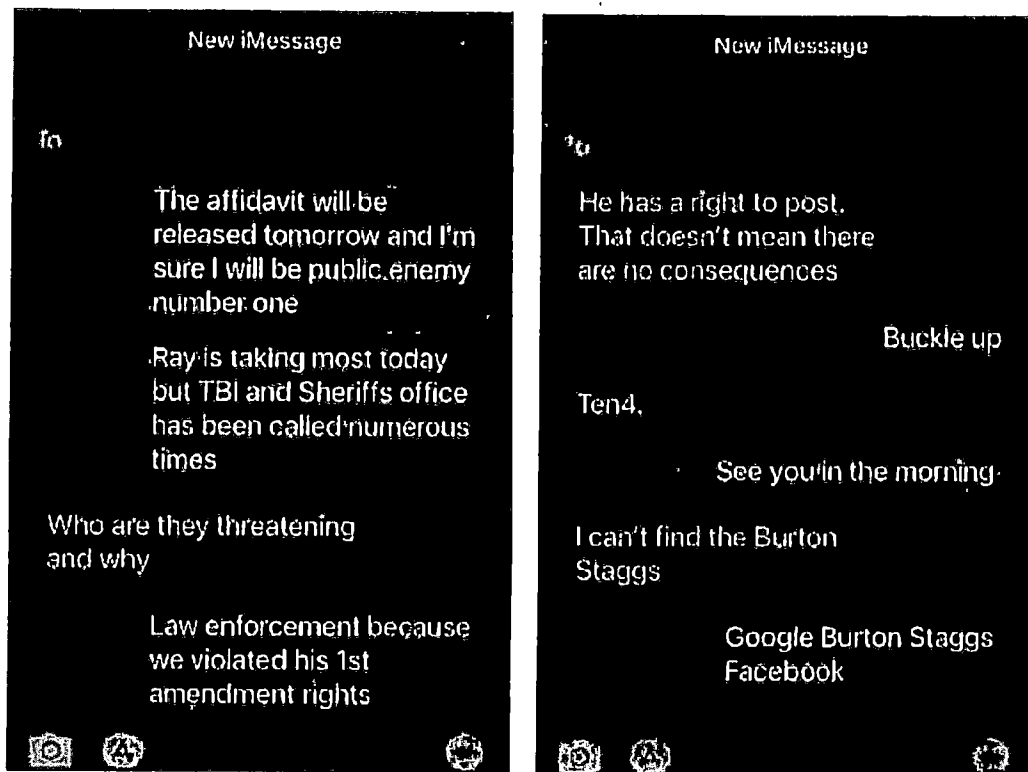
*Id.*

32. At all times relevant to this action, the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit had also clearly established that the applicable and binding precedent regarding offensive speech is not ambiguous, and that government officials are obliged to comply with it. *See, e.g., McGlone v. Metro. Gov't of Nashville*, 749 F. App'x 402, 406, n.2 (6th Cir. 2018) (“Nashville’s ‘guess’ is correct. Speech deemed hateful and offensive is not only still protected by the First Amendment, it is the speech most in need of First Amendment protection.”) (citing *Texas v. Johnson*, 491 U.S. 397, 414, 109 S.Ct. 2533, 105 L.Ed.2d 342 (1989) (“If there is a bedrock principle underlying the First Amendment, it is that the government may not prohibit the expression of an idea simply because society finds the idea itself offensive or disagreeable.”))).

33. The Defendants—one of whom is an attorney who wields extraordinary prosecutorial authority—neither care about nor feel constrained by clearly established First Amendment law. Indeed, the Defendants’ internal correspondence reflects that they

abhor the rights that the First Amendment guarantees individuals like the Plaintiff.

34. For example, Defendants' correspondence reflects their actual knowledge that "we violated [Mr. Garton's] 1st amendment rights" and that Mr. Garton "has a right to post." According to the Defendants, however, "[t]hat doesn't mean there are no consequences," which the Defendants collectively ensured the Plaintiff experienced:



35. The "consequences" that the Defendants ensured would result from disrespecting law enforcement included subjecting the Plaintiff to a false arrest and malicious prosecution, incarcerating him for weeks, and broadcasting his mugshot and the fact of his arrest to news media and the public in retaliation for disrespecting police.

36. The Defendants similarly believe that *criticizing* their constitutionally repugnant behavior is unwarranted. Indeed, the Defendants routinely characterized criticism of their behavior as "threats."

37. Defendant Rausch, in particular—the current Director of Tennessee’s top law enforcement agency—believes that arresting citizens for offensive speech is not only appropriate, but that criticizing law enforcement for violating the First Amendment is akin to defending insurrection:

Amen Uphill climb

David Rausch

The trolls will do what trolls do. It appears they and the lawyers forget that there are surviving family members who have rights as well. My assessment is these are the same folks who called the insurrection at the Capitol free speech.



38. After arresting the Plaintiff, the Defendants acted in concert to prepare and issue a media release regarding the Plaintiff’s arrest that included his full name, his mugshot, his date of birth, a reference to unrelated criminal charges, and the fact that the Defendants had secured a substantial bond that ensured the Plaintiff would be incarcerated for an extended time period. The purpose of this release was to humiliate and retaliate against the Plaintiff, and to deter other similarly situated persons who wished to exercise their constitutional rights to criticize or disrespect law enforcement from doing so.

39. The public reaction to the Defendants’ press release and their celebration of the Plaintiff’s arrest was not what the Defendants anticipated it would be. *See Collective Exhibit #2.*<sup>4</sup> In response to their press release, the TBI received dozens of critical calls

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<sup>4</sup> Again, the redactions are the TBI’s.

from citizens across the nation who were upset about the Defendants' flagrant disregard for the Constitution and their extreme ignorance of basic First Amendment rights. Upon receiving such criticism, one TBI dispatcher complained: "We did not sign up for this."

40. In response to the legitimate public criticism that they were receiving, the Defendants did not release the Plaintiff or take steps to remedy their flagrantly unconstitutional conduct. Instead, to inhibit such criticism, the TBI began tracking the critical calls they were receiving, surveilling callers, and, in at least one instance, decided to "try[] to pin down who [the caller was] so we can ask the local police and maybe have them go out there and ask him to stop."

41. After issuing their press release regarding the Plaintiff, the TBI began receiving requests for comment from local and national news outlets asking them to explain how they could have lawfully arrested the Plaintiff under the circumstances.

42. Because the Plaintiff's arrest was not lawful and could not plausibly have been lawful, the TBI was unable to do so. Accordingly—and notwithstanding that Defendants employed by the TBI had investigated and then arrested the Plaintiff, participated in the charging decision at issue, and that Defendant Craig himself had sworn out the affidavit enabling the Plaintiff's criminal charge, *see Exhibit #3*—the TBI misleadingly deflected responsibility to Defendant Crouch, and responded with some version of the following statement:

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When requested to investigate an incident by a District Attorney General, TBI agents serve as factfinders.

The DA determines what, if any, charges are placed.

For that reason, we will need to refer you to the District Attorney General with questions regarding the charge in this case.

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43. The Plaintiff would ultimately be incarcerated for nearly two full weeks before he was able to appear before a judge for a hearing on the charge at issue. The Plaintiff was thus continuously incarcerated at the Dickson County Jail from January 22, 2021, until his preliminary hearing before Judge Craig Monsue on February 3, 2021.

44. During the Plaintiff's preliminary hearing, Defendant Craig repeatedly admitted that the Plaintiff had not posted the meme at issue with an unlawful purpose, which was a threshold element of the harassment charge that he and the other Defendants had conspired to initiate and then did initiate against the Plaintiff.

45. At the conclusion of the Plaintiff's preliminary hearing on February 3, 2021, Judge Monsue ordered as follows: "the Court cannot find that there's probable cause to believe that the posting of this photograph constitutes a threat of harm to Lisa Baker, but is instead, a denigration of Sergeant Baker's memory. Therefore respectfully, the Court dismisses this count."

46. Judgment dismissing, for lack of probable cause, the harassment charge that the Defendants initiated against the Plaintiff was entered thereafter, *see Exhibit #4*, and only then was the Plaintiff finally released from jail. The Plaintiff became homeless as a result of the Defendants' conduct, however, so by that point, he had no home to return to. Accordingly, the Plaintiff now resides at a homeless shelter.

47. As a direct and proximate result of the Defendants' unlawful actions, the Plaintiff suffered extreme damages, a deprivation of his constitutional rights, unlawful detention, psychological and emotional trauma, and damage to his reputation.

## **V. CAUSES OF ACTION**

### **CLAIM #1: MALICIOUS PROSECUTION UNDER 42 U.S.C. § 1983 AND TENNESSEE COMMON LAW**

48. The Plaintiff incorporates and realleges the foregoing allegations as if fully

set forth herein.

49. Acting in concert with one another, and without probable cause to arrest the Plaintiff, the Defendants wrongfully instituted legal process against the Plaintiff and subjected the Plaintiff to a wrongful investigation, wrongful prosecution, and wrongful incarceration in violation of the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution.

50. All Defendants made, influenced, or participated in the decision to investigate, arrest, and/or charge the Plaintiff, and they acted in concert with one another to ensure that the Plaintiff was investigated, charged, and prosecuted for his speech. The Defendants thus acted both individually and collectively in pursuit of a common plan under color of law with malicious intent to deprive the Plaintiff of his rights secured by the United States Constitution.

51. All Defendants, individually and collectively, lacked probable cause to institute criminal process against the Plaintiff.

52. The Defendants' criminal prosecution was enabled by a constitutionally defective and facially invalid *Affidavit of Complaint* signed by Defendant Craig that asserted, among other things, that the Plaintiff's speech had criminally "caused emotional distress to . . . the law enforcement officers from Dickson County."

53. As a consequence of the Defendants' wrongful institution of legal process against the Plaintiff, the Plaintiff suffered a deprivation of liberty apart from his initial seizure, including continuous detention in jail for nearly two weeks without probable cause.

54. The Plaintiff's criminal proceeding was resolved in the Plaintiff's favor.

55. The Plaintiff's criminal proceeding was not resolved due to any plea or

settlement, but was resolved in the Plaintiff's favor because he was innocent of any criminal charge and because the Defendants lacked probable cause to believe that he had committed any crime.

56. Although inessential to his malicious prosecution claim, the Defendants acted with malice toward the Plaintiff and subjected the Plaintiff to a wrongful investigation, wrongful prosecution, and wrongful incarceration because of the constitutionally protected, anti-law enforcement, and disrespectful viewpoint that the Plaintiff had expressed regarding the Dickson County Police Department.

57. Unrelated to Defendant Crouch's preparation for the initiation of a prosecution or for judicial proceedings, and unconnected to the judicial process, Defendant Crouch performed and directed investigative and administrative functions to facilitate and enable the Plaintiff's arrest without probable cause; he directed a search for clues and corroboration that would give him probable cause to recommend that the Plaintiff be arrested; and he played the role of an advocate against the Plaintiff before he had—and without ever acquiring—probable cause to have the Plaintiff arrested.

58. In so doing, Defendant Crouch acted independent of his prosecutorial role as a District Attorney and, separately, in violation of his professional ethical obligations, among other things, to refrain from abusing the legal process, to avoid acting in “knowing disregard of obligations,” and to avoid engaging in “a systematic abuse of prosecutorial discretion.”

59. As a direct and proximate result of the Defendants' malicious prosecution of the Plaintiff, the Plaintiff suffered injuries, including, but not limited to, actual damages, economic damages, a deprivation of his constitutional rights, unlawful detention, psychological and emotional trauma, and damage to his reputation.

CLAIM #2: FALSE ARREST (42 U.S.C. § 1983)

60. The Plaintiff incorporates and realleges the foregoing allegations as if fully set forth herein.

61. At all times relevant to this action, no Defendant had probable cause to arrest or direct the arrest of the Plaintiff.

62. The Plaintiff was nonetheless arrested at the Defendants' behest and direction based on a facially invalid warrant that was premised upon Defendant Craig's materially false statements and/or material omissions.

63. At all times relevant to this action, all Defendants, both individually and collectively, lacked reasonable grounds for belief supported by more than mere suspicion that the Plaintiff had committed a crime.

64. The totality of the circumstances and the facts and circumstances of which the Defendants had knowledge at the moment of the Plaintiff's arrest were insufficient to warrant a prudent person in believing that the Plaintiff had committed an offense.

65. Even so, the Plaintiff was falsely arrested for a violation of Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-17-308 by Defendant Craig—in concert with and at the direction of Defendant Crouch and the other Defendants—without probable cause.

66. The charges against the Plaintiff resulted in a deprivation of the Plaintiff's liberty, in that the Plaintiff was taken into custody, jailed continuously between January 22, 2021, and February 3, 2021, and forced to attend a preliminary hearing to obtain his freedom from the false and malicious charge that the Defendants concocted against him without probable cause to believe the Plaintiff had committed any crime.

67. The Defendants acted with malice when they falsely arrested and baselessly charged the Plaintiff with violating Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-17-308.

68. The Defendants falsely arrested and charged the Plaintiff with violating Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-17-308 despite their actual knowledge that clearly established law made clear that the Plaintiff's speech was constitutionally protected and was not illegal.

69. The Plaintiff suffered actual damages as a proximate result of the Defendants' false arrest.

CLAIM #3: FIRST AMENDMENT RETALIATION (42 U.S.C. § 1983)

70. The Plaintiff incorporates and realleges the foregoing allegations as if fully set forth herein.

71. At all times relevant to this Complaint, the Plaintiff had First Amendment rights as a citizen that were not inconsistent with his status as a suspect or defendant.

72. Retaliation based upon a citizen's exercise of his constitutional rights violates the Constitution.

73. By posting the meme at issue, the Plaintiff engaged in speech and expression protected by the First and Fourteenth Amendments to the Constitution.

74. In retaliation for the Plaintiff engaging in speech and expression protected by the Constitution, the Defendants planned and then took extreme adverse actions against the Plaintiff, including, but not limited to, subjecting the Plaintiff to a wrongful investigation, wrongful prosecution, and extended wrongful incarceration; publicly humiliating the Plaintiff through press releases touting the Defendants' false arrest of the Plaintiff; maliciously prosecuting the Plaintiff; and seeking and securing a high, punitive bond to prevent the Plaintiff's timely release from jail.

75. The adverse actions that the Defendants took against the Plaintiff would deter a person of ordinary firmness from continuing to engage in constitutionally protected conduct and would likely have a strong deterrent effect on others similarly

situated, which is precisely what the Defendants' actions were designed to do.

76. The Defendants took adverse actions against the Plaintiff at least in part because of the Plaintiff's exercise of constitutionally protected conduct and his clearly established First Amendment rights.

77. The Defendants took adverse actions against the Plaintiff at least in part because the Defendants disagreed with the viewpoint that the Plaintiff had expressed.

78. The Defendants took adverse actions against the Plaintiff at least in part because the Defendants wished to see the Plaintiff suffer significant "consequences" for his speech.

79. The Defendants took adverse actions against the Plaintiff at least in part because the Defendants do not respect fundamental First Amendment guarantees and because the Defendants do not believe that they are constrained by them.

80. As a proximate result of the Defendants' unconstitutional retaliation against the Plaintiff, the Plaintiff suffered damages.

CLAIM #4: CIVIL CONSPIRACY/AGENCY LIABILITY

81. The Plaintiff incorporates and realleges the foregoing allegations as if fully set forth herein.

82. At all times relevant to this matter, the Defendants acted in concert with, at the direction of, and as agents of, one another to commit the foregoing tortious misconduct, and all Defendants acted under color of law.

83. At all times relevant to this matter, the Defendants had the intent and knowledge of one another's intent to accomplish by concert an unlawful purpose—or to accomplish by concert a lawful purpose by unlawful means—all of the foregoing tortious misconduct, including conspiring with one another to effect the Plaintiff's false arrest,

malicious prosecution, and take other unconstitutionally retaliatory acts against him.

84. The Defendants conspired with one another and agreed to injure the Plaintiff through unconstitutional action under color of law.

85. The Defendants shared in the general conspiratorial objective to injure the Plaintiff for expressing a viewpoint critical of law enforcement, causing the Plaintiff injury.

86. The Defendants are liable for one another's acts undertaken in furtherance of their civil conspiracy, and each Defendant is jointly and severally liable for the unlawful acts of each other Defendant pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 29-11-107(b)(1) and general federal common law, *see Hooks v. Hooks*, 771 F.2d 935, 944 (6th Cir. 1985).

CLAIM #5: THE CITY OF DICKSON'S UNCONSTITUTIONAL POLICIES AND PRACTICES

87. The Plaintiff incorporates and realleges the foregoing allegations as if fully set forth herein.

88. The City of Dickson, acting by and through its policymakers, officers, and agents, including Defendant Arnold, and acting under color of state law, violated the Plaintiff's clearly established rights secured by the First and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution.

89. The tortious acts and omissions of the City of Dickson, acting by and through its policymakers, officers, and agents, including Defendant Arnold, were the direct and proximate result of official municipal policies or customs created by the City of Dickson and their execution or implementation against the Plaintiff, causing the Plaintiff injury.

90. The City of Dickson's customs, practices, or de facto policies are evidenced by actions taken by officials with final decision-making authority, policies of inadequate

training or supervision, and a custom of tolerance or acquiescence of federal rights violations, including, in this instance, the City of Dickson's premeditated and public commitment to violating the Plaintiff's clearly established First Amendment rights and its failure to remedy its unconstitutional conduct even after acquiring actual knowledge that it had acted unconstitutionally.

91. Upon information and belief, the City of Dickson, through its employees, engages in a clear and persistent pattern of unconstitutional action against those who express views critical of law enforcement; it has notice or constructive notice of that fact; it has tacitly approved of the unconstitutional conduct at issue, such that its deliberate indifference can be said to amount to an official policy of inaction; and the City of Dickson's unconstitutional custom was the moving force or direct causal link in the deprivation of the Plaintiff's constitutional rights. This pattern specifically includes, but is not limited to, the initiation of the investigation into the Plaintiff as well as the Plaintiff's subsequent arrest and prosecution, and it is evident from the Defendants' requests to other law enforcement agencies to launch investigations into individuals who contacted the TBI to protest the Plaintiff's treatment.

92. Upon information and belief, the City of Dickson fails to train or supervise its employees to prevent constitutional violations like those the Plaintiff suffered, and it provides training and supervision that is inadequate to prevent such violations.

93. The City of Dickson's inadequate training is a result of the City of Dickson's deliberate indifference to federal constitutional rights. For example, the text message exchange between two Defendants explicitly stating that even though the Plaintiff exercised his First Amendment rights, he could still be subject to "consequences"—up to and including prosecution and incarceration at the hands of the state—indicates a lack of



understanding of the very nature of the First Amendment. Coupled with the City of Dickson's and its employees' repeated violations of the Plaintiff's and other citizens' First Amendment rights, this demonstrates a widespread pattern of ignorance of or deliberate indifference to the First Amendment, indicating a widespread failure of training.

94. The City of Dickson's inadequate training was closely related to or actually caused the Plaintiff's injury.

95. The City of Dickson has failed to promulgate appropriate policies or procedures or take other measures to prevent violations of the First Amendment by its employees, agents, or officers, and upon information and belief, no employee involved in the Plaintiff's false arrest, malicious prosecution, or unconstitutional retaliation, including Defendant Arnold, has been disciplined for misconduct.

96. As a direct and proximate consequence of the City of Dickson's failure to develop, implement, and otherwise devise a policy of adequate training and/or supervision for its employees, agents, and officers, the Plaintiff was deprived of his civil and constitutional rights, privileges, and immunities and was subjected to criminal prosecution and an extended period of unlawful incarceration. Properly trained and supervised employees, agents, and officers would have known not to engage in the acts which resulted in the deprivation of the Plaintiff's civil and constitutional rights.

97. As a direct and proximate result of the customs, practices, and/or de facto policies of the City of Dickson and the City of Dickson's deliberate indifference to the Plaintiff's clearly established constitutional rights, the Plaintiff suffered damages.

**CLAIM #6: INJUNCTIVE AND DECLARATORY RELIEF AGAINST THE CITY OF DICKSON AND DEFENDANTS CROUCH AND RAUSCH IN THEIR OFFICIAL CAPACITIES**

98. The Plaintiff incorporates and realleges the foregoing allegations as if fully

set forth herein.

99. Upon information and belief, Defendant Crouch desires to re-prosecute the Plaintiff regarding this specific instance of protected speech and will seek his indictment via direct presentment in the absence of an injunction prohibiting him from doing so.

100. Upon information and belief, Defendant Rausch will direct his agency's resources toward investigating the Plaintiff and anyone who expresses support for the Plaintiff if Plaintiff again exercises his constitutional right to criticize law enforcement.

101. Upon information and belief, Defendant Rausch, acting in his official capacity as the Director of and policymaker for TBI, demonstrated a clear and persistent pattern of failing to discipline the TBI's employees, agents, or officers for constitutional violations, has policies that are insufficient to protect the constitutional rights of individuals as those policies are applied and understood within the TBI, and/or actively allows and participates in retaliation when citizens exercise their constitutionally protected rights. This is evident from, among other things, the fact that every TBI employee, agent, or officer involved in the tortious misconduct set forth in this Complaint violated the Plaintiff's clearly established First Amendment right to express an offensive viewpoint regarding a matter of public concern. Each of those employees, agents, or officers retaliated against Plaintiff and, upon information and belief, none of those individuals was found to have violated a TBI policy thereafter. Each of those employees, agents, or officers misused their positions as law enforcement agents by investigating Plaintiff without reasonable articulable suspicion or probable cause that any crime had occurred, and Director Rausch personally oversaw the implementation of these policies and personally and expressly approved the actions of his employees in this matter.

102. Upon information and belief, Defendants Crouch, Rausch, and the City of

Dickson may or will continue to pursue the investigation and prosecution of the Plaintiff regarding this specific instance of protected speech absent an injunction.

103. If the Plaintiff continues to be investigated and prosecuted, the Plaintiff will necessarily suffer immediate and irreparable harm, harm resulting from incarceration, and harm resulting from having to defend against a false and malicious prosecution.

104. Because Defendants Crouch, Rausch and the City of Dickson have previously subjected the Plaintiff to an investigation, arrest, and a prolonged period of incarceration as a result of his exercise of clearly established First Amendment rights, and because the Plaintiff credibly fears that he will experience the same consequences if he exercises his clearly established First Amendment rights in the same manner again, the Plaintiff's speech will be irreparably chilled in the absence of a permanent injunction.

105. Remedies available at law, such as monetary damages, are inadequate to compensate the Plaintiff for the injury to his First Amendment rights.

106. Considering the balance of hardships between the Plaintiff and Defendants Crouch, Rausch, and the City of Dickson, a remedy in equity is warranted.

107. The public interest would not be disserved and would be furthered by a permanent injunction forbidding Defendants Crouch, Rausch, and the City of Dickson from taking adverse action against the Plaintiff as a result of his exercise of clearly established First Amendment rights, which Defendants Crouch, Rausch, and the City of Dickson have made clear they do not and will not respect.

108. The Plaintiff is additionally and alternatively entitled to declaratory relief under both federal law and Tenn. Code Ann. § 1-3-121 for the same reasons. In the event that this Court finds that injunctive relief is not warranted, the Plaintiff is still entitled to declaratory relief sufficient to inform state and local law enforcement that the Plaintiff's

speech and expression are fully protected under the First Amendment and may not result in the Plaintiff's arrest, prosecution, or governmental retaliation of any kind.

#### **VI. PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff prays for the following relief:

1. That process issue, and that the Defendants be required to appear and answer this Complaint within the time required by law;
2. That the Plaintiff be awarded all compensatory, consequential, incidental, and punitive damages to which he is entitled in an amount not less than \$1 million;
3. That the Plaintiff be awarded all costs and discretionary costs of trying this action;
4. That the Plaintiff be awarded his reasonable attorney's fees pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1988(b);
5. That a jury of 12 be empaneled to try this cause;
6. That pre-judgment and post-judgment interest be awarded to the Plaintiff;
7. That permanent injunctive and declaratory relief issue; and
8. That the Plaintiff be awarded any and all further relief to which it appears he is entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Daniel A. Horwitz  
Daniel A. Horwitz, BPR #032176  
Lindsay B. Smith, BPR # 035937 (MDTN  
admission pending)  
HORWITZ LAW, PLLC  
4016 Westlawn Dr.  
Nashville, TN 37209  
[daniel@horwitz.law](mailto:daniel@horwitz.law)  
[lindsay@horwitz.law](mailto:lindsay@horwitz.law)  
(615) 739-2888

*Attorneys for Plaintiff*



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Joy zuccarello  
@joyzuccarello

## Thread



Tennessee Bureau of Investigation  
@TBIInvestigation

This morning, District Attorney General Ray Crouch requested the TBI to investigate the origin of a troubling photograph, getting considerable attention on social media, that seemed to depict individuals desecrating the grave of a deceased local law enforcement officer. (1/2)



1:05 PM Jan 22, 2021 from Franklin, TN Twitter for iPhone

13 Retweets 17 Quote Tweets 38 Likes



Tennessee Bureau of Investigation @TBIInvestigation Jan 22

Replying to @TBIInvestigation

Agents visited the gravesite and quickly determined the photograph is not authentic. The TBI's work, however, continues and, to that end, the Bureau would encourage anyone with information about who may be responsible for manufacturing the image to call at 1-800-TBI-FIND. (2/2)



37

11

29



Tennessee Bureau of Investigation @TBIInvestigation Jan 22

UPDATE: Investigative efforts, by TBI and the Dickson Police Department today, have led to a Harassment charge for a man accused of doctoring and posting a disturbing photograph depicting the desecration of the grave of Sgt. Daniel Baker.

DETAILS: [tbiinvestigation.com/2021/01/22/ty](http://tbiinvestigation.com/2021/01/22/ty)



37

11

44



Tennessee Bureau of Investigation @TBIInvestigation Jan 22

Apologies for the misspelling of 'desecration' in the earlier update

142

11

38



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## Relevant people



Tennessee Bureau ...

@TBIInvestigation

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With truth, bravery, and integrity, we're proud to serve as the state's lead law enforcement agency, so that guilt shall not escape, nor innocence suffer.

## What's happening

Eurovision LIVE

Eurovision: Italy wins with 524 points !!

Trending with #Eurovision Malta



#ArmyOfTheDead

Watch Now on Netflix

Promoted by Netflix

Trending in United States

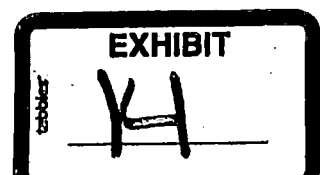
#OddWaysToStayCool

1,545 Tweets

Enter to win

Luke Skywalker Messages

9,592 Tweets



**GENERAL SESSIONS COURT OF DICKSON COUNTY TENNESSEE**

State of Tennessee vs. Joshua Andrew Garton

State Control # 5092159

County Case # 2021-12-118

Attorney for Def. \_\_\_\_\_

Address 9986 Rocky Point rd. Lyles, Tn

Court Date \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ DL# \_\_\_\_\_

State, Def. to \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ am/pm

DOB 01/31/1992 SS# \_\_\_\_\_

State, Def. to \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ am/pm

Sex M Race W Ht. 6'1 Wt. 170 Hair Bm Eyes Hbl

State, Def. to \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ am/pm

Work \_\_\_\_\_

State, Def. to \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ am/pm

**AFFIDAVIT OF COMPLAINT**

I, the affiant named below, after being sworn, state under oath that on or about 01/22/2021 in Dickson County, Tennessee, \_\_\_\_\_ committed the offense(s) of violation(s) of

TCA 39-17-308 Class Harassment Misdemeanor / Felony

TCA \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Misdemeanor / Felony

TCA \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Misdemeanor / Felony

I further state under oath that the essential facts constituting the offense(s), the sources of my information and the reasons why this information is believable and reliable are as follows:

On 01/22/21 at approximately 0800 the Affiant was contacted by DAG Ray Crouch requesting an investigation into a Facebook post from an account under the name Joseph Callaway that depicted an image of two (2) individuals urinating on the grave of Dickson County Sheriff's office Sgt. Daniel Baker. The Affiant along with SA Andy Vallee traveled to Sgt. Baker's grave at the Dickson Memorial Gardens and verified the image was Photoshopped. The Affiant began to obtain information from citizens as well as through the technical investigation conducted by SA Vallee identified Joshua Garton as the individual possibly responsible for the posting. At approximately 1340 the Affiant was called by Dickson Police Detective Kelly Owen who stated that Garton was at the Dickson Police dept. The Affiant along with SA Vallee conducted an interview with Garton who acknowledged he was responsible for posting the image on Facebook under the name Joseph Callaway. Garton was told that the image he posted did cause emotional distress to the family of Sgt. Baker as well as the law enforcement officers from Dickson County. The Affiant informed Garton that he was being charged with Harassment. This occurred in Dickson County Tennessee.

Affiant's Signature: [Signature]

Sworn to and subscribed before me on

Name (Printed): Joe Craig ASAC TBI

Jan 22 2021

Address (Printed): 901 E.S. Gass Blvd  
Nashville, TN

[Signature]  
Judge/Clerk/Judicial Commissioner

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

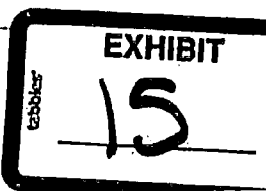
**PROBABLE CAUSE DETERMINATION**

Based on the affidavit of complaint, I find there is probable cause to believe that on the date set forth above in Dickson County, Tennessee the defendant committed the offense(s) of violation(s) of TCA 39-17-308

( ) defendant given citation or arrested without warrant ( ☒ ) arrest warrant shall issue ( ) criminal summons shall issue

01/22/2021  
Date

[Signature]  
Judge/Clerk/Judicial Commissioner



The Court has advised me that I have the right to be represented by an attorney and if indigent to have an attorney appointed to represent me. I WAIVE MY RIGHT TO AN ATTORNEY AND WISH TO PROCEED IN THIS CASE WITHOUT AN ATTORNEY.

I find the Defendant understands and freely and voluntarily waives the right to an attorney

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Defendant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Judge \_\_\_\_\_  
( ) I waive my right to a preliminary examination and agree for my case to be bound over to the \_\_\_\_\_ County Grand Jury.  
( ) I waive my right to be tried only after being indicted by the Grand Jury and waive my right to a trial by jury and plead NOT GUILTY to violation(s) of TCA

Attorney for Defendant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Defendant \_\_\_\_\_  
Tenn. R. Crim. P. 44 requires defendants to execute a written waiver of the right to counsel. However, the Court must also orally explain many rights, and the effect of a waiver of those rights, prior to accepting the defendant's waiver. See Tenn. R. Crim. P. 44(a); Smith v. State, 987 S.W.2d 871 (Tenn. Crim. App. 1998).

I plead GUILTY to violation of T.C.A. \_\_\_\_\_. I have been advised by the Court of the following: (1) the nature of the charge(s) to which the plea is offered; (2) the mandatory minimum penalty provided by law, if any, and the maximum possible penalty provided by law; (3) if applicable, a different or additional punishment may result by reason of my prior conviction(s) or other factors which may be established in the present action after the entry of my plea; (4) if applicable, any prior convictions may be presented to the Court for its consideration in determining punishment; and (5) that I have the following rights: (a) to be prosecuted only upon an indictment or presentment; (b) to be represented by an attorney at every stage of the proceeding and, if necessary, to the appointment of an attorney; (c) to plead not guilty or to persist in that plea if it has already been made; (d) to be tried by a jury and to the assistance of an attorney at such a trial; (e) to confront and cross-examine witnesses against me; (f) not to be compelled to incriminate myself; (g) to have an appellate court review the basis of my conviction; and (h) to have a jury set any fine greater than \$50.00.

I understand that if I plead guilty I waive all of these rights, including my right to a trial. I understand that there will not be a trial of any kind. Pursuant to the terms of my plea agreement, there will not be a sentencing hearing. I understand that if I plead guilty I may be asked questions about the offense(s) to which I have pleaded, and if I answer these questions under oath, on the record, and in the presence of counsel, my answers may later be used against me in a prosecution for perjury or aggravated perjury. After carefully considering all of these matters, I voluntarily waive my rights and request that the Court accept my plea of GUILTY.

Attorney for Defendant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Defendant \_\_\_\_\_  
I addressed the defendant personally in open court, advised him/her of the rights itemized above, inquired into his/her understanding of the consequences of entering a guilty plea, and inquired into the accuracy of the plea. I hereby conclude that the defendant understands his/her rights, that the plea is voluntary and not the result of force or threats or of promises apart from a plea agreement, that there is a factual basis for the plea, and that the defendant's willingness to plead guilty results from prior discussions between the District Attorney General and the defendant or the defendant's attorney. I find that the plea of GUILTY heretofore entered by the defendant is acceptable and, therefore, accept the plea. The judgment and sentence shall reflect the disposition provided for in the plea agreement.

Judge \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
GENERAL SESSIONS COURT OF DICKSON COUNTY TENNESSEE

State of Tennessee vs. Joshua A Garton

State Control # 5092159

Dickson County

Case # 22GSJ-2021-CR-118 (Harassment)

JUDGMENT

( ) Dismissed ( ) Not Guilty ( ) Nolle Prosequi ( ) Pretrial/Judicial Diversion

Costs taxed to the Prosecutor ( ) State's motion to not prosecute (X) after preliminary hearing ( ) affiant did not appear ( ) Defendant waived extradition

Cost taxed to the Defendant ( ) Costs and taxes ( ) Cost

Defendant Indigent

Found GUILTY of violation of TCA \_\_\_\_\_  
fined \$ \_\_\_\_\_, taxed with costs and taxes and sentenced to serve \_\_\_\_\_ months \_\_\_\_\_ days in the \_\_\_\_\_ County Jail (Class \_\_\_\_\_ Misd.)

Jail sentence suspended except \_\_\_\_\_ on condition of good behavior, payment of fines, costs and taxes and restitution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ and ( ) no contact with \_\_\_\_\_

( ) supervised probation for \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) unsupervised probation for \_\_\_\_\_  
( ) not drive in Tennessee for \_\_\_\_\_ year(s) and completion of ( ) DUI school ( ) alcohol/drug evaluation and counseling ( ) domestic abuse counseling  
( ) \_\_\_\_\_ hours of community service  
To report to serve on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ am/pm. Time served credit \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Sentence may be served on consecutive weekends

Release eligibility date is \_\_\_\_\_ % of the term of imprisonment

( ) Appealed ( ) Defendant bound over to \_\_\_\_\_ County Grand Jury after ( ) preliminary hearing ( ) waiving preliminary hearing and ( ) bail set at \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Defendant shall continue on current bond of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Date 2/3/2021 Judge [Signature]

Jan 24, 2021, 7:38 PM

<https://www.facebook.com/mike.altri>



Mike

Just showing my respect to deputy Daniel Baker  
from the #dicksoncountypolicedepartment



Tennessee Bureau of Investigation

Thanks for messaging us. We try to be as responsive as possible, but this account isn't monitored 24/7. We'll get back to you soon.



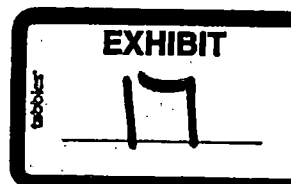
Mike

Fucking dumb asses lmfao taxpayers are gonna be real happy with you in a couple of months



\*\*

January 25, 2021 at 7:47 AM







next time instead of violating someone's first amendment rights and instead of having to pay them the minimum \$80k he will get from your dumbass actions, maybe hire someone like me that would tell you with rational non pork thinking that it was a bad move. now the dudes gonna get a payout and the taxpayers will be held respond for it. clown fucking organization y'all run

**January 25, 2021 at 11:20 AM**

Thanks for sharing your comments.

\*\*



**Winston**

<https://www.facebook.com/Ottothewatchdog>

A Tribute to Our Heros. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S\\_bUu009JyI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S_bUu009JyI)

Man Arrested for Offensive Facebook Post - Otto Calls - Dickson Tennessee - The Roof is on Fire

Well... the System isn't gonna FUCK itself...Dickson Police Department - (615) 446-5403Tennessee cops' arrest of man over disrespectful photoshop draws wide ...  
[youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Thanks for messaging us. We try to be as responsive as possible, but this account isn't monitored 24/7. We'll get back to you soon.

Thanks for sharing. Hope you have a good day. Most sincerely, TBI Public Information Office



\*\*



**Travis**

come arrest me you pieces of shit, I want a settlement too

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Thanks for sharing.

Sent by Leslie Earhart



**Travis**

Lol get a REAL job

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Thanks for sharing.

Sent by Leslie Earhart



**Travis**

<https://www.facebook.com/mythiesis>

The TBI is a terroristic organization that infringes on the rights on the citizens of Tennessee.  
Please investigate.

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Thanks for messaging us. We try to be as responsive as possible, but this account isn't monitored 24/7. We'll get back to you soon.



\*\*

**Jan 25, 2021, 12:09 PM**



**Donovan**



**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Thanks for messaging us. We try to be as responsive as possible, but this account isn't monitored 24/7. We'll get back to you soon.



**Donovan**



Now come arrest me, fascist piggy. I could use the lawsuit money.

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Thanks for sharing. Hope you have a good day.  
Sent by Susan Rogers

\*\*

Jan 25, 2021, 2:06 PM



Donovan

<https://www.facebook.com/donovan.whitford.9>

Hope you learn to read so you know what's in that Constitution you took an oath to uphold.



Tennessee Bureau of Investigation

Thanks for sharing.

Sent by [Leslie Earhart](#)



Donovan





You gonna' come arrest me now, pig?  
Or not?  
Is that dead cop still dead by the way?



Jan 25, 2021, 7:31 PM



Donovan

fascist pigs



What's the matter, piggy? Why haven't you arrested me yet? Look how many counts you have of me breaking the law by posting the picture.











**Jan 25, 2021, 10:12 PM**

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Thanks for sharing.  
Sent by Leslie Earhart

**Jan 25, 2021, 11:36 PM**



**Donovan**

Funny how you'll arrest one person and thank another for the same picture.

**Jan 26, 2021, 8:48 AM**



**Donovan**

Nazi

**Jan 26, 2021, 10:31 AM**



**Donovan**



Why won't you arrest me for the same fucking image?  
I'm posting it everywhere



\*\*

**Jan 26, 2021, 9:18 AM**



**Michael**

<https://www.facebook.com/michaeljohngraz>

Wow, you guys really started your own shit show by violating the meme guys rights. I hope you lose your immunity and have to open your own wallets. The taxpayers shouldn't have to be responsible for your blatant disregard for the constitution.

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Hi Michael, thanks for your message. We are not here right now and our account isn't monitored 24/7, but we'll get back to you soon!

**Jan 26, 2021, 10:55 AM**

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Thanks for sharing. Hope you have a good day.



\*\*

Jan 26, 2021, 4:42 PM



Grayson

<https://www.facebook.com/grayson.mcdonald.37>

Did you hapless assholes really arrest a man for a picture? I have the same picture I made of me pissing on the same CD cover with that dead officers head on it, PLEASE come arrest me for it, I'd like to be rich too. You guys are garbage butthurt snowflake oathbreakers. Get it together.

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Thanks for messaging us. We try to be as responsive as possible, but this account isn't monitored 24/7. We'll get back to you soon.



\*\*

Jan 28, 2021, 10:27 AM



Michael

<https://www.facebook.com/michael.masucci.96>

hello is it true that you're arresting people over memes now, I saw some memes I'd like someone arrested for

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Thanks for messaging us. We try to be as responsive as possible, but this account isn't monitored 24/7. We'll get back to you soon.

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Thanks for sharing. Hope you have a good day.



Sent by Susan Rogers

\*\*

**Feb 4, 2021, 6:30 AM**

**Mike**

<https://www.facebook.com/mike.methena>

Another agency full of NAZI TYRANT THUGS. Your agents violated the Wortmans Constitutional rights and your NAZI THUG director thinks that it's okay.

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Thanks for messaging us. We try to be as responsive as possible, but this account isn't monitored 24/7. We'll get back to you soon.

**Feb 4, 2021, 9:28 AM**

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Thanks for sharing. Hope you have a good day. Most sincerely, TBI Public Information Office

\*\*



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joy zuccarello  
@joyzuccarello



← Tweet



Kelly Kinkade  
@A89RF



Hey, @ACLU, got a hot one for you: Apparently DA Ray Crouch, of Dickson County, Tennessee, is confused about the difference between "free speech" and "harassment". Go teach his sorry ass a lesson.

Bad Legal Takes @BadLegalTakes Jan 23  
Show this thread



Joseph Callaway @JosephCallaway  
January 23, 2021

Just showing my respect to deputy Daniel Baker from the #DicksonCounty by taking his portrait.



Tennessee Bureau of Inves... 21h  
Agents visited the gravesite and quickly determined the photograph is not authentic. The TBI's work, however, continues and, to that end, the Bureau would encourage anyone with information about who may be responsible for manufacturing the image to call at 1-800-TBI-FIND. (2/2)

6:52 PM Jan 23, 2021 Twitter Web App

5 LIVES



This morning, District Attorney General Ray Crouch requested the TBI to investigate the origin of a troubling photograph, getting considerable attention on social media, that seemed to depict individuals desecrating the grave of a deceased local law enforcement officer. (1/2)



Tennessee Bureau of Inves... 14h  
UPDATE: Investigative efforts, by TBI and the Dickson Police Department today, have led to a Harassment charge for a man accused of doctoring and posting a disturbing photograph depicting the desecration of the grave of Sgt. Daniel Baker.

DETAILS: [Shannon News](#) 1/23/21



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## Relevant people



Kelly Kinkade  
@A89RF

Follow

Ham radio, technology, woodworking, etc. Lately more politics than anything else. Law student in a prior millenium.



ACLU  
@ACLU

Follow

The ACLU is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, legal and advocacy 501(c)(4) organization. Visit our site for more about us and our affiliated org, the ACLU Foundation.



Bad Legal Takes  
@BadLegalTakes

Follow

Posting the worst legal takes on Twitter. Have a submission? DM or @ me. Bingo cards: [bit.ly/3cXRtdG](https://bit.ly/3cXRtdG)

## What's happening

Eurovision - LIVE

Eurovision: Italy wins with 524 points 🇮🇹

Trending with #Eurovision 🇮🇹 Italy



#ArmyOfTheDead 🇺🇸





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joy zuccarello  
@joyzuccarello



## Thread



Jim Kleinbrook  
@JKleinbrook



"Unfortunately, taxpayers will have to pay a significant penalty because District Attorney Ray Crouch, the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, the City of Dickson, and their agents and employees are constitutionally illiterate."

9:52 AM · May 3, 2021 · Twitter Web App



Jim Kleinbrook @JKleinbrook · May 3



Replying to @JKleinbrook  
not the only illiterate ones though are they.....hehe



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## Relevant people



Jim Kleinbrook  
@JKleinbrook

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## What's happening

Eurovision · LIVE

**Eurovision: Italy wins with 524 points**

Trending with #Eurovision, Italy



#ArmyOfTheDead

Watch Now on Netflix

Promoted by Netflix Film

MMA · LIVE

**UFC Fight Night: Font vs Garbrandt**

Trending with McGee, #UFCVegas27



Sports · Trending

**Richard Jefferson**

Fans watching the Clippers and Mavericks game react to sports analyst Richard Jefferson's commentary

Messages





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joyzuccarello  
@joyzuccarello

Thread



Josh Breslow  
@JoshBreslowWKRN

JUST IN: TBI investigating origin of "troubling photograph" circulating on social media showing individuals "desecrating the grave" of Dickson County Sgt. Daniel Baker, who was shot and killed on duty in May 2018. Agents determined photo NOT authentic, but investigation ongoing.



1:16 PM Jan 22, 2021 Twitter for iPhone

2 Retweets 6 Likes

Reply Retweet Like Share



Josh Breslow  
@JoshBreslowWKRN Jan 22

Replying to @JoshBreslowWKRN

#UPDATE: Investigators say Joshua Garton, 28, charged with harassment after altered image circulated on social media showing individuals "desecrating" the grave of Dickson County Sgt. Daniel Baker, who was shot and killed in 2018. Garton is jailed in Dickson County



Reply Retweet Like Share



Kito  
@KitosHouse Jan 22

Replying to @JoshBreslowWKRN

What are they investigating? Photoshop?

Reply Retweet Like Share



Josh Breslow  
@JoshBreslowWKRN Jan 22

While they have not specified, I would imagine they are working to determine if someone else's grave was desecrated, as that would be illegal

Reply Retweet Like Share



Kito  
@KinosHouse Jan 22

Come on buddy. They checked the gravesite in question, found it undisturbed, now they are asking for help about the picture and it's makers. But, you say they are looking for possible vandals? No. That boat don't float Josh

Reply Retweet Like Share

Search Twitter

Relevant people



Josh Breslow  
@JoshBreslowWKRN

Follow

Alert Desk Anchor • @WKRN in Nashville, Tennessee • 4-7AM & 11AM-12PM • Email: jbreslow@WKRN.com

What's happening

Science 3 hours ago

If you've ever seen two trees in intimate contact, you've witnessed inosculation



#ArmyOfTheDead

Watch Now on Netflix

Promoted by Netflix

Trending in United States

Italy

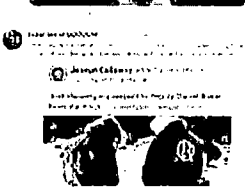
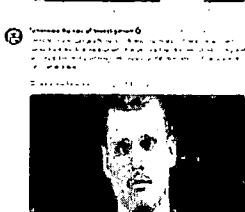
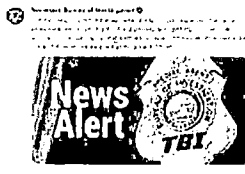
242K tweets

Entertainment Trending

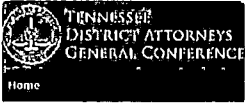
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My Activity



Be sure to call District Attorney Ray Crouch at one of the numbers below tonight and early tomorrow to inquire about an arrest for protesting Free Speech. This is the third time this should be posted about 4/16/2020



Honorable Ray Crouch  
District Attorney General

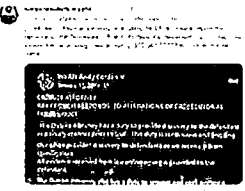
Serving Cheatham, Clackson, Houston, Humphreys and Stewart County

**Charlotte Criminal Office**  
P.O. Box 580  
604 Spring St. Lower Level  
Charlotte, TN 37036  
Phone: (615) 789-5021  
Fax: (615) 789-5012

**Ashland City Criminal Office**  
P.O. Box 690  
105 Sycamore St., 2nd Floor  
Ashland City, TN 37015  
Phone: (615) 792-7500  
Fax: (615) 792-1694

**Waverly Criminal Office**  
100 North Court Square, Suite 206  
Waverly, TN 37185  
Phone: (615) 296-9159  
Fax: (615) 296-2708

More replies



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## Tweet



Tennessee District Attorneys General Conference @TNDAGC Jan 25 ...  
Angie's son Jace died of an accidental overdose after a dealer lied about the type of drug they were selling. When you buy something off the street, you never know what you're getting. Learn more about the dangers of Fentanyl by visiting our website: [thedeadliesthugs.com](http://thedeadliesthugs.com)



0:14 44 views



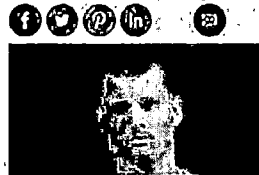
justpersnickety.crypto  
@justpersnickety

Replying to @TNDAGC

Why haven't you responded about District Attorney Ray Crouch JR abusing his office & arresting Jason Garton for posting a CD cover with the assistance of the @TBInvestigation @TBJoshDeVine @dicksonpolice Does our Constitutional Right to Free Speech end in TN? #news #Tennessee

**'Constitutionally Illiterate'**  
Tennessee Authorities Arrest Man For 'Posting an Anti-Police Meme' on Social Media

RAY LAURENCE JAN 25 10:11 PM EST



"He did a meme," Horwitz said in summation, adding, "They arrested him for posting an anti-police meme."

Law&Crime reached out to the TBI and District Attorney Ray Crouch's office asking whom Garton is alleged to have harassed and how posting such an image can be criminal in light of Supreme Court precedent set in *Hillier v. California*, *New York v. Ferber*, and *Ashcroft v. Free Speech Coalition*. The TBI said all questions regarding the charges should be directed to the District Attorney's office. Crouch's office has not responded to the inquiry at the time of publication.

[Image via TBI]

7:54 PM - Jan 26, 2021 Twitter for Android

0 17 0 0

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@joyzuccarello

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Interning is a great way to see firsthand how DAs and their teams fight for justice every day. To see what internship opportunities are available in your area, please contact your local District Attorney's office:



Home | Tennessee District Attorneys General Conference  
The Conference is made up of District Attorneys from 31 districts across Tennessee and the office of the Executive Director. Find your DA  
@tndagc.org

KaosuM  
@kaosum

Replying to @TNDAGC

"Fight for justice", care to explain how arresting a person for posting a photoshopped picture, which I believe is a 1st amendment right, is "fighting for justice"? Can DA Ray Crouch explain why his opinions/feelings trumps someones right to free speech?



Man jailed for allegedly posting disrespectful photo of deputy's grave  
The Tennessee resident was arrested on suspicion of harassment for distributing the doctored picture online  
@nbcnews.com

9:48 PM Jan 24, 2021 Twitter Web App



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Sports trending  
Kyle Busch

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joy ruzcarella

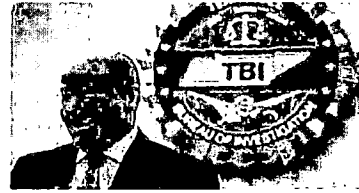
## Thread



Attorney Major of Florida @turnovers May 1  
OK let's talk about this crazy story

A Tennessee cop staid on duty. Some isidn's made a crude image from an album cover showing a grave being piced on and pasted that cop's face on it.

Cops in Tennessee shit a truck and started a goddamn investigation



Man arrested over faked photo of Dickson police officer's grave sues. I believe, unless a person just posted an image on social media. He was charged with harassment after investigators showed him the reality. @turnovers.com



Attorney Major of Florida @turnovers

Replying to @turnovers

The District Attorney, Ray Crouch, involved the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, who started by sending cops to the actual grave to check for urine. They discovered the grave was fine, because of course it was. Only an idiot would ever think otherwise.

The TBI stepped into investigate the image at the request of Crouch, court exhibits show. But the image isn't of Baker's grave. The TBI sent agents to check.

It's taken from an album cover for The Rites' 2009 album "Pissing On Your Grave," onto which a copy of Baker's official work portrait was "crudely" edited, court documents show.

TBI agents confirmed Baker's grave was untouched and the photo was fake

1:45 PM · May 1, 2021 · Twitter for Android

6 likes



Attorney Major of Florida @turnovers May 1  
Replying to @turnovers

Despite confirming this was not a "grave-site desecration" case, they still moved forward and arrested this guy for hurling their feelings, charging him with "Harassment."

Pay no attention to the actual Harassment statute (screenshot shows my text goes off back for "harassed")

(4) Communicates with another person by any method described in subdivision (a)(1), without legitimate purpose:

(A) (i) With the malicious intent to frighten, intimidate or cause emotional distress; or

(ii) In a manner the defendant knows, or reasonably should know, would frighten, intimidate or cause emotional distress to a similarly situated



Attorney Major of Florida @turnovers May 1

They arrested the guy (with flashy press releases of course), then acted shocked when a judge tossed that nonsense weeks later.

He's now suing them for the obvious 1A violation and I will enjoy watching @turnovers win these fuckers dry



Attorney Major of Florida @turnovers May 1

Final thing: does anything sum up a cop's contemptuous attitude to the 1st Amendment better than this quote?

The whole "not freedom from consequences" cliché is already played out and obvious, but arrest and prosecution is literally the consequence. "Not subject to the amendment."

"He has a right to post. That doesn't mean there are no consequences," another defendant, Dickson Police Captain Donald Arnold, wrote in a text message, records show.

12 · Search Justice

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Attorney Major of Florida @turnovers Follow  
Florida's first elected Attorney Major and second most powerful attorney in the state. Supporter of our state animal, the Opossum. Also enjoys pro wrestling.

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





Spotify: Hearing

Rick Santorum


CNN interviews Rick Santorum with words probed

rumormongers Rick Santorum after the former senator died

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@joyzuccarello

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Daniel A. Horwitz @danielahorwitz · Jan 23



Man jailed for allegedly posting disrespectful photo of deputy's grave  
The Tennessee resident was arrested on suspicion of harassment for distributing the doctored picture online  
[@nbcnews.com](#)

1 3 12 1



Moroccan  
@moroccan

Replying to @danielahorwitz and @scot\_blog

Presiding Judge who ruled on the \$76,000 Bail and the Attorney General Ray Crouch should at the very least be censured, if not Barred by the Tennessee ABA for his role in this nonsense. It is one thing for Cops not to understand the law they are supposed to enforce, but an AG?

11:00 PM · Jan 23, 2021 · Twitter Web App

3 Likes

1 1 1 1



Carol Vonphuckstick @yonphuckstick · Jan 24

Replying to @moroccan and @scot\_blog  
Oh I thought we voted these folks in  
I hope they get a lot of calls behind censure or whatever.

1 1 1 1

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Now at @DanielAHorwitz  
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Science · 3 hours ago

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mitch ass mf  
@muffinpoots

DA Ray Crouch will misappropriate state resources and have you arrested if you say mean things about cops on the internet.

And I bet he wonders why people hate cops.



Tennessee Authorities Arrest Man For 'Posting an Anti-Police Meme' on Social ...  
Tennessee law enforcement authorities arrested a man for posting a crude anti-police meme on social media resulting in outrage from attorneys  
[lawandcrime.com](http://lawandcrime.com)

7:58 PM · Jan 24, 2021 · Twitter for Android

2 Likes



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I would rather be nine people's favorite thing than one hundred people's ninth favorite thing.

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Joy Zuccarello  
@joyzuccarello

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**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation** @TBIInvestigation Jan 22  
This morning, District Attorney General Ray Crouch requested the TBI to investigate the origin of a troubling photograph, getting considerable attention on social media, that seemed to depict individuals desecrating the grave of a deceased local law enforcement officer. (1/2)



103 30 38 11



**D. A. Swafford**  
@sagacious\_stoic

Replying to @TBIInvestigation

Kind of unbelievable you haven't posted an apology for violating this person's first, fourth, and fifth amendment rights.

Actually, on second thought, it is completely believable. Thanks for demonstrating the toxic culture that permeates law enforcement.

Do fucking better.

11:43 PM Jan 24, 2021 Twitter for iPhone

22 Likes

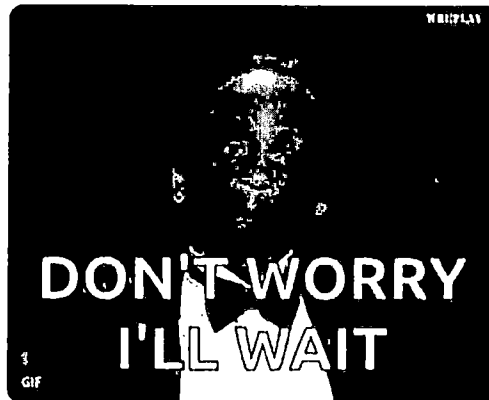


## More replies



**justpersnickety.crypto** @justpersnickety Jan 26

Replying to @sagacious\_stoic and @TBIInvestigation  
@TNDJG @TBIInvestigation We need answers. Why was this man arrested in the first place? Why hasn't Ray Crouch the DA with a bone to pick spoken to the public about this? #FreeSpeech



1 11 1 1

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**D. A. Swafford**  
@sagacious\_stoic  
in medias res. Pharmaceutical Chemist. Freethinker. An analogue self narrativizing in digital space.

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With truth, bravery, and integrity, we're proud to serve as the state's lead law enforcement agency, so that guilt shall not escape, nor innocence suffer.

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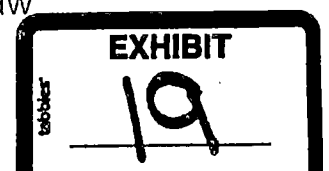
## Man Jailed For Posting Anti-Police Meme on Facebook Files \$1M Lawsuit Alleging 'Despicable and Unconstitutional Malicious Prosecution'

JERRY LAMBE Apr 27th, 2021, 7:22 pm 38



*Joshua Andrew Garton*

A Tennessee man described by his attorneys as mentally disabled spent nearly two weeks in jail for posting a fake photograph on social media two men urinating on the grave of a police officer killed while on duty in 2018. Now, he is suing the city and law



enforcement officials involved in his arrest, saying they knew all along that crude, tasteless, or even offensive criticism of police is not a crime.

As previously reported by Law&Crime, **Joshua Garton** in January posted a mosaic featuring the cover of "Pissing on Your Grave," a 2009 album from the hardcore band The Rites. Crudely superimposing the fallen officer's headshot on the desecrated gravestone, Garton posted his creation on Facebook with the caption, "Just showing my respect to Deputy **Daniel Baker** from the #dicksonpolicedepartment." A joint task force comprised of officers from the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) and Dickson Police Department launched an investigation into the meme, despite the underlying conduct being clearly protected by the First Amendment.

The newly assembled meme task force quickly fingered Garton, who was arrested on harassment charges and held in jail for ten days on \$76,000 bond. During his preliminary hearing in February, Dickson County Judge **Craig Monsue** dismissed the case, noting that victims of harassment have to show there was a "threat of harm" which was absent in Garton's case.

"[T]he Court cannot find that there's probable cause to believe that the posting of this photograph constitutes a threat of harm to [Daniel Baker's wife] **Lisa Baker**, but is instead, a denigration of Sergeant Baker's memory," Monsue said. "Therefore respectfully, the Court dismisses this count."

Garton, who was left homeless due to his allegedly unlawful incarceration, then filed a lawsuit in the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee claiming that multiple government officials conspired to violate his constitutional rights to retaliate

against his protected speech. The suit was filed against the City of Dickson, District Attorney General **Ray Crouch**, Dickson Police Captain **Donald Arnold**, TBI Director **David Rausch**, Deputy TBI Director **Bradley Nealon**, TBI Assistant Director of Criminal Investigations **Joshua Melton**, and TBI agents **Russel Winkler**, **Joseph Craig**, and **Andrew Vallee**, all of whom were named in their individual capacity, not in their capacity as government officials.

“The Defendants — one of whom is an attorney who wields extraordinary prosecutorial authority — neither care about nor feel constrained by clearly established First Amendment law. Indeed, the Defendants’ internal correspondence reflects that they abhor the rights that the First Amendment guarantees individuals like the Plaintiff,” the complaint stated.

Text messages obtained by Garton’s attorney **Daniel A. Horwitz** through a public records request appear to support this theory, as they show one of the defendants telling Captain Arnold that “we violated [Garton’s] 1st amendment rights.”

“He has the right to post. That doesn’t mean there are no consequences,” Arnold replied.

In a statement released concurrent with the lawsuit, Horwitz promised that there will indeed be consequences for what happened to his client.

“There are actual consequences for flagrantly violating the First Amendment,” Horwitz said, calling several of the defendants “constitutionally illiterate.”

The complaint additionally alleges that Crouch engaged in a “systematic abuse of prosecutorial discretion” by “directing law

enforcement to investigate, retaliate against, arrest, and charge Mr. Garton" because he was offended that Garton's meme was disrespectful to the police.

Such systemic abuse and callous disregard for civil rights is alleged to have driven the entire probe of Garton.

In fact, after receiving an overwhelming number of emails from journalists regarding civil rights attorneys' reactions to Garton's arrest, Director Rausch compared TBI's critics to the insurrectionists who stormed the Capitol on Jan. 6.

"The trolls will do what trolls do. It appears they and the lawyers forget that there are surviving family members who have rights as well," Rausch wrote in a text message included in the complaint. "My assessment is these are the same folks who called the insurrection at the Capitol free speech."

Horowitz also called for the resignation of those who led the investigation into Garton.

"If they had any dignity or respect for the people that they are supposed to serve, District Attorney Ray Crouch, TBI Director David Rausch, and all of the agents who participated in this despicable and unconstitutional malicious prosecution would resign," Horowitz said. "Law enforcement officials should uphold the law, rather than violate it."

Garton asked the court to issue an injunction directing the defendants to cease any existing or future investigation of Garton's social media post and an award of damages no less than \$1 million.

In an email to Law&Crime, TBI Spokesperson **Josh DeVine** said it

would be “inappropriate for us to comment on any pending litigation.”

DA Crouch's office did not return a request for comment.

Read the full lawsuit below.

[Complaint of Joshua Garton and Exhibits 1-4 by Law&Crime on Scribd](#)

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[image via TBI]

*Have a tip we should know? [tips@lawandcrime.com](mailto:tips@lawandcrime.com)*

Filed Under:

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## Jerry Lambe - Journalist



Jerry Lambe is a journalist at Law&Crime. He is a graduate of Georgetown University and New York Law School and previously worked in financial securities compliance and Civil Rights employment law.

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CONSTITUTIONAL LAW

# A Morally Reprehensible Act Is Made Worse By A Legally Inexcusable Arrest

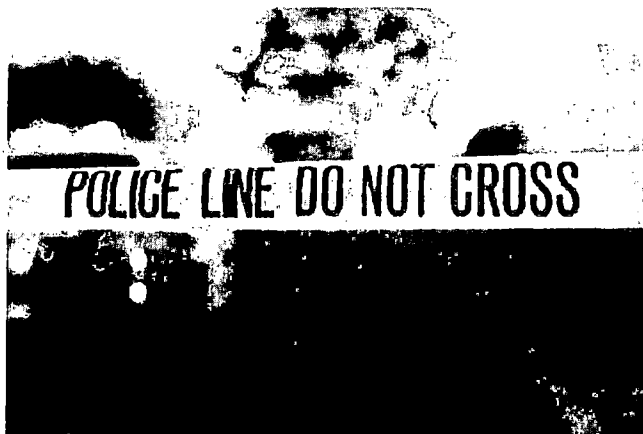
The only thing worse than Joshua Garton's fake photograph desecrating the grave of a dead police officer is the decision to arrest him for it.

By TYLER BROKER

January 25, 2021 at 5:17 PM

29

SHARES



Joshua Andrew Garton did a morally reprehensible and utterly vile thing. He posted a fake photograph of people urinating on the grave of a dead police officer. The reason Garton did something this despicable is unclear. But when a local reporter reached out to those who know him, the response was that Garton suffers from mental health problems and was in serious need of treatment. In the United States though, citizens with suspected mental illnesses are far more likely to be arrested and thrown in jail than given medical treatment — mostly, according to the National Alliance on Mental

EXHIBIT

20



Illness as a result of nonviolent acts. Which brings us to what I consider to be x the worst part of this story, which is that the police decided to arrest Garton for posting the fake photograph.

What makes the arrest so bad is that Garton's post clearly falls within the type of symbolic speech long recognized as being protected by the First Amendment from government retribution or punishment. It is also equally clear that Garton's speech does not fall within any other of the "well-defined and narrowly limited classes of speech" that have no recognized First Amendment protection such as obscenity, defamation, fraud, true threats, incitement, or speech integral to criminal conduct. But wait, some might ask, is it not fair to categorize Garton's fake picture of two people urinating on a dead police officer's grave as rather obviously obscene? The answer is, although it is fair to describe Garton's post as disgusting by moral standards of decency, the legal definition of obscenity is very specific, and this post clearly falls far short of meeting that *legal* definition.

In *Miller v. California*, the Supreme Court articulated the basic elements for obscenity which test:

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*(1) whether the average person applying contemporary community standards would find the work, taken as a whole, appeals to the prurient interest; (2)*


*whether the work depicts or describes, in a patently offensive way, sexual conduct specifically defined by the applicable state law; and (3) whether the work, taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value.*

✕

Keep in mind that in *Miller*, the outcome of the case was that a man who had been sending unsolicited pornographic magazines had his conviction overturned. In other words, the obscenity standard is very narrow and the Supreme Court has rejected every attempt to expand it. But most importantly, nothing in Garton's post — which did not depict any sexual conduct or even sexual organs — could be reasonably placed within the category of the legally obscene or, for that matter, any other recognized free speech exceptions which are just as narrow or even narrower. Yet, Garton was arrested for his clearly protected speech anyway.

In point of fact, Garton was charged under Tennessee's criminal statute of harassment that, in part, criminalizes communications made "[w]ith the malicious intent to frighten, intimidate or cause emotional distress." The problem is, such state laws must nevertheless conform with First Amendment guarantees and again, it is absurdly obvious to anyone competent or at least dedicated to following the Constitution, that Garton's post was protected speech.

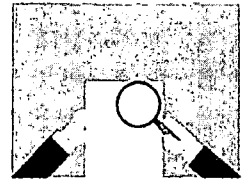
Absent any legitimate legal reason, the obvious explanation for what happened is that the police were morally angry and offended and decided to arrest Garton for disrespecting one of their own. The Constitution be damned. And it is precisely this decision by agents of the state to abandon the Constitution that makes the arrest the worst part of all of this. Put simply, Garton did not break the law, but the police did. Here is where I also tell you that living in a "free society" means having to constantly be exposed to speech that is shocking, disgusting, and dare I say offensive. This means having to

accept that police officers who took actual real photos mocking the death of  someone killed by police should also be free from arrest. No matter how many are upset by it or might want it to be otherwise.

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What also makes the arrest undeniably worse is that even when Garton inevitably has his arrest dropped, and eventually sues (which he also will), it will be the only truly innocent people in all of this — the taxpayers — who will ultimately be on the hook of accountability. The individuals who are responsible for making this blatantly unconstitutional arrest will frustratingly be shielded from accountability due to the judicially made up doctrine of qualified immunity combined with indemnification. It is this shield from accountability that no doubt explains the brazen unlawful arrest itself. I mean, if you can never be held accountable for violating constitutional rights, why would you care about such rights when what you *really* want is to send a message to the lowly public about who gets to disrespect who?

When Garton does get the civil award he deserves, however, one can only hope he will use it to get the mental health treatment those around him feel he needs. It is probably too much to hope though that progressives will see this case as a caution against the expansion of speech restrictions, or that conservatives will see it as highlighting the desperate need to hold cops who violate constitutional rights accountable. So please excuse me while I go rip my hair out.



*Tyler Broker's work has been published in the Gonzaga Law Review, the Albany Law Review, and is forthcoming in the University of Memphis Law Review. Feel free to email him or follow him on Twitter to discuss his column.*

#### TOPICS

Constitutional Law, Free Speech, Joshua Garton, Tyler Broker

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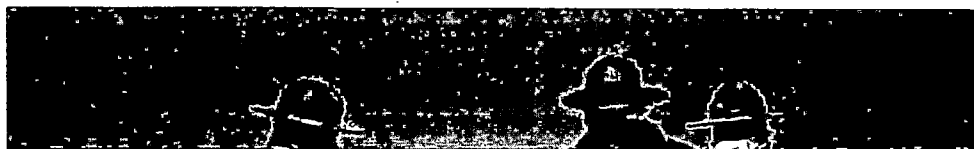


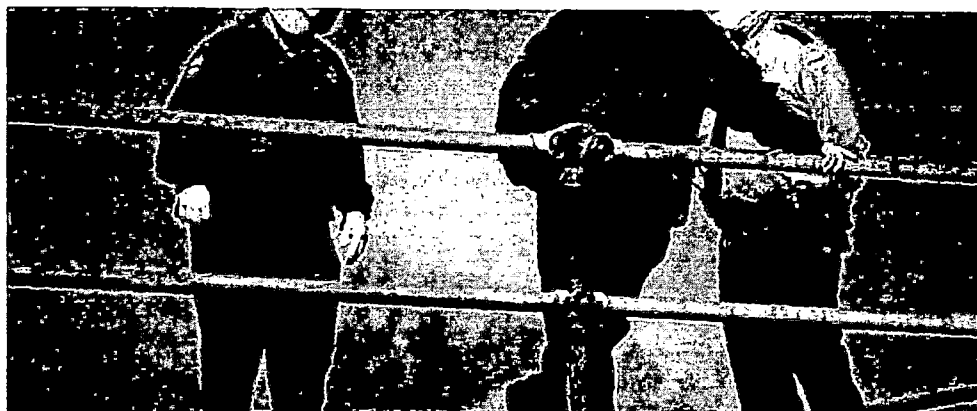
FREE SPEECH

## Tennessee Cops Arrest Man For Posting Photoshopped Picture of Men Urinating on Dead Officer's Grave

"The only people who broke the law here were the police officers and TBI agents who participated in this flagrantly unconstitutional arrest."

C.J. CIARAMELLA | 1.25.2021 3:47 PM





(Max Oden/Sipa USA/Newscom)



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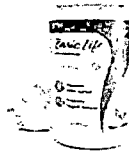
Tennessee law enforcement arrested a man last week for posting a photoshopped picture of two men urinating on a dead police officer's grave.

The Dickson County Sheriff's Office, following an investigation by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI), arrested and charged Joshua Garton with harassment after Garton posted a picture to Facebook that appeared to show two men desecrating the tombstone of Sgt. Daniel Baker, who was shot and killed on duty in 2018. Garton was held on a \$76,000 bond.

"Agents subsequently visited Baker's gravesite this morning and determined the photograph was digitally manufactured," a TBI press release says. The agency launched the investigation at the request of 23rd District Attorney General Ray Crouch.

While the picture was in poor taste, constitutional experts say law enforcement violated Garton's First Amendment rights by arresting him for the image.

"The First Amendment clearly and unmistakably protects this man's right to post an offensive photo about a police officer," says Daniel Horwitz, a Nashville civil rights attorney. "The only people who broke the law here were the police officers and TBI agents who participated in this flagrantly unconstitutional arrest."



NutraBlast Boric Acid Vaginal Suppositories

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The picture Garton posted is in fact a doctored photo of the cover of "Pissing on Your Grave," a single by The Rites, which originally depicted two people urinating on the tombstone of punk legend GG Allin.



Daniel A. Horwitz @danielahorwitz · Jan 23, 2021



Replying to @danielahorwitz

! To the surprise of no one, @TRInvestigation was involved as

to the surprise of no one, the investigation was inverted as well.

social media.

At the request of 23rd District Attorney General Ray Crouch, TBI Agents began investigating the origin of a photograph that depicted individuals desecrating the grave of a deceased local law enforcement officer, Sgt. Daniel Baker of the Dickson County Sheriff's Office.

Agents subsequently visited Baker's gravesite this morning and determined the photograph was digitally manufactured.

Further investigative efforts led to the identification of Joshua Andrew Garton (DOB 1-31-92) as the individual who manufactured the image and distributed it on social media.

This afternoon, Agents arrested Garton and charged him with one count of Harassment and booked him into the Dickson County Jail where, because of this charge and other, unrelated legal issues, he was being held on a \$76,000 bond.



Daniel A. Horwitz  
@danielahorwitz

This is the photo that our constitutionally illiterate law enforcement officers think is a crime to share.



Joseph Callaway added a new photo.  
Yesterday at 11 18 PM · 🌐

Just showing my respect to deputy Daniel Baker  
from the #dicksoncountypolicedepartment


---





10:18 AM Jan 23, 2021



542 13  Share this Tweet

It's unclear how a dead person can be criminally harassed under Tennessee law, which requires that the subject be "frightened, intimidated or emotionally distressed." Rather, Garton committed the unwritten crime of hurting a police officer's feelings, also known as "contempt of cop."

For example, in 2019 an Iowa man won a lawsuit after he was charged with third-degree harassment for saying online that a sheriff's deputy was a "stupid sum bitch" and "butthurt." (In hindsight, the latter seems undeniably true.)

Then there's the San Diego Police Department, which issued more than 80 tickets over the last decade for "seditious language" under an unconstitutional World War I-era law. The *Voice of San Diego* reported that the majority of the tickets were issued to minorities for allegedly using vulgarities.

Another Tennessee resident was arrested in 2017 after he wrote "Erin's police chief is a bitch" in white paint on the back of his car.

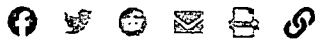
There's a wide body of case law upholding the right to flip off police officers, but despite this, arrests and tickets are still meted out to people who hurt cops' feelings by giving them the finger. Just this month, the Eight Circuit Court of Appeals denied qualified immunity to a Minnesota police officer who pulled over and arrested a man for flipping her off.

A spokesperson for the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation directed a request for comment to Crouch's office.

### ***NEXT:* Biden Ends Trump's Ban on Trans Troops**

CJ. CIARAMELLA is a reporter at *Reason*.

FREE SPEECH POLICE ABUSE FIRST AMENDMENT TENNESSEE



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**ElvisIsReal**

January.25.2021 at 3:54 pm

YOU CAN STILL SEE THE NAME ALLIN ON THE GRAVE.

WHAT THE ACTUAL FUCK

---

**SQRLSY One**

January.25.2021 at 4:33 pm

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/GG\\_Allin](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/GG_Allin)

"A heavily intoxicated Allin stripped naked, defecated on the floor, wiped his feces on himself and threw feces into the audience."

Who gives a shit!!!! GG\_Allin gives a shit!

PS, isn't a "golden shower" a sign of respect, in certain cultures? Maybe the pissers could use THAT idea in their own defense! Or would that be "cultural appropriation"? Which cultures are allowed to use "golden showers" as a sign of respect, anyway?

---

**Josephine Parker**

January.25.2021 at 4:48 pm

## LATEST

### Will Pro-Life Politicians Face a Backlash If the Supreme Court Lets Them Restrict Abortion?

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---

**SharonWThompson**

January.26.2021 at 1:24 pm

Get \$192 of an hour from Google!... Yes this is Authentic as I just got my first payout and was really awesome because it was the biggest number of \$24413 in a week. Now A Days Scam is every where but don't worry , every one is not a cheater, very reliable and profitable site. Thousands peoples are making good earning from it. It seems Appears Unbelievable but you won't forgive yourself if you do not check it. For further detail visit Home tab.....> [Visit Here To Earn Dollars](#)

---

**Josephine Parker**

January.25.2021 at 4:49 pm

Making money online more than 15\$ just by doing simple work from home. I have received \$18376 last month. Its an easy and simple job to do and its earnings are much better than THC regular office job and even a little child can do this and earns money. Everybody must try this job by just use the info on this page.....[MORE READ](#)

---

**Mother's Lament**

January.25.2021 at 5:16 pm

*PS, isn't a "golden shower" a sign of respect, in certain cultures?*

As expected of you, Sqr1s.

Only our resident coprophiliac could possibly think this.

---

## Hate Speech Law for Racist Social Media Post

SCOTT SHACKFORD | 5.20.2021 12:00 PM

January.25.2021 at 5:25 pm

A: They are both fucking close to water!

January.25.2021 at 5:30 pm

*perihazqr*

January.25.2021 at 8:06 pm

**MilaEaston**

January.26.2021 at 5:51 pm

????PART TIME JOBS FOR US RESIDENTS??????

I quit working at shop rite and now I make \$65-85 per/h. How? I'm working online!

My work didn't exactly make me happy so I decided to take a chance on something new...

QWr after 4 years it was so hard to quit my day job but now I couldn't be happier.

Here's what I do..... Visit.....**USA ONLINE JOBS**

## Anyone Still Care About Freedom In Here?

January.25.2021 at 7:14 pm

የኢ.ኤስ.ኤስ.ፋይናንስ ኤዲትሪያል ቦርድ አባላት ስም

na na na: squishy sounds (tutis on the internet) 🍑 🍑 🍑

---

**Sevo**

January.25.2021 at 10:10 pm

Flag, refresh

---

**SQRLSY One**

January.25.2021 at 5:26 pm

PS:

ANGRILY: I AM SICK AND TIRED OF YOUR SHIT!!!

Quietly, slyly: Now, can I have some of your shit?

---

**Mother's Lament**

January.25.2021 at 5:30 pm

Cripes! no.

---

**a libertarian**

January.25.2021 at 5:40 pm

Jesus Chirst he just solicited you to give him your shit to eat

---

**SQRLSY One**

January.25.2021 at 5:31 pm

Sorry, brain fart!

Quietly, slyly: Now, can I have some of your \*\*\*piss\*\*\*?

(I am still working on my PhD in stand-up comedy!)

---

*a libertarian*

January.25.2021 at 5:41 pm

ahahahah you begged him to give you shit to eat ahahahahah

I love having this to mock you for hhahhahh

---

*SQRLSY One*

January.25.2021 at 5:50 pm

"Dear Abby" is a personal friend of mine. She gets some VERY strange letters! For my amusement, she forwards some of them to me from time to time. Here is a relevant one:

Dear Abby, Dear Abby,  
My life is a mess,  
Even Bill Clinton won't stain my dress,  
I whinny seductively for the horses,  
They tell me my picnic is short a few courses,  
My real name is Mary Stack,  
NO ONE wants my hairy crack!  
On disability, I live all alone,  
Spend desperate nights by the phone,  
I found a man named Richard (Dick) Decker,  
But he won't give me his hairy pecker!  
Dick Decker's pecker is reserved for farm beasts,  
I am beastly, yes! But my crack's full of yeasts!

So Dear Abby, that's just a poetic summary... You can read about the Love of my Life,  
Richard Decker here:

Richard Decker, here:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2019/10/11/farmers-kept-refusing-let-him-have-sex-with-their-animals-so-he-sought-revenge-authorities-say/#comments-wrapper>

Farmers kept refusing to let him have sex with their animals. So he sought revenge, authorities say.

Decker the hairy pecker told me a summary of his story as below:

Decker: "Can I have sex with your horse?"

Farmer: "Lemme go ask the horse."

Pause...

Farmer: "My horse says 'neigh'!"

And THAT was straight from the horse's mouth! I'm not horsin' around, here, no mare!

So Richard Decker the hairy pecker told me that, apparently never even realizing just HOW DEEPLY it hurt me, that he was all interested in farm beasts, while totally ignoring MEEEE!!

So I thought maybe I could at least liven up my lonely-heart social life, by refining my common interests that I share with Richard Decker... I, too, like to have sex with horses!

But Dear Abby, the horses ALL keep on saying "neigh" to my whinnying sexual advances! Some tell me that my whinnying is too whiny... Abby, I don't know how to fix it!

Dear Abby, please don't tell me "get therapy"... I can't afford it on my disability check!

Now, along with my crack full of yeasts... I am developing anorexia! Some are calling me a "quarter pounder with cheese", but they are NOT interested at ALL, in eating me!!! They will NOT snack on my crack!

What will I DO, Dear Abby?!?!?

-Desperately Seeking Horses, Men, or ANYTHING, in Fort Worth,

Yours Truly,

Mary Stack / Tulpa / Mary's Period / " / " / Satan

---

***AnyoneStillCareAboutFreedomInHere?***



January.25.2021 at 6:00 pm

Nobody read this (including me). LOL

---

***SQRLSY One***

January.25.2021 at 6:16 pm

You didn't read it, but you're feeling damned well qualified to post a comment on it?  
And then you wonder why civilized, intelligent beings in ALL galaxies, everywhere,  
regard trumpanzees as sub-human, sub-sentient beings? ... I really do NOT get it!  
Can ye EXPLAIN?!?!

---

***a libertarian***

January.25.2021 at 6:26 pm

AAAAHHA YOU BEGGED HIM FOR HIS SHIT SO YOU CAN EAT  
HAHAJAJAJAJAJA

---

***AnyoneStillCareAboutFreedomInHere?***

January.25.2021 at 6:55 pm

LOL Didn't read your last paragraph either. ☹

---

***AnyoneStillCareAboutFreedomInHere?***

January.25.2021 at 6:58 pm

Okay, you kinda appealed to my principles, I read your last paragraph now. (God,  
why am I feeding this thing?!)

Anyways, some people don't only feel qualified to comment, but even VOTE  
despite knowing squat about anything. So what was your point again?

---

***SQRLSY One***

January.25.2021 at 7:05 pm

My point was that your comments (perhaps even your existence?) are damned-near pointless!

---

***AnyoneStillCareAboutFreedomInHere?***

January.25.2021 at 7:09 pm

LOL You're butthurt. 😊

I know my existence is pointless. Just like yours. But as opposed to me, it really, really triggers when people don't give you any attention. That's why I (and the rest of the world) do not read your comments but instead just casually make fun of you. 😊

---

***AnyoneStillCareAboutFreedomInHere?***

January.25.2021 at 7:20 pm

Edit: really, really triggers "you"

---

***a libertarian***

January.25.2021 at 6:08 pm

ahahahah you begged him to give you shit to eat ahahahahah

I love having this to mock you for hhahhahh

and shitposting @ me won't make it go away ahhhhhhhhah

---

**JesseAz**

January.25.2021 at 6:27 pm

Still not an ounce of humor sarcasmic

---

**Sevo**

January.25.2021 at 10:10 pm

Flag, refresh

---

**Sevo**

January.25.2021 at 10:09 pm

Flag, referesh

---

**LydiaPerez**

January.25.2021 at 4:57 pm

[ PART TIME JOB FOR USA ] Making money online more than 15\$ just by doing simple works from home. I have received \$18376 last month. Its an easy and simple job to do and its earnings are much better than regular officeQER job and even a little child can do this and earns money. Everybody must try this job by just use the info on this page.... [Visit Here](#)

---

**clmad30791**

January.28.2021 at 9:36 am

I get paid 95 \$ each hour for work at home on my PC. I never thought I'd have the option to do it however my old buddy is gaining 65k\$/month VEum to month by carrying out this responsibility and she gave me how.

Give it a shot on following website.....Visit.....[Home Profit System](#)

---

**RabbiHarveyWeinstein**

January.25.2021 at 3:56 pm

Naturally, this event occurred in "Dickson" county.

---

**Diane Reynolds (Paul.)**

January.25.2021 at 4:00 pm

The Era of Biden is upon us.

---

**Chipper Morning Wood**

---

January.25.2021 at 4:38 pm

What does this story have to do with Biden? Do you have Biden Derangement Syndrome?

---

**KatieMcCullough**

January.25.2021 at 4:52 pm

I am now making extra \$19k or more every month from home by doing very simple and easy job online from home. I have received exactly \$20845 last month from this home job. Join now this job and start making extra cash online Gfi by follow instruction on the given website..... [Visit Here](#)

---

**a libertarian**

January.25.2021 at 5:42 pm

ahahaha omfg he's crying "LEAVE BIDEN ALONE" AHAHAHHAH

---

**JesseAz**

January.25.2021 at 6:28 pm

But he has no teams.

---

**AnyoneStillCareAboutFreedomInHere?**

January.25.2021 at 5:54 pm

It's the era where this will be promoted as justified and fine by the media because the target was a police officer. Free speech is fine, but the problem is they don't have to worry about any backlash in the (social/sociopath) media. Instead impostor free speech advocates will use this to attack people who are (rightfully) offended.

---

**newshutz**

January.26.2021 at 7:55 am

Isn't this story too local?

---

**kedosev**

January.27.2021 at 10:26 am

Real online home based work to make more than \$14k. Last month i have made \$15738 from this home job. Very simple and easy to do and earnings EDCqaz from this are just awesome for details. For more detail visit the given link.....Visit.....[Home Profit System](#)

---

**Slug Bro**

January.25.2021 at 4:03 pm

nice

---

***Don't look at me!***

January.25.2021 at 4:05 pm

They were pissed off I guess.

---

***con\_fuse9***

January.25.2021 at 5:26 pm

Sorry, that one was too easy, no extra credit for you!

---

***Don't look at me!***

January.25.2021 at 5:45 pm

Someone had to do it.  
I took one for the team.

---

***R Mac***

January.25.2021 at 10:30 pm

Meanwhile squirrel took 1 and 2, apparently.

---

***Bill Godshall***

January.25.2021 at 4:11 pm

Biden, Pelosi and Schumer have imposed a potentially permanent police state lockdown of DC with tens of thousands of national guard troops.

But Reason distracts readers from the new nonlibertarian reality in DC with articles like this.

---

***Diane Reynolds (Paul.)***

January.25.2021 at 4:19 pm

Look, if a military lockdown which was utterly trampling on every imaginable human right had to occur, it's hard for me to get my blood up that it's happening in DC.

---

***Mother's Lament***

January.25.2021 at 5:22 pm

There were mean words on Parler or something, and if you substitute Trump's speech with a totally different speech, you'll find that he called for insurrection.

Even a libertarian magazine knows when freedom's gone too far. Those troops are necessary.

---

***Longtobefree***

January.25.2021 at 4:48 pm

I hate to cite Politico, but - - - -

Republican governors of New Hampshire, Florida, Texas and Montana all now have said they're calling Guardsmen from their states home. Some 7,000 will remain in D.C. through Feb. 6.

For reference, that is (almost) twice as many troops as we have in Afghanistan.

Kinda makes me proud to be so scary just by voting - - - - -

---

***Lord of Strazele***

January.25.2021 at 4:51 pm

Lock up that DA. He's a lawyer and should know better. Revoke his license. I don't believe for one second this wasn't premeditated and criminal.

---

***Mother's Lament***

January.25.2021 at 5:28 pm

I hate to fucking agree with a bot, but Stroozle's right about the DA. Nobody should go to jail for merely being a cunt on the internet. This is clearly illegal.

---

***Cyto***

January.25.2021 at 8:27 pm

Our legal profession is bankrupt.

The courts have become nakedly partisan. The country is filled with nakedly partisan prosecutors. And we have mechanisms for dealing with this type of malfeasance. They just protect their own.

The idea that the legal profession would take action against one of their own for abusing their office in going after one of us proles is laughable.

The NY attorney general ran for office on a promise that she would use her office to pursue and prosecute Trump, his family, and anyone associated with him. The Bar should have immediately taken action, as this is obviously unethical. Instead they cheered and donated to her campaign. And he was the sitting president of the United States. What chance do you think you have?

---

***WuzYoungOnceToo***

January.26.2021 at 1:54 pm

Lament Johnson is right about Strazele Jonhson being right!!

---

***DarthHusker***

January.25.2021 at 7:31 pm

Slap everyone involved with 18 USC 241 charges. They conspired to injure and oppress him because he exercised a right under the Constitution. Making the laws we have actually apply to the morons in the



justice system is the quickest way to actual reform.

---

**Cyto**

January.25.2021 at 8:30 pm

That hilarious... The law applying to the members of the justice system.

Yer killin' me!

---

**perihagr**

January.25.2021 at 8:33 pm

242, I believe.

---

**Its\_Not\_Inevitable**

January.26.2021 at 3:40 pm

241, 242...whatever it takes.

---

**DarthHusker**

January.27.2021 at 3:34 am

241 is conspiracy to deprive rights, 242 is deprivation of rights. Since this was a multifaceted approach to suppress his speech, it is conspiracy.

---

**Sevo**

January.25.2021 at 10:12 pm

"...I don't believe for one second this wasn't premeditated and criminal."

Pod, speaking as a 6th-grade student, please tell us what was premeditated and criminal:

---

***Fist of Etiquette***

January.25.2021 at 4:59 pm

*While the picture was in poor taste, constitutional experts say law enforcement violated Carton's First Amendment rights by arresting him for the image.*

I remember when it was considered in poor taste to kidnap people. Ha, just kidding. That particular social more has seldom applied to law enforcement.

---

***AnyoneStillCareAboutFreedomInHere?***

January.25.2021 at 6:00 pm

This must be really emotionally painful to see for the relatives of the officer. It's a little more than just offensive.

---

***Don't look at me!***

January.25.2021 at 6:19 pm

ITS A FAKE PICTURE. IT DIDN'T REALLY HAPPEN. LIKE A MOVIE OR SOMETHING.

---

***AnyoneStillCareAboutFreedomInHere?***

January.25.2021 at 6:35 pm

Correct. That's why they can't be charged with desecrating a grave.

And as your empathy is likely just a matter of socially appropriate computation that may or may not fail, you can't spontaneously grasp how this may not matter at all to the relatives of the officer.

---

***AnyoneStillCareAboutFreedomInHere?***

January.25.2021 at 6:40 pm

Or were you being sarcastic and I didn't get that? In that case I apologize.

---

***WuzYoungOnceToo***

January.26.2021 at 1:56 pm

*That's why they can't be charged with desecrating a grave.*

Nor anything else, for that matter.

---

***AnyoneStillCareAboutFreedomInHere?***

January.26.2021 at 5:40 pm

Look, I'm sorry I was being a dick to you in another thread which might have given you a me-derangement-syndrome, but the point I am making is extralegal. We don't have to solve every problem using the law as our cudgel.

The real problem is that is shouldn't take the law to get an appropriate reaction for this shit.

---

***WuzYoungOnceToo***

January.26.2021 at 8:25 pm

*Look, I'm sorry I was being a dick to you in another thread which might have given you a me-derangement-syndrome*

You might want to check your ego there, snowflake. I have no idea who the hell you are, nor do I recall ever seeing your pseudonym before responding to your comment here. Do you assume that every 1-time short and factual response to you is a result of some sort of derangement?

*but the point I am making is extralegal.*

Making a claim about why someone can't be charged with a crime is a pretty stupid way to make an "extralegal" point.

---

**AnyoneStillCareAboutFreedomInHere?**

January.27.2021 at 12:37 pm

Lol the old man is butthurt because I called im old and irrelevant in another thread and now he is denying it 😏

Lots of energy went into that post old man. I would go slow now for a few days if I were you. 😏

---

**AnyoneStillCareAboutFreedomInHere?**

January.25.2021 at 7:31 pm

Ok i read some of your other posts in another thread. So Im nearly certain it was sarcasm. Sorry about that, its really hard to tell sometimes.

---

**Zeb**

January.26.2021 at 12:55 pm

No, that's still just offensive. The world doesn't owe you compassion for your losses, however tragic.

---

**AnyoneStillCareAboutFreedomInHere?**

January.27.2021 at 1:10 pm

Well I would solve that problem European village style and beat them up, but Americans are kind of wussies when it comes to stuff like that.

---

**BigGiveNotBigGov**

January.25.2021 at 6:04 pm

"Authority has always attracted the lowest elements in the human race. All through history, mankind has been bullied by scum."

~ PJ O'Rourke

Public employees, especially cops, literally live for their fat and early defined benefit pensions, which should be immediately revoked for any misconduct. They'd behave if we hit'em where they live, and they live for their fat pensions and perks.

---

**Chuck P. (The Artist formerly known as CTSP)**

January.25.2021 at 6:13 pm

"When contacted for comment, a Facebook representative responded, "We fully support the right to free speech and recognize that this image is protected and object to the police arrest.

"Haha, JK. We would have sent years of the users historical data right over if the police had bothered to ask us. This guy is clearly an idiot with a hidden agenda. He even used his own name and image."

---

**Jeb Kerman**

January.25.2021 at 6:26 pm

"And how we burned in the camps later, thinking: What would things have been like if every Security operative, when he went out at night to make an arrest, had been uncertain whether he would return alive and had to say good-bye to his family? Or if, during periods of mass arrests, as for example in Leningrad, when they arrested a quarter of the entire city, people had not simply sat there in their lairs, paling with terror at every bang of the downstairs door and at every step on the staircase, but had understood they had nothing left to lose and had boldly set up in the downstairs hall an ambush of half a dozen people with axes, hammers, pokers, or whatever else was at hand?... The Organs would very quickly have suffered a shortage of officers and transport and, notwithstanding all of Stalin's thirst, the cursed machine would have ground to a halt! If...if... We didn't love freedom enough. And even more - we had no awareness of the real situation....

we purely and simply deserved everything that happened afterward."

— Aleksandr I. Solzhenitsyn , The Gulag Archipelago 1918–1956

---

**IceTrey**

January.26.2021 at 1:09 am

Violence in defense of liberty is our moral obligation.

---

**Sevo**

January.25.2021 at 10:15 pm

Probably apocryphal, but the story has the Gunny telling the grunt that the grunt will probably piss on the Gunny's grave.

Grunt: 'Nope. After my discharge, I'm not standing in any long lines again'.

---

**John F. Carr**

January.26.2021 at 9:20 am

He was also held on "unrelated legal issues", which suggests to me that there was enough legal cover to protect law enforcement. Like if you give the finger to a cop while driving 56 in a 55 zone. The real charge is contempt of cop but the judge will be happy to hear a charge of speeding with no mention on the record of why this unusual ticket was written.

---

**Elijah\_Noah**

January.26.2021 at 12:24 pm

US Dollar Rain Earns upto \$550 to \$750 per day by google fantastic job opportunity provide for our community peopoles who,s already using facebook to earn money 85000\$ every month and more through facebook and google new project to create money at home withen few hours.Everybody can get this job now and start earning online by just open this site and then go through instructions to get started.....HERE?

Check my site.

---

**WuzYoungOnceToo**

January.26.2021 at 1:59 pm

*It's unclear how a dead person can be criminally harassed*

If they can vote, they can be harassed.

*constitutional experts say law enforcement violated Carton's First Amendment rights*

So does anyone who didn't sleep through 6th grade Civics class.

---

**Twiz123**

January.26.2021 at 4:18 pm

Seems like a public lewdness charge or something to that effect would have been a better outcome. Have the judge sentence them public service...maybe say by licking the gravestone clean.

---

**WuzYoungOnceToo**

January.26.2021 at 4:56 pm

*Seems like a public lewdness charge or something to that effect would have been a better outcome. Have the judge sentence them public service...maybe say by licking the gravestone clean.*

You appear to be unfamiliar with the word "Photoshopped" as used in the title of the piece you're commenting on, as well as rushing to comment before even making it past that title.

---

**AnyoneStillCareAboutFreedomInHere?**

January.26.2021 at 5:42 pm

. . . . .

Are you some kind of matter of tacky douche package?

---

**WuzYoungOnceToo**

January 26, 2021 at 8:26 pm

No. Are you a complete moron? Or just some other moron's sockpuppet?

---

**AnyoneStillCareAboutFreedomInHere?**

January 27, 2021 at 1:11 pm

Lol sorry you're butthurt. 😊

---

**LauraZ 2**

January 26, 2021 at 6:31 pm

People clearly have too much time on their hands.

---

**Jasilma**

January 27, 2021 at 12:58 am

i cant belive this and.. [READ MORE](#)

---

**Jasilma**

January 27, 2021 at 12:59 am

Every\_one says but i asked.. [READ MORE](#)

---

**ejhickey**

January 27, 2021 at 8:29 pm



What about this ?

"Twitter Troll Tricked 4,900 Democrats in Vote-by-Phone Scheme, U.S. Says?"

<https://www.seattletimes.com/nation-world/twitter-troll-tricked-4900-democrats-in-vote-by-phone-scheme-u-s-says/>

---

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## **RECOMMENDED**

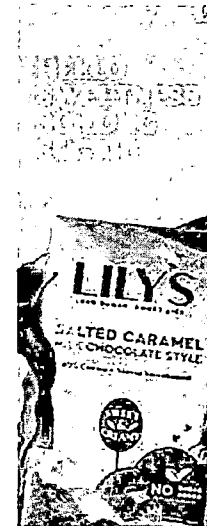
**Tennessee Man Arrested for Posting Picture Mocking Dead Police Officer Files First Amendment Lawsuit**

**'Literally Hitler' Election Mailer Is Protected by the First Amendment**

**Tennessee Passes Drug-Free School Zone Reforms Following *Reason* Investigation**

**ALEC Urges State to Reform Drug-Free School Zone Laws**

**How a Drug-Free School Zone Sent a Tennessee College Student to Prison For 17 Years**



500 K

1 M

# Man Arrested for Creating Fake Image Depicting the Desecration of a Grave

JAN 25, 2021

JARON SCHNEIDER

38 COMMENTS




A 28-year-old Tennessee man has been arrested and charged for creating a “disrespectful Photoshopped image.” He is accused of manipulating a photograph of a deceased officer’s grave and posting it on social media.

Joshua Andrew Garton was arrested and charged with one count of harassment after he reportedly Photoshopped a fake photo that depicted two people desecrating the grave of



deceased officer Sergeant Daniel Baker. Baker was killed in the line of duty in 2018.

According to **NBC News**, the image apparently depicted two men urinating on the grave, with the accompanying text reading, "Just showing my respect to deputy Daniel Baker."

Tennessee Bureau of Investigation   
@TBInvestigation



This morning, District Attorney General Ray Crouch requested the TBI to investigate the origin of a troubling photograph, getting considerable attention on social media, that seemed to depict individuals desecrating the grave of a deceased local law enforcement officer. (1/2)

1:05 PM · Jan 22, 2021 from Franklin, TN



♥ 38    💬 101    🔗 Copy link to Tweet

The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation apparently was alerted to the photo and subsequently visited the gravesite where they determined the image had been faked.

"At the request of 23rd District Attorney General Ray Crouch, TBI Agents began investigating the origin of a photograph that depicted individuals desecrating the grave of a deceased local law enforcement officer, Sgt. Daniel Baker of the Dickson County Sheriff's Office," The TBI report reads. "Agents subsequently visited Baker's gravesite this morning and determined the photograph was digitally manufactured. Further investigative efforts led to the identification of Joshua Andrew Garton (DOB 1-31-92) as the individual who manufactured the image and distributed it on social media."

From the sound of the report, the image of the unnamed act of desecration must have been particularly believable to someone, as it warranted not only a report to the District Attorney

General but also an in-person check by TBI officers. If this Twitter thread is to be believed, however, the result likely would not pass as real to many photographers:

**Daniel A. Horwitz** @danielahorwitz · Jan 23, 2021



Replying to @danielahorwitz

To the surprise of no one, @TBIInvestigation was involved as well.

**Daniel A. Horwitz**

@danielahorwitz

This is the photo that our constitutionally illiterate law enforcement officers think is a crime to share.

10:18 AM · Jan 23, 2021



♥ 542    💬 13    🔗 Copy link to Tweet

Lisa Baker, Sergeant Baker's widow, told **WKRN News** that the image was disturbing and disrespectful.

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation** 🌿 @TBInves... · Jan 22, 2021 🐦

Replying to @TBInvestigation

Agents visited the gravesite and quickly determined the photograph is not authentic. The TBI's work, however, continues and, to that end, the Bureau would encourage anyone with information about who may be responsible for manufacturing the image to call at 1-800-TBI-FIND. (2/2)

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation** 🌿  
@TBInvestigation

UPDATE: Investigative efforts, by TBI and the Dickson Police Department today, have led to a Harassment charge for a man accused of doctoring and posting a disturbing photograph depicting the desecration of the grave of Sgt. Daniel Baker.

DETAILS: [tbinewsroom.com/2021/01/22/lyl...](https://tbinewsroom.com/2021/01/22/lyl...)

8:01 PM · Jan 22, 2021



♡ 44    💬 347    🔗 Copy link to Tweet

“Although I don’t really know what to say in regards to the disrespectful photoshopped image,” Lisa Baker said. “I have lived through the worst and continue to just push forward. There is not much that the people of this world can do to surprise me. All I can do is pray for the lost soul responsible and the safety of our law enforcement.”

Garton was arrested on January 22 and is being held in the Dickson County Jail on a \$76,000 bond on the aforementioned charge of harassment and “other, unrelated legal issues.”

The arrest has led to a flurry of conversation over the act’s legality, which appears to be protected speech, as is discussed by Constitutional Litigator Daniel A. Horwitz in this [Twitter thread](#).

(via Insider)

***Image credits: Background of header photo by Matt Popovich.***

**TAGS: ARRESTED, GRAVE, GRAVESITE, ILLEGAL, LAW, LEGAL, PHOTOSHOP, PHOTOSHOPPED, PHOTOSHOPPEDIMAGE, TENNESSEE**

**38 COMMENTS**

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**Nick V** • 4 months ago

As disgusting as the image is, there is no law that says he can't be an a\$\$ whole

25 ^ ▾ 1 • [Share](#)



**hugh crawford** • 4 months ago • edited

Oh it gets better ( in the sense of even more idiotic that you could imagine ). It turns out that the "photo" is actually a record album cover that had the officer's image added.

<https://www.discogs.com/The...>

Not only is the police department wasting time and resources to make themselves and their town look like idiots, but the town will have to pay when they get their pants sued off.

I get the impression that the police and the guy that they arrested have ongoing issues.

11 ^ ▾ • [Share](#)



**mattwpbs** → **hugh crawford** • 4 months ago

Yup, and the grave in the photo literally has GG Allin's name on it.

That headstone was notorious for being treated in the same way as Allin treated himself (don't go searching for photos of GG after you've had something to eat).

^ ▾ • [Share](#)



**Pete Mueller** → **hugh crawford** • 4 months ago • edited

Looked up Dickson County... about 16K households. By the time this is through the courts, each one will have an addition to their tax bill of just under \$100. Enough to hurt poor rural folk. Maybe they'll learn a lesson and recall sheriff Jeff Bledsoe. Note that I'm



**Digame Paz** · 4 months ago

Tennessee is going to be paying this guy a big fistful of \$\$\$.  
We haven't been given any context. Maybe that officer was a brutal POS who regularly beat and falsely arrested people, maybe even the guy who did the photoshop. Maybe the guy who did the photoshop was just a little punk-ass. Either way this is about as clear of a 1st amendment case as any I've ever seen. Open and shut.

2 ^ v · Share



**So I Says...** · 4 months ago

I'm with the opinion that this was a reprehensible, childish act by tiny, culturally and socially stunted minds. But it was not illegal, especially since there was no property damage or physical threat. Move along, nothing to see here except rural yokels entertaining each other.

2 ^ v · Share



**Christopher** · 4 months ago

Without in any defending the taste or choice to create the composite...this is truly an abuse of a citizen's 1st amendment rights.

2 ^ v 1 · Share



**Peter Kelly** · 4 months ago

A very sad and depressing example of humanity, on all sides.

First, the doctored image is in poor taste and that someone sharing it, thinking they're being clever and 'scoring brownie points' against the Police in general is quite pathetic.

Second, that there is a whole raft of society, including those in power, who rise up in 'righteous indignation' and want these perceived offenders to be metaphorically lynched, rather than seeing them as the sad and miserable misfits they are.

1 ^ v · Share



**Alecio P** · 4 months ago

Yes, send him to jail, maybe he'll learn about respect in there.

2 ^ v 11 · Share



**Digame Paz** → **Alecio P** · 4 months ago

I think you are the one who needs to think more deeply about what respect means. Like respecting constitutional rights. In fact, your comment was so disrespectful to this guys' rights that you should go



to prison, you know, to learn respect..

6 ^ | v · Share ›



**Alecio P** → Digame Paz · 4 months ago

In that case send me to jail for me having an opinion if you are that offended by what I wrote.

^ | v 1 · Share ›



**Digame Paz** → Alecio P · 4 months ago

Obviously you missed my point. Try searching the word "irony". Think on it for a bit.

2 ^ | v · Share ›



**Stoffers** → Alecio P · 4 months ago

Seems you want people in jail for their thoughts and expressions, so that is what you appear to be arguing for.

^ | v · Share ›



**Digame Paz** → Alecio P · 4 months ago

Obviously you didn't get my point.  
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/irony>

^ | v · Share ›



**Peter Withe** → Alecio P · 4 months ago

I get the feeling he may have visited a prison before and respect was not learnt on that occasion.

^ | v · Share ›



**Sabar Jak La** · 4 months ago

This drug

^ | v · Share ›



**jeffmcc** · 4 months ago

This is a 1st amendment violation.

^ | v · Share ›



**Stoffers** → jeffmcc · 4 months ago · edited

I'm sorry, the Blue Line crowd is too busy killing cops and crying about censoring presidents to give a sh\*t about the first amendment.

^ | v · Share ›



**Jay** · 4 months ago

Someone over at Fee-Fee PD got their panties in a bunch  
haha

1/1/18

^ v · Share ·



**bdebre** · 4 months ago

Dude was wanted for other issues so a lawsuit probably won't go very far - the "other legal issues" is the law enforcement's get-out-of-jail free card.

^ v · Share ·



**Stanislaw Zolczynski** · 4 months ago

F,,,cking sick!!!

^ v · Share ·



**bopperman** · 4 months ago

Wrong think ! Oh my Gawd !

^ v · Share ·



**Jamtea** · 4 months ago

Wow, this news story sounds like something that would usually come out of the UK. I see the US is following our lead in crushing dissent.

Also, how what's the point in your First Amendment if this is allowed to happen? Even a school child could see this blatantly violates it.

^ v · Share ·

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# Man Arrested in TN for Insulting a Dead Police Officer

## Lehto's Law - Ep. 7.261

0:02 / 10:42



TN Man Arrested for Insulting Dead Cop - Ep. 7.261

53,002 views • Jan 25, 2021

2.8K 26 SHARE SAVE ...



Steve Lehto  
198K subscribers

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**Jedidiah** 4 months ago

"The police cannot simply arrest someone for the fun of it". It would appear, they most certainly can.

REPLY 303



**Reasonable Speculation** 4 months ago

with OT for a Court appearance, and ZERO repercussions,,,  
so why not have some fun?

REPLY 16



**stevef68** 4 months ago

I would argue they do it all the time. You may beat the charge, but you won't beat the ride. This is why qualified immunity needs to go away! There are never consequences for the bad officers.

REPLY 44



**ihatecrackhead** 4 months ago

TN arrested a man for being raped by a minor and gave immunity to testify against him

REPLY 3



**admthrawnuru** 4 months ago

They should catch a deprivation of rights charge, that would end this crap pretty quickly.

REPLY 2



**fehlrock** 4 months ago

They Can and they Did !

REPLY 7



**Scarling93** 4 months ago

But they did, sadly.

REPLY 4



**Ye Old Grogard** 4 months ago

There are towns in TN where you will be ticketed for giving a cop the bird. If you then are snarky, you will go to jail. Ask me how I know 😊

REPLY 4

**fehlrock** 4 months ago

@Ye Old Grogard I'm sure it does ! :(

REPLY




**Indigogo Igorgo** 4 months ago

@stevef68 so freaking true!!

REPLY  



**Mike Schwab** 4 months ago

@lulu belle Yep. I think the police officer should have to pay for lost wages due to the arrest being reported.

REPLY 1  

**Cary Allen** 4 months ago

You're being picky. The cops can't legally arrest someone for the fun of it. This is going to be expensive for that town when it has to pay the man for this violation of his constitutional rights.

REPLY 2  

**Jedidiah** 4 months ago

@Cary Allen Actually they can, and they have Qualified Immunity to protect them from repercussions when they do it. The only people that lose when the police do something like this is the taxpayers since they're the ones essentially paying the settlement. You have to remember, governments only have the money that is taken in by taxes. When a government screws up, the taxpayers lose, every single time.



Since the money isn't coming out of their personal pockets, they don't really care. Until the those that commit these acts are held personally responsible, nothing is ever going to change.

Qualified Immunity needs to be eliminated.

REPLY 4  



**Ian Battles** 4 months ago

@Cary Allen And how much of that lawsuit money will be coming from the pockets of the cops who made this blatantly false arrest?

REPLY 1  

**Cary Allen** 4 months ago

@Jedidiah Agree on qualified immunity. Another huge part of the problem is police unions and bad contracts that make it difficult to fire vicious/stupid cops.

REPLY 2  

**Cary Allen** 4 months ago

@Ian Battles As I said, it will come from the town. If the cops pay taxes there, multiply the percentage of the town's income that their contribution represents by the judgment/settlement amount, and you will have a rough answer.

REPLY  

**foufou33g** 4 months ago



@Cary Allen they have nothing to loose, if the arrest serves some purpose I'm pretty sure they will (the I'm just doing my job excuse will ensue), the outcome is frankly a dice toss unless there is a piece of evidence that is a clear cut.

REPLY 1 1

foufou33g 4 months ago

@Cary Allen talk about bad contracts : <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/montreal/sq-officer-arrested-alleged-sexual-assault-minor-1.5807210> notice that it doesn't say ex cop.

he was suspended with full pay, half pay after the SECOND arrest b/c he was in contact with a minor or something I get the innocent until proven guilty, but not many people would have been granted such leniency (IIRC I read that he didn't use he's position in the "force" to do his deeds, thank god ....)

REPLY 1 1

Chris Marek 3 months ago

Yes they can, but they shouldn't. Just like I could run someone over with my car, but I obviously shouldn't.

REPLY 1 1

GreatDoors andGates about 1 month ago

**May not\*? Yea no Matter the phrasing these "CITIZENS" with badges impose \*THEIR will muc** more frequently and in impeded than they are ever held to answer for their wrongs.

REPLY 1 1

Aaron LaBranche 14 days ago

They clearly not scared of the population... subdued sleeping frogs in boiling water

REPLY 1 1

T Fizzle 4 months ago

An unlawful arrest isn't an arrest at all. It is kidnapping and the officers should be charged.

REPLY 271 1 1

John P Tenney 4 months ago  
agreed.

REPLY 11 1 1

ihatecrackhead 4 months ago

TN arrested a man for being raped by a minor and gave immunity to testify against him.

REPLY 6 1 1

Matthew K 4 months ago

@ihatecrackhead Let's hear some details. It's so strange it could really be true.

REPLY 3 1 1



ihatecrackhead 4 months ago

@Matthew K

guy was on an adult only website

girl impersonates adult with paid account and attempts to lure men to blackmail

parents inform police but they do nothing but watch while logged into her account.



she found a guy who had spinal meningitis that caused enough pressure to fracture his skull down the middle when he was young, some brain damage like recognizing faces and memory loss.


they met but she wore a wig and makeup to look much older.

she told police they met on hangouts app to hide she impersonated an adult on adult website, and misled police possibly to run away or blackmail, eitherway you cannot meet people on the hangouts app

she testified to luring and raping the adult on the stand. I'm not sure if they think she is lying and it was actually consensual and she is lying to get him off or because they think sex didn't really occur and so therefore they can charge him since he wasn't actually raped, just blackmailed

no motive was given, but it was possibly to force him to run away by telling the guy the police were after him or a blackmail scheme interrupted by the police but without warning the victim was allowed to continue

REPLY 4  



Feedback 

Matthew K 4 months ago

@ihatecrackhead Sounds like an Evil child that needs to be taken out to the woodshed. Giving her immunity and going after the guy is the real crime. I would be going after the cops if they did that to me.



That's like blaming a bar for serving minors when they have good I.D. They're bartenders, not identification experts.

All these idiots did was embolden the girl. I wonder where she is now. Hopefully in jail or a shallow grave.

REPLY 3  



Adam Newman 4 months ago

Unfortunately the justice system is not just

REPLY 3  



Eric Logos 4 months ago

And the judge who supported it.

REPLY 2  

James Ford 4 months ago

Armed kidnapping.

REPLY 2  



**Jerome McCollom** 4 months ago

Right, this wasn't like a case where police acting in good faith thought they had probable cause for an arrest at that time. This was a completely illegal arrest that the TN bureau of investigation bragged about on their website

REPLY  



**Linnymae Mullins** 4 months ago



REPLY 1  



**Nelson Turnbull** 3 months ago

exactly, these guys who arrest someone unlawfully should be charged and held PERSONALLY libel. Problem solved

REPLY 1  



**82ndAbnVet** 4 months ago

Jesus Christ, if Bad Taste was a crime, I'd be serving a life sentence!

REPLY 175  



**Chuck Haugan** 4 months ago

Yeah!!! When my Mom allowed me to pick my own clothes, when I was five, I chose white socks with black shoes, orange tee shirt with red, plaid shorts, going commando, and it was the middle of December in Eastern Washington..... I guess that would be capital punishment of some sort..... I think.

REPLY 8  



**Charles Fitzgerald** 4 months ago

Me to

REPLY 2  

**Giant Bryan** 4 months ago

Thank you for your service

REPLY 2  

**Joey VanOstrand** 4 months ago

I would have been gassed 20 years ago for sure.



REPLY 4  

**accurate alloys** 4 months ago







Well that depends on what you taste like. Are you sweet or sour?

REPLY 2  

82ndAbnVet 4 months ago

@accurate alloys Bitter

REPLY 2  



Joey VanOstrand 4 months ago

@accurate alloys angry and sour.

REPLY  


LUX on LEX 4 months ago

Nice, the guy would have been better off using Spinal Tapp's original album cover art concept for "Smell the Glove". Yes, the millennials have some Netflix homework to do. Talk about tasteless,... Spinal Tapp!

REPLY 1  

Jason Ford 4 months ago

If bad taste were a crime, I would have been executed decades ago.

REPLY  

Michael Dautel 3 months ago

Apparently by your own existence you are 🤡🤡🤡🤡🤡 (we all are)

REPLY 1  



d d 3 months ago

save the bottom bunk for me...

REPLY  



JunkmanJim 4 months ago

Sadly, his reasoning for disliking the police was confirmed.

REPLY 172  



Mark Allen 4 months ago

Since the police have made him wealthy perhaps now he'll like them.

REPLY 6  



Bryon Yoder 4 months ago

Earning the hate.

REPLY 15  

Oisin Creaner 4 months ago

@Mark Allen Only if he has the seed money already to afford a court case that will be fought to the bitter end, all the while being watched like a hawk to see if they can get him on something else.

REPLY 12  



fehlrock 4 months ago

LMAO

REPLY  



calvinthebold99 4 months ago

Now he will hate the police even more, and all his friends and family probably will too. They don't have to agree with his meme to be outraged by the contempt those law-enforcement officers showed for citizen's rights. The LEOs decided their FEELINGS mattered more than the oath they took. Oath-breakers should be fired and barred from ever serving in law enforcement again. I can't image that would bother them, based on their obvious hatred for the law and for citizens.

REPLY 9  



B PD 4 months ago

@Oisin Creaner Exactly. Police retaliation.

REPLY 3  



William Marquez 4 months ago

As soon as officers are charged and convicted for kidnapping when things like this happen, I bet it would stop. The problem with law enforcement today is no accountability when they break the law.

REPLY 166  



Greoric M 4 months ago

Precisely, and most all you hear is a "lack of training". No. As you said its a problem of accountability. Ignorance is no excuse for the law for you, but is for LE?

REPLY 18  



Patrick Newlun 4 months ago

I am sure there will be a settlement. Steve even said so.

REPLY 1  



Reasonable Speculation 4 months ago

@Patrick Newlun a "settlement" costs the Cops NOTHING

REPLY 20  



Dan Platt 4 months ago

Exactly, if you're a pharmacist and and you break the law you are a drug dealer. If you're a firearms dealer and you break the law you're a gun runner. How are you not a thug when you and your gang break the law?

REPLY 16  




**LexRuger718** 4 months ago


@Dan Platt YouTube's platinum comment award    

REPLY 3  

**ShookOne Ldn** 4 months ago



@Greoric M

Imagine if we can all get away with breaking the law claiming we needed training!   

REPLY 4  


**Cycleboy** 4 months ago

As part of discovery in his criminal defense and for civil case, need all the emails, texts, etc, from everyone involved... see if any of them noted that this wasn't really criminal, and someone saying "just find something to get 'em"... make it conspiracy to commit, no QI for known violation... but you'd need a prosecutor with the balls to do it. Good luck! (separate issue with needing to have the ability to self-swear a criminal charge and have it pushed through... only relying on a corrupt/biased DA is a problem)

REPLY 3  



**Chad Carew** 4 months ago

That sounds good, I guess, on the surface. The problem is when every cop has to wonder if he's going to be charged with kidnapping every time he arrests someone. Either no one will want to be a cop, cops won't make arrests because it's safer for them, or a combination of both. I do think there needs to be more accountability for bad acting officers hiding behind immunity, but at the same time there are instances where the officers should have some professional "safe harbor" sort of protection.

REPLY  



**Cycleboy** 4 months ago

@Chad Carew "safe harbor" would the cop saying I believe you are in violation of this X law because I saw Y, where Y is very demonstrable. Not the "I don't like you so I'm going to twist every way I can to make the most ridiculous thing stick"... and if any conversations pop of prior that show they want to get him, don't know for what yet, just find something... that... that is the thing that is a conspiracy... it wasn't "see a crime, charge a crime" it was "i'm mad, so I'm gonna get you sucka, somehow".

REPLY 1  



**Chad Carew** 4 months ago

@Cycleboy Sure I agree with you. Like I said above, this was clearly bad from the top down. They do need to be held accountable for things like this. I just don't go from "some cops are tools and things should be done about it" to "all cops are A holes if they make an arrest for something that doesn't stick they should be charged with kidnapping because they're all bastards". Not saying that's where you're coming from. I've just seen that kind of thought process and you don't fix one extreme with another.

REPLY 1  



**Light Weight** 4 months ago

Sounds like the Court doesn't understand the Constitution of The United States of America either.  
HMMMMM...I think the Republic is in deep trouble.

REPLY 144  

**july8xx** 4 months ago

Every one involved should be fired for incompetence.



REPLY 21  

**ihatecrackhead** 4 months ago

TN arrested a man for being raped by a minor and gave immunity to testify against him.  
men are strictly liable for being raped in TN



bail was set at \$250,000 for 5th degree felony after 3 weeks. an officer who raped a female in jail, on camera, with his gun was set at \$110,000 for 2nd degree felony rape.

they even refused to prosecute a man raped by another man cause they didn't agree with gay lifestyles

REPLY 8  



**Billy Smith** 4 months ago

@ihatecrackhead Man what you are saying makes no sense whatsoever.

REPLY  



**Adam Newman** 4 months ago

The Republic has been dead for a while

REPLY 4  



**Kaiser Basileus** 4 months ago

Oh they understand it perfectly, and simply don't care. To them the law is, as it actually is, whatever they can get away with.

REPLY 1  


**Greenville Observer** 4 months ago

too many "faketriots" pledging loyalty to president and not the constitution.

REPLY 1  



**joseph bodden** 4 months ago

trumped up courts, literally and literally

REPLY 1  

**kidwave1** 4 months ago

@Adam Newman The REAL TRUTH is, it never existed in the first place. Just a deception till they didnt need it anymore, which is NOW!

REPLY 1  

**d d** 3 months ago

Reverend!...

REPLY  



**B Management** 3 months ago

A republic requires representation. I dont see the people represented, therefore I see no republic.

REPLY  



**Daniel Schein** 4 months ago

Didn't the judge who set that high bail ask any questions? He should also have known better.

REPLY 139  

**Jeff Barr** 4 months ago

He did for sure and went along with the theatre performance. Thick as thieves

REPLY 29  

**ihatecrackhead** 4 months ago

TN arrested a man for being raped by a minor and gave immunity to testify against him



held without bail for 3 weeks then later set at \$250,000. to give you an idea. that's a 5th degree felony, but an officer who raped a girl in jail, with a gun, on duty, on camera, bail was only \$110,000 for 2 degree felony.

they even refused to prosecute a man raped by another man cause they didn't agree with gay lifestyles

REPLY 16  



**RedSkaal** 4 months ago

Judges have too much discretion and power.

REPLY 5  



**Adam Newman** 4 months ago

That judge should be punished

REPLY 9  

**Baldilocks McFedders** 4 months ago

@Adam Newman Punished? He should be thrown of the bench and disbarred. After all that the victim should sue him for every penny he has. That still won't be the justice he deserves.

REPLY 7  

Adam Newman 4 months ago

@Adam Newman you got pretty cool name there Adam 

REPLY  

Adam Newman 4 months ago

@Adam Newman You too, LOL

REPLY  

Sean J 4 months ago

@Baldilocks McFedders not necessarily. This was a bail hearing, meaning the court doesn't look at evidence at this stage only the prosecutors assertion that the evidence is present to back up the claim. At this point this is 90% on the prosecutor and 10% on the police, because the prosecutor should know better than to bring charges. While these police are probably just used to getting their way.

REPLY  



Charles Wieand 4 months ago

The judge is married to a Louisiana lawyer dog

REPLY  

Baldilocks McFedders 4 months ago

@Sean J Judges have a responsibility to know what is going on in their courts and not just be runner stamps for bail applications. Literally six seconds of reading and one question to the DA would have set dude free on the spot. Under your rationale one could be held over until trial for a Constitutionally protected act because the judge is lazy.

REPLY 2  

Sean J 4 months ago

@Baldilocks McFedders yes and no, this was a bail hearing. All the judge hears is whether the ADA believes there is enough evidence to go to trial. The Judge gets the specific list of charges, list of evidence but is not usually attempting to make a ruling on the validity of the evidence. It's not a pretrial hearing to resolve a motion it's simply to weigh whether the accused defendant will return to court for the trial. If you have an attorney at this stage they likely would have brought up that no crime was committed and all charges should be immediately dropped but more than likely they will tell you that this hearing isn't the correct venue to bring into question the evidence.



REPLY  

pd4165 3 months ago

@Sean J So, on hearsay, a qualified judge incarcerates someone (they brought someone before a judge, why bother if it's a rubber stamp job? The judge is pointless here, so why are they there?).



Who is responsible for making sure innocent people aren't incarcerated? It appears that there is no oversight/procedure to ensure that due process is followed.

It may be custom and practice for judges in that jurisdiction to rubber stamp prosecutions but that just demonstrates that the system in place is incompetent (I'd call it negligent - a judge is not a rubber stamp, they are a law professional and should not rubber stamp anything - why aren't they responsible for their actions? It's on their say so, and the prosecutors were obliged to go before them, so WTaF is missing here?).

REPLY  

Sean J 3 months ago

@pd4165 again, this was not the trial, this was not a pre-trial hearing, this was a bail hearing. Do you really think the court system/judges are supposed to go into detail and test the validity of all evidence against the accused at this stage? This is a prosecutor who abused their authority and office and stated there was sufficient evidence in x/y/z to proceed.

REPLY  

Kurt Wetzel 3 months ago

Often the judges are on the cops side. Not sure if some kind of working relationship but there is something there.

REPLY  

Greg Gould 3 months ago

@pd4165 - If that were the case then the Judge who gave custody of the preschool girl back to the mother from the grandmother (even though the girl had 2 broken legs) and the mom's boyfriend killed the little girl then the Judge should bear some responsibility and suffer consequences. But that will never happen!!! Google the soldier returns home to reunite with daughter but instead has to plan funeral after her murder.

REPLY  

frank facts 2 months ago

Judges are intimidated or bribed to be on the cops' side

REPLY  

Glori from NJ about 1 month ago

@Sean J on the face of it, this was not a violent crime, this was a person posting something on social media. So yes, the judge should have said "bs" and released the guy with no bail. True it is up to the prosecution to decide to go to trial, but the judge could see on the face of it that this was bs.

REPLY  

Sean J about 1 month ago



@Glori from NJ you are assuming a lot here. Remember a pre-trial is not where evidence is examined by the Judge, often it is just the charges and whether the prosecutor believes there is sufficient evidence to move forward with trial and their recommendations for bail. I think there was clearly some misconduct here, but without seeing a video of the bail hearing or at least transcripts it is mere conjecture to suppose one way or the other, without evidence to the contrary the default position is that the Judge acted within the normal context of a bail hearing.

REPLY  

Glori from NJ about 1 month ago

@Sean J the judge can't tell on the face of it that it is not a violent crime? That the charges are just about a post to social media?

REPLY  

Sean J about 1 month ago

@Glori from NJ again, you're making assumptions about what was said and presented to the judge. Bail is not judged on the violence, or lack thereof, of the crime alone, there are multiple factors. Again, the transcript, or video, would show us whether there was any misconduct by the Judge, until there is evidence the default approach would be that the Judge acted appropriately for a bail hearing.

REPLY  



Rollo\_Tomasi 12 days ago

Yeah, talk about being asleep at the switch. This judge is a big part of the problem, these cops are arresting people for made-up shit and this judge just rubber-stamps their shit. I get the feeling he's an old guy that should've retired 15 years ago. If this judge is under 65, he's just incompetent and needs to be disbarred (or whatever they call it when you shitcan a judge).

REPLY  

Jeff Barr 4 months ago

They knew exactly what they were doing. They knew their actions were not legal. Yet they arrested him, jailed him and harassed him. No repercussions. This is intimidation and abuse of power. Cops have the PR problem they deserve.



REPLY 104  

FroToe 4 months ago

Yes. Steve gave them far too much credit at the outset saying they didn't know the law. OF COURSE they knew the law. They don't care. When people are immune from the repercussions of their actions, they misbehave. Repeatedly. And often. Absolute power corrupts absolutely.



Gotta fix that qualified immunity thing the Supreme Court invented out of thin air. I've always been puzzled how they got away with that...just make up a new law without involving the legislature. I love good police—they're the people that run toward gunshots while the rest of us run away. I loathe bad police. I once stated loudly and vociferously to a cop friend "you need to fire the 10% that make the rest of you look like ..it" and he in about 2 seconds said "yeah, 10% is about right".



REPLY 8  



**doug godfrey** 4 months ago

Cut their nads off & sell'em at a fund raiser .

REPLY 1  

**.357Addict** 4 months ago



@FroToe Who does the U.S. Supreme court answer to? Nobody.

REPLY 1  

**Ian Battles** 4 months ago

These cops/agents are either wildly incompetent....or utterly malicious.

Either way, they are clearly and demonstrably incapable of doing their jobs correctly.

REPLY 3  

**Fight4ClimateChange** about 1 month ago

@Ian Battles Yet it still seems the public has no way to reign this in. It's silly to think the people actually have control anymore.

REPLY 1  

**Glori from NJ** about 1 month ago

@Fight4ClimateChange the public needs to be sufficiently outraged about qualified immunity, that they will elect politicians who will pass laws to limit the doctrine greatly. Sadly, we are all being distracted by a fake pandemic so we don't notice the outrageousness of qualified immunity, civil assets forfeiture, etc.

REPLY  

**Aaron LaBranche** 14 days ago

@FroToe bingo they knew..

REPLY  

**Aaron LaBranche** 14 days ago

@Glori from NJ dumb sheep want to be abused

REPLY  

**AFishBicycle** 1 day ago

ACAB confirmed

REPLY  



**Jonathan Kosyjana** 4 months ago

This is why people make album covers like this...

REPLY 101  



**John Clements** 4 months ago

The music is most likely not worth a piss but will now get more sales.

REPLY 4  



**Thorpe Stanford** 4 months ago

Who's next

REPLY 3  


**calvinthebold99** 4 months ago

Of course. They want anti-police ideas to explode. There is no other explanation for their behavior.

REPLY 3  

**Ian Battles** 4 months ago

The Rites are probably wondering why there is a sudden surge of interest in their song 16 years after it was recorded/released.

REPLY  

**fs127** 4 months ago

@calvinthebold99 Never underestimate the worldshattering power of stupidity.

REPLY  



**Jonathan Kosyjana** about 1 month ago

@Ian Battles Man look at songs like Trouble every day by frank Zappa or motor city is burning by the mc5 or American ruse, or bag drag by cactus, they are Over 50 years old and still relevant

REPLY  

**djfassler** 4 months ago

The police just can't arrest people for fun. Sure they can - there has been two examples in three days. They do it all the time because the laws that apply to us don't apply to them. That whole Equal Justice Under Law thing.


REPLY 97  

**ihatecrackhead** 4 months ago

TN arrested a man for being raped by a minor and gave immunity to testify against him.



bail was set at \$250,000 for 5th degree felony after 3 weeks. an officer who raped a female in jail, on camera, with his gun was set at \$110,000 for 2nd degree felony rape.

they even refused to prosecute a man raped by another man cause they didn't agree with gay lifestyle

REPLY 4  



**TheFoxwiz** 4 months ago

And when the police arrest someone for fun, usually the city will have to pay big bucks for that action

REPLY 4  



**Ian Battles** 4 months ago

Exactly, we have been shown that the cops can falsely arrest someone and the only consequences they will face is the loss of their job, no civil or criminal liability whatsoever.

REPLY 3  



**Adam Newman** 4 months ago

They believe they ARE the LAW

REPLY 4  



**Worgen** 4 months ago

@Adam Newman they are the law, as proven by the tens of thousands of dismissed lawsuits and qualified immunity rulings

REPLY 5  

**Adam Newman** 4 months ago

@Worgen Actually that makes them above the LAW and not required to take responsibility for their actions.

REPLY 1  

**Worgen** 4 months ago

@Adam Newman yep

REPLY  



**Kurt Wetzel** 18 days ago

It seems 9 out of 10 of these false arrests are people who know their rights and laws. These people challenge unlawful orders. Those huge ego cops do not like it once you do not listen. If the person has a bad attitude it gets worse. The bad cops arrest innocent people because their ego is hurt. Then they add all these charges hoping some will stick.

REPLY  



**Matthew Beasley** 4 months ago

Apparently the DA signed off on this too. If there is any justice the DA will be disbarred.



REPLY 84  

**TheGuruStud** 4 months ago



Ha. DA's are the biggest criminals you will ever know and are protected. They uphold the crooked system.

REPLY 8  



**Adrian Denson** 4 months ago  
There won't be justice though ...

REPLY 3  

**Nelson Turnbull** 3 months ago  
fuck disbarred, DA shouldbe charged and sued personally. They broke the law

REPLY 2  



**Led Wallet** 3 months ago  
The DA has and will enjoy qualified immunity. The taxpayers will be held accountable for ALL of these peoples actions.

REPLY 2  

**Greg Gould** 3 months ago  
Same with shady judges, qualified immunity!!!

REPLY  

**David Brogan** 4 months ago  
"The police cannot simply arrest people for the fun of it." Well, apparently they can.



REPLY 65  

**Ian Battles** 4 months ago  
Right? Until these cops face charges for Deprivation of Rights/Kidnapping/etc, they clearly CAN arrest people for no reason.

"A rule without consequences is merely a suggestion."

REPLY 10  

**calvinthebold99** 4 months ago  
Psychopathic tyrants love to harm innocent people. This is clear illustration that even at the level of the TBI, these authoritarians are drooling morons

REPLY 4  

**Adam Newman** 4 months ago  
@Ian Battles Problem is the justice system not just.

REPLY 4  

**Jim Forbes** 4 months ago  
@Adam Newman AMEN! We have NO 'justice' system. It may(?) be a legal system but not just. Even within the LEGAL system LEOs get away with illegal activity 1,000s of times a day.



REPLY 2

**Saber Tooth Duck** 4 months ago

I truly wonder if the cops who arrested him have immunity against an under the cover of law or civil rights violation. That man just won the lottery and even the judge should be punished here

REPLY 58

**News Now Wyoming** 4 months ago

Unfortunately, the prosecutor and judge are completely immune from being sued, even with clear prosecutorial misconduct. Except for any time the prosecutor acts as an investigator, then he has qualified immunity. It is why individual prosecutors cannot be sued for withholding evidence. Just another one of those made up rights that the supreme court gave them.

REPLY 7

**David Bryant** 4 months ago

No lottery...this happens quite often...the awarded amounts are quite low.

REPLY 4

**ihatecrackhead** 4 months ago

TN arrested a man for being raped by a minor and gave immunity to testify against him

they can only call immunity, if they are saying violating rights is their job

REPLY 2

**News Now Wyoming** 4 months ago

@ihatecrackhead I am trying to understand this comment. Prosecutors and judges have what the SC called Absolute Immunity when acting in their judicial roles. If they act in a investigatory role, they then only have qualified immunity. Absolute immunity, as it sounds, is absolute. No matter how horrible their behavior is, they cannot be sued in an individual capacity.

REPLY

**News Now Wyoming** 4 months ago

@ihatecrackhead This is not the same thing as a prosecutor granting immunity for testifying. That is completely different.

REPLY

**ihatecrackhead** 4 months ago

@News Now Wyoming no it's not the same, but immunity to testify is only valid if you tell the truth.

you're right about the immunities for DA and cops, but I don't think it's part of an investigators job, to make mistake that violate the constitution.

sometimes they do it on purpose and intent doesn't even matter in these cases, and the whole point of the constitution is they work under it not outside it.

otherwise we should have a right to preemptively tell them what's illegal, not have to wait for it to happen and hope to sue

REPLY  

**News Now Wyoming** 4 months ago

@ihatecrackhead I agree with you on what should be vs what is. Qualified immunity and absolute immunity were not written in the law or the constitution when the supreme court created it on the spot. The fact that it is treated as a Bible is horrendous, however, just last year, the SC refused to touch it again. Even when the cops made extremely clear errors and overreach, they were given QI. The SC could have gone in and clarified. Instead, they have only made things worse.

They decided that a court doesn't even need to clarify if a right has been violated, if it can't be proven that it was clearly established at the time. So now, you can't even clearly establish something if it wasn't established before.

But like I said, it is not what should be that I write about. It is what is.

REPLY  

**Dire Wolf** 4 months ago

He should receive many multiples of his bond amount.

REPLY  

**Ian Battles** 4 months ago

@News Now Wyoming If DAs and judges don't need to be held accountable for their actions, why does ANYONE need to be held accountable for their actions????

REPLY  

**News Now Wyoming** 4 months ago



@Ian Battles Did any part of my post say that? There are ways for them to be held responsible, but a lawsuit will not be it. They can be charged criminally. (very very rare). Their office can be sued. OK, courts cannot be sued, but a prosecutor office can be sued, just not the prosecutor.

Your post is like one of a thousand. You read someone saying "here is the law." and you mistakenly believe that whoever says that agrees with the law. If you go to my page, I have videos blasting QI. I think the entire thing is bad law, because it isn't law, it is only a ruling. However, courts under the supreme court have to follow it, and the SC has refused to review it further, even when given great cases that show why their precedent was horrible.

REPLY  

**Patrick Newlun** 4 months ago



This is an embarrassment to me as a Tennessee resident.

REPLY 52  



Ian Battles 4 months ago



As a TN resident, it will be YOUR tax dollars paying this man's False Arrest settlement.

REPLY 10  

Ye Old Grogard 4 months ago



@Ian Battles indeed

Don't forget we are the state where a county made it illegal to be gay... In the 2004... It was quickly rescinded and earned them an annual pride parade

REPLY 1  



thorin palladino 4 months ago

We know what law was violated: Contempt of cop.

REPLY 50  



Jeff Gebhart 4 months ago

And...thanks to the fact that the court of appeals has never ruled that arresting someone for posting a meme of someone pissing on a grave is a violation of someone's rights, the TBI will enjoy qualified immunity

REPLY 47  


Mr B 4 months ago

Unfortunately true. The contrived doctrine of qualified immunity, a perfect example of judicial overreach, is a bane on the citizenry and should be abolished.

REPLY 6  

Diamond Games 4 months ago

Possible but also possible they view it as a free speech issue on criticizing public officials which as been ruled on multiple times and if so can lose their QI.

REPLY  

Jeff Gebhart 4 months ago

@Diamond Games Can you cite any case where QI has not construed other cases incredibly narrowly when determining if a right was "clearly established"

REPLY  

Jeff Gebhart 4 months ago

For example: <https://pacificlegal.org/qualified-immunity-government-overreach/>

"Qualified immunity has led to absurd government abuses. For example, in California, police used qualified immunity as a defense for stealing \$225,000 in cash and rare coins from someone's bedroom while executing a search warrant. The three-judge panel held that while theft may be "morally wrong," the officers could not be sued because the Ninth Circuit had never specifically considered the issue, and therefore the right not to have police steal your property while executing a search warrant was not "clearly established" in that jurisdiction."

REPLY  

**Diamond Games** 4 months ago

@Jeff Gebhart Just depends which route the lawyer is able to take it, why I said it was only possible for them to lose their QI. If as in that case it as seen as something new it may not work, but if taken purely as a freedom of speech/freedom of the press issue that has been established many times, if not in the 6th district where TN is, the Supreme Court sure has.

REPLY  

**Jeff Gebhart** 4 months ago

@Diamond Games No...the issue with QI is that the plaintiff must point to a case, in the circuit, that is almost exactly the same fact pattern as happened.

If you found a case where there was a meme of someone crapping (instead of pissing) on a grave, that would not be close enough.

For example, in one case, QI was granted when cops sicced a dog on a prisoner who was handcuffed and sitting on the ground. The prior case had the prisoner lying on the ground, and was ruled that did not "clearly establish" that the police could not do that with a sitting prisoner.

REPLY  

**Diamond Games** 4 months ago

@Jeff Gebhart There need not be "a case directly on point" for the law to be clearly established "but existing precedent must have placed the statutory or constitutional question beyond debate." *Ashcroft v. al-Kidd*, 563 U.S. 731, 741 (2011) (emphasis added)

REPLY  

**Jeff Gebhart** 4 months ago

@Diamond Games Which the courts have found to mean you need almost identical fact patterns. SCOTUS routinely GVRs cases where appeals courts deny QI despite very similar fact patterns.

REPLY  

**Diamond Games** 4 months ago

@Jeff Gebhart This is probably going to be all for nothing anyway, very high chance this will be settled out of court which is unfortunate because doing that solves nothing. While having their QI is possible it is on the plaintiff to prove it which is typically hard to begin with and ultimately resides on the court to make the final determination. Fortunately there appears to be good news regarding this issue. Colorado seems to have begun it and now Massachusetts is trying to follow and it is just going to continue to spread.

REPLY  

**Diamond Games** 4 months ago

@Jeff Gebhart I don't disagree with you just simply stating it's possible, there are first times for everything. While it is possible for them to lose QI, chances are low.



REPLY 10 5'

**Overonator** 4 months ago

Cops had their feeling hurt and they will say something like "In this day and age with the death threats against cops and the public hatred of cops..." to justify breaking the law.

REPLY 41 1 1

**calvinthebold99** 4 months ago

They HATE the law.

REPLY 3 1 1

**Kurt Wetzel** 3 months ago

In this day and age is the sales pitch. Usually cops explain things in their own logic but it's the same usually for most cops. They use wording the average citizen will understand. The average person obeys and listens. Those who know their rights and laws it makes bad cops upset.

REPLY 1 1

**Floofy Katt** 4 months ago

Why is it that when Citizens break the law, we're told "ignorance of the law is no excuse" but when a Prosecutor's Office and/or police break the law, they are offered special protections and just say "we made a mistake in the interpretation of some law or policy" or (more typically) "we're not worried about it because we have qualified immunity and the public will pay the cost of our screwups."

Personally, I think the bar should be /higher/ for those folks, not lower. I am required to maintain continual training for my profession or I become unemployable - and I would pay more taxes for additional required training for LEOs.... but, with that being said, the prosecutor's office really has no excuse.

REPLY 35 1 1

**Ian Battles** 4 months ago

Because they're hypocrites - plain and simple.

REPLY 4 1 1

**Jon Durak** 3 months ago

"Laws for thee not for meeee"

REPLY 1 1

**B Management** 3 months ago

Because america is and has always been a haven for fascists.

REPLY 1 1



**Friendly Neighborhood Nitpicker** 4 months ago

It seems as if the police saw this photo and said: let's confirm everything he thinks about us...

REPLY 34 1 1



**Mark Allen** 4 months ago

Lo! I think they said "What a nice guy, let's make him a millionaire on the taxpayer's back."

REPLY 9  



**Adam Newman** 4 months ago

These bad cops get good cops hurt

REPLY 3  

**Chad Carew** 4 months ago



Aside from the arrest in the first place I think what is most concerning here is that it wasn't just one officer who made a mistake or exercised some poor judgement when he arrested this person, but the fact that multiple officers from multiple agencies all went "Yeah. Yeah this is legit. No problem here". The fact that harrassment sounded reasonable to all these officers just seems to go to show you that "Finding a reason" really is the cultural norm for these officers. No one said "Should we do this?". They all went "How can we do this and make it look legitimate?"

REPLY 34  

**Ian Battles** 4 months ago



The fact that multiple officers from multiple agencies all went "Yeah. Yeah this is legit. No problem here".

THIS is what people mean when they say ALL COPS ARE BASTARDS. Not a single officer along this chain of events said, "Wait, no, we can't legally do this."

REPLY 3  


**d d** 3 months ago

@Ian Battles very few like Serpico...

REPLY 1  



**Matthias F Leu** 4 months ago

In my home country it takes about 3 years to become a police officer. maybe the USA shall review their police education

REPLY 31  



**Rusty Shackelford** 4 months ago

We don't need them. We already have marshals, sherrifs, deputies, private security, and 2A. The police are an unconstitutional standing army.

REPLY 3  



**Brian Leeper** 4 months ago

In some parts of the USA, they are lucky to have police officers who graduated high school.

REPLY 4  

**Ian Battles** 4 months ago

In my home state of Connecticut, it inexplicably takes more hours of training to become a barber than it does to become a cop.

REPLY 5  

**Phyllis Stein** 4 months ago

"Police education"???

What is that? An oxymoron?

REPLY 1  



**B Management** 3 months ago

America wants its police to be terrorists because we are a stupid people.

REPLY 1  



**chad f** 4 months ago

How does one "harrass" a dead person? They can't exhume him to testify about how "hurt" or "injured" he feels.

REPLY 27  



**Brandon Burnham** 4 months ago

He has a bond set for what? He didn't commit a crime?

REPLY 27  

**GStates** 4 months ago

True but the lawyers and court all want a profit.

REPLY 3  



**d d** 3 months ago

He was breathing; isn't that enough?

REPLY  



**Eddie McFadden** 4 months ago

They didn't care they wanted to make example of him

REPLY 25  



**Panse Pot** 4 months ago

More concerned with serving themselves than serving the law. Perhaps if the attitude of law enforcement was different the meme wouldn't have been posted in the first place.

REPLY 5  



**D Ray** 4 months ago

When bad taste becomes illegal whom will be  
incent.

REPLY 24  

Panse Pot 4 months ago

\*who will be innocent? 😊

REPLY 4  



Joshua Guenin 2 months ago

Calls the grammar police.....

REPLY  

Buj Moose 4 months ago



More and more this Country is devolving into a Police State like China.

REPLY 23  

ChrisNVegas 4 months ago



Cops are also being used to supplement short local budgets.

While travelling through Iowa, I "earned" a \$189 speeding ticket for driving 69 in a 65 zone. From Nevada to Nebraska the speed limits are 75 to 80 mph. IN Iowa they drop to 65. In Nevada our side roads are 65. Almost \$200 for 4 miles an hour.

REPLY 1  



TheHouseOfWaffles 4 months ago

@ChrisNVegas Most real law-abiding cops have quit while most of the remainder are boot-licking bullies who get off on kicking people around.

REPLY 2  

TheGuruStud 4 months ago

@ChrisNVegas Iowa has those speed cameras....they found out that I don't care and just block their numbers 🙄

REPLY 1  

ChrisNVegas 4 months ago

@TheGuruStud I saw the cop ahead, looked at my speedo and saw a tick under 70 mph. I didn't think they would write a ticket for 4 mph. When he pulled behind me with his lights, I knew I was mistaken! They knew I wouldn't travel 1800 miles to fight the ticket. I paid the 189 bucks

REPLY  



d d 4 months ago

is already there...

REPLY  



**Robert Hart** 4 months ago

Tennessee cops can be pretty bad. I have a friend who lives in a small town north of Chattanooga. One time, while visiting him, I got pulled over just because my friend was a passenger in my car. The cop got us out of the car, separated us, and asked me why I was hanging out with my friend, who got into minor trouble years prior as a teenager. Then he let us go. Ridiculous and not legal.

REPLY 23  



**Brian Leeper** 4 months ago

That's what happens in places where a guy who acts and talks like Boss Hogg can get elected.

REPLY 2  



**SittingInDetroit** 4 months ago

They can arrest (and do everyday) without a crime because nothing will happen to them personally and if the department loses a lawsuit, the taxpayers pay the bill. Take the cop that was "fired" in the solicitation case. Do you think the actual documents will say he was fired for the arrest. I haven't seen the actual document but if I was a betting man, I would bet that he was not fired for the arrest itself it was other actions around the arrest.

REPLY 21  



**Chris Gibson** 4 months ago

More than likely "resigned" that way he can still keep his pension and get hired by another department down the road.

REPLY 9  

**jefnf** 4 months ago

If anyone should be arrested with that bond it should be the police officer

REPLY 15  



**Ian Battles** 4 months ago

I will bet my American Flag that not a single cop will be prosecuted for this blatantly false arrest.

REPLY  



**Dorkus Mingus** 4 months ago

Could this lead to an actual firing of the DA and/or police chief(s)? Or another case of "swept under the rug", "police union rehires", DA going on to "Big Bucks" law firm.

REPLY 15  

**DeGrinch2007** 4 months ago

Didn't I hear you say this went before a judge for at least a minute, if so the judge does not deserve his position.

REPLY 15  

**d d** 3 months ago

Reverend...

REPLY 10 4

**Terry Gragg** 4 months ago

Steve, if you can't have a civil suit for "emotional distress", how can you be arrested for it, since you can't really prove it?

REPLY 15 10 4

**Mud Dobber** 4 months ago

Not surprised, TBI also stands for traumatic brain injury.

REPLY 14 10 4

**DM DM** 4 months ago

The tyrants will keep doing illegal arrests as it rarely affects their pockets. They will find job in another department.

REPLY 14 10 4

**robert boykin** 4 months ago

The dead cop wasn't there. He was out voting.

REPLY 13 10 4

**Stephan Sherman** 4 months ago

And the judge who set the bond? How could he have allowed these made-up charges in the first place?

REPLY 13 10 4

**Bob** 4 months ago

The government seems to be side-stepping the Constitution more and more these days. A "living Constitution" equates to no Constitution.

REPLY 11 10 4

**Jerome McCollom** 4 months ago

No, this is not about a "living" Constitution, this is about officials who don't care about Constitutional rights. When someone is attacked for supposedly supporting a "living" Constitution, they are attacked because they are considered too pro constitutional rights for the accused, not too little. Those who attack in this way are usually the ones who are OK with the government doing illegal arrests

REPLY 1 10 4

**Stephen Shaw** 4 months ago

The Rites: Why did we get a bump in views on January 25??

REPLY 11 10 4

**Ian Battles** 4 months ago

Pissing On Your Grave was uploaded 10 years ago. I doubt this band is even still a band.

REPLY 1 1

**Will Mason** 4 months ago

With all nine subscribers.

REPLY 1 1

**Scotty Magillacutty** 4 months ago

Law enforcement, aka feelings police, aka ego police. Arrest now, figure out charges later. Aren't they responsible for the phrase "throw the book at em" and "see what sticks".

REPLY 11 1 1

**Michael Donahue** 4 months ago

... and with qualified immunity and municipalities (aka, we the taxpayers) paying out the civil suit settlements, nothing will change.

REPLY 1 1 1

**NEEQOS** 4 months ago

@Michael Donahue It should be obvious then that the voters need to step up to the plate and exercise their voting rights. Yeh I know most voters could give a flip.

REPLY 1 1 1

**Jeff Manningly** 4 months ago

A lethal cocktail of arrogance, stupidity, a God complex and qualified immunity!

REPLY 10 1 1

**Foken Dikhed** 4 months ago

First Amendment auditors are working Nashville. At this time, about 50% of the police here do not understand fully the First Amendment. The police are criminalizing Constitutionally protected activity, they use suspicious activity claims etc. Apparently some of the police here think that "being suspicious" is a felony...or maybe a misdemeanor...and as such, arrest people for public photography. Sad ain't it?...

REPLY 10 1 1

**Jimmy JimJims** 4 months ago

How can a corpse be offended? That's next level cancel culture

REPLY 10 1 1



**James Hwang** 4 months ago

Dead people can also vote, we have a zombie problem here.

REPLY 4 1 1



**BorkToThe3rd** 4 months ago

When the Tennessee police get done paying out a First Amendment payout they might want to contemplate the Streisand effect their stupidity had. Now EVERYBODY gets to see it!

REPLY 9  

**J** 4 months ago

As a music critic myself, I am familiar with "the Rites". It so happens that the B side song, "Caught in Between", was due to a zipper accident immediately after the grave photo was taken. True story.

REPLY 9  


**Brenda Russell** 4 months ago

Ouch!

REPLY  



**J** 4 months ago

@Brenda Russell You can't imagine the pain from such injuries.

REPLY  



**Richard R** 4 months ago

Ben is back in with the RAPALA knives...

REPLY 8  



**Sara Stewart** 4 months ago

2nd    

REPLY 1  



**Capt Tom** 4 months ago

GOOD EYE BROTHER RICHARD!

REPLY 1  

**Oisin Creaner** 4 months ago

One point: you call this case "strange" and "crazy" as though these sort of things are unheard of, but they come up time and again: including several times a month on your channel. One of the problems I see as a foreigner in the US with coverage of abuses of authority is that they are often treated as isolated incidents, rather than seeing and calling out a systemic pattern emerging when there are repeat incidents across the country.

REPLY 7  

**Eric A** 4 months ago

When I was in the Army, the first Sargent (with whom I'd had some disagreements) said I'd probably piss on his grave when I got out. I told him: "Top, when I get out of the Army I'm never standing in line again." He threw me out of the office.

REPLY 7  





Michael Lowe 4 months ago

This just in: Dearborn man driving a Silverado arrested for window sticker of Calvin peeing on a Ford emblem.

REPLY 6  



Phone Phone 4 months ago

I find it troubling the wording of that law about harassment. There's a whole bunch of people who aren't well-balanced that could be afraid or intimidated scared whatever, by just about anything. The wording seems awfully ambiguous here at legal definition. Under those definitions it seems like it'd be pretty easy to charge a bunch of people for harassment.

REPLY 6  


Messeresser 4 months ago

We live under a tyrannical government these days, what else do you expect? Sadly, these sorts of things will continue to get worse over the next 4 years.

REPLY 6  

Herr Keyser Soze 4 months ago

Seems like that part of Tennessee was in the spotlight a few years for Policing for Profit. A simple case of you will respect us or we will ruin your life.

REPLY 5  

Victor B 4 months ago

Sounds like if any crime was committed it would be a copyright claim of the artwork.

REPLY 5  

Linescrew1 4 months ago

The new era of neo-liberalism and crimes that involve only "feelings" are slowly destroying society.

REPLY 5  


daviefingpancakes 4 months ago

Define slowly.

REPLY  

Doyle Yoder 4 months ago

This is so true, just look at "Carolyn's RV life" 😂😂😂😂

REPLY  

Doyle Yoder 4 months ago



Love your channel Linescrew1

REPLY 1  



Linescrew | 4 months ago  
@Doyle Yoder Thank you very much.




REPLY 1  

avi8r66 4 months ago  
"You will respect mah authoritay!" ~Eric Cartman

REPLY 5  

Dennis Berman 4 months ago  
Ben in Canadian cup (with knives)

REPLY 5  

Sara Stewart 4 months ago  
1st     

REPLY  

Whirled Peaz 4 months ago  
Sticks and Stones may break my bones, but Whips and Chains excite me.

REPLY 4  

2TROLL1 4 months ago  
I think the law they're talking about is verbal abuse of a corpse LOL

REPLY 4  



Kareem OfWheat 4 months ago  
Obviously if the "fact checkers" didn't intervene... it was true!

REPLY 4  

Rafe Garett 4 months ago  
I think Steve should have a new side hustle here. He can represent these poor people and claim his 30%.

REPLY 4  

nos4atu357 4 months ago  
They're lucky the guy didn't know about the band millions of Dead Cops then their feathers really would be ruffled

REPLY 4  



Louis Jantzen 4 months ago  
I remember they changed their name to MDC coz their Tour Bus kept getting stopped & they'd be arrested.  
Screwed up their tour schedule a lot, yep.

REPLY 1  

REPLY

**Großer Maik** 4 months ago

Hundo, unfolded, in between the knives in the maple leaf mug, on top of the left OED cabinet. 9.

REPLY 4  



**Sara Stewart** 4 months ago

4th 

REPLY  



**Chandalen** 4 months ago

Who else is not surprised that the TBI doesn't know what a reverse image search is

REPLY 3  



**roxcyn** 4 months ago

We definitely need an update on this story.

REPLY 3  



**kwkstar** 4 months ago

Wow I just figured out a way to make a living, all I have to do is something stupid and distasteful and get arrested for it, and sue the crap out of somebody!

REPLY 3  



**Barry Ervin** 4 months ago

It's really ridiculous to expect "law enforcement officers" to understand the law when their dogs are considered to be "law enforcement officers". Does anyone really believe that a dog is capable of understanding the law?

REPLY 3  



**Shauma** 4 months ago

Dogs may exhibit better judgement than people :D

REPLY 2  



**Neil Bracken** 4 months ago

More like policing the egos of the officers...guess hurting feelings is crime.



REPLY 3  

**Ch Carroll** 4 months ago



For some reason the title has me visualizing a hand coming up from the grave, as in Carrie, and confiscating dude's phone before beating the crap out of him. Of course the investigation will find no improprieties.

REPLY 3  

**Sombojoe C** 4 months ago  
Steve, are you really that surprised this happened?

REPLY 3  



**Meikos** 4 months ago  
Ok so how much did this cost the taxpayers for this arrest?

REPLY 3  

**Ian Battles** 4 months ago  
This is the problem - it didn't cost ANYTHING for the cops who made this false arrest.

REPLY  

**Dark Guardian** 4 months ago  
Could it be distressing for the families of the deceased if they witnessed it?  
Could get the man for public urination and vandalism, if it had happened I guess.  
Cops are know to be very creative about their charges.  
They'll call an illegal car search a vehicle safety inspection. LOL

REPLY 3  



**nunya bisnass** 4 months ago  
Lol, abd in my state cops are not qualified to performed vehicle safely inspections, assuming they are jnspecting dpfor mechanjcal safety.

REPLY  



**Vera Lenora** 4 months ago  
I am emotionally distressed by seeing Steve's model car collection.  
Arrest STEVE.

REPLY  



**Eddie McFadden** 4 months ago  
So when he Sue's and wins congratulations how many stupid people thought this up

REPLY 3  

**Rob DeHaven** 4 months ago  
Hopefully the appropriate disciplinary action will be taken against the ignorant officers involved.

REPLY 3  

**GStates** 4 months ago  
They'll just resign and apply in a neighboring county. If they resign before the axe falls, they won't have their new employment record stained with wrong action. This means they can continue to violate civil rights with impunity until they retire or their health utterly fails.

REPLY 1  





**Dark Guardian** 4 months ago

Looks old....



Doesn't show when...

Could have been done in the 1980s...

REPLY 3  



**Andre Jeffries** 3 months ago

I had to laugh when I saw you in the AVFC football( soccer) top, over in England if you are from a rival team the ground chant would be " Sh\*t on the Villa." Love your show over here in the UK. Here is a link to show you what I mean. <https://youtu.be/1mwDbEYRi60>

REPLY 2  



**Tom Jackson** 4 months ago

A judge set his bond. How did this charge get past a judge?

REPLY 2  



**Jacob Bergen** 4 months ago

I think the bigger question in this isn't why didn't they recognize that this was a violation of his rights but the question is why would this be a priority and why would, even if this was illegal, be a focus of a police department.

REPLY 2  



**Maxsdad 53** 4 months ago

Was it ever established that this was, in fact, a peace officer's tombstone? And if not, then, specifically WHAT dead cop was being insulted?

REPLY 2  



**Steve Lehto** 4 months ago

It was NOT the officer's.

REPLY 1  



**Dan B** 4 months ago

If we start arresting/convicting people for hurt feelings 🤔, we're all in trouble 😊.

REPLY 2  

**bo duke** 4 months ago



Sticks and stones hasn't applied in years. It went away when it became acceptable to simply label anyone who offends you as some type of "ist or phobic".

REPLY 2  

**Ian Battles** 4 months ago



Are these cops TRYING to get sued for 1st Amendment violations????

This was either a malicious, retaliatory arrest...OR...these cops are poorly-trained and extremely incompetent. What other explanation could there possibly be???

REPLY 2  

Laurie Seto 4 months ago

"More training" is always claimed to be needed. Does this imply that the training given is insufficient? Do they get training and examined on the law? Of course, do they get charged under the law or are these law enforcement officials exempt from the law for falsifying the law??

REPLY 2  



Ian Battles 4 months ago

"Ignorance of the law is not an excuse" for an untrained civilian, so how is a lack of training POSSIBLY an excuse for a law enforcement officer????

REPLY  



Charlie K 4 months ago

Stupid stuff like this is exactly why angry mobs of people run around protesting (and other stuff) wanting to defund police departments.

REPLY 2  



awd 4 months ago

The Civilian cops got Butt Hurt in the news article.

REPLY 2  

Chatting Man 4 months ago

These cops are so bored they want to give money to citizens this is America us.

REPLY 2  



Ian Battles 4 months ago

Who needs a stimulus check when poorly-trained cops will give you grounds for a 6-figure lawsuit????

REPLY  

grumpyron 4 months ago

They don't care. They will arrest just to punish. Time, money and stress.

REPLY 2  



Jebediah Kerman 4 months ago

So we sue them and win damages to punish them back.

REPLY  



darkomen42 4 months ago

I hope he pushes it beyond a crappy settlement. Since none of these actions were lawful it shouldn't be covered under qualified immunity, and maybe, if we start going after people personally they'll be more careful about violating people's rights.

REPLY 2  



**Isaac Bagwell** 4 months ago

The charges weren't meant to stick they are meant to intimidate and coerce other paper into not insulting police. Someone should be sent to jail but that'll never happen.

REPLY 2  



**Donny D** 4 months ago

Someone was sent to jail. Just the wrong someone.

REPLY  



**Patrick Newlun** 4 months ago

I noticed alot of comments on here about how bad the cops are. The thing that scares me is the Judge who set the high bail didn't put a stop to it. SHAME ON THEM!!

REPLY 2  



**jefnf** 4 months ago

Being butthurt and ignorant of the law is no excuse STEVE!!!

REPLY 2  



**Slade** 4 months ago

I was arrested for having long hair when I was 15.

REPLY 2  

**Sara Stewart** 4 months ago

Growing hair which is a natural process. Next, you will get arrested for breathing.

REPLY 2  

**Slade** 4 months ago

@Sara Stewart I grew up in a small town. I got beaten up by different cops in the same town at 11 because my uncle is gay

REPLY  

**Sara Stewart** 4 months ago

@Slade so sorry that you had to endure that.

REPLY 1  

**Slade** 4 months ago

@Sara Stewart they've all had their lives completely destroyed by their own antics. I feel much better thinking about that. It felt like an eternity growing up waiting to leave that town.

REPLY 1 1 1

Brian Knudsen 4 months ago

The outro just struck fear in my heart.

REPLY 2 1 1

Jacob The Trucker 4 months ago

Where I live the police are worshipped with out question!!!

REPLY 2 1 1

DM DM 4 months ago

I don't find it distasteful considering what they do to poor folks.

REPLY 2 1 1

Michael Amick 4 months ago

The Family could of course be emotionally distressed!

REPLY 2 1 1

Ian Battles 4 months ago

So if someone mocks my dead relative, they can be arrested???

REPLY 1 1 1

mitch fitzko 4 months ago

And police want respect?

REPLY 2 1 1

AliasUndercover 4 months ago

So the whole state is now going to go down for Constitutional violations. Cool.

REPLY 2 1 1

John Myers 4 months ago

Ok, so I was dumb enough to click the link to hear the "music" from which the "artwork" was taken.....

REPLY 2 1 1

Steve Lehto 4 months ago

Sorry about that!

REPLY 3 1 1

july8xx 4 months ago



@Steve Lehto Nothing to be sorry about, many were curious and it satisfied their curiosity. B-)


REPLY 1  



Slade 4 months ago

It kicked ass, you must like N'sync

REPLY  

Sidney Taylor about 1 month ago

Of all the shirts.....! Why Aston Villa 

REPLY 1  

Steve Lehto about 1 month ago



Someone sent it in. I also have a Man U shirt that I wore quite a bit a few years ago.

REPLY  

HOMELAND FREEDOM about 1 month ago



May be in bad taste but.....how in bad taste is it when cops send text to each other saying they enjoy beating civilians or shooting innocents civilians and laughing at it or stoping someone for exercising his first amendment right beating him or her and charging them with b.s. charges they should be arrested and charged yet their not so wtf are they talking about...? Q.I is slowly being taken away it will be open season on civil law suite

And all these criminal cops should be sued to the point of losing their homes land cars vac homes kids COLLEGE money left in jail homeless and penniless then cops around the country will think 12345 times before they lie and make unlawful arrest and illegal acts against civilians and children...

REPLY 1  

K.G. B 2 months ago

Ironically, the fact that Steve did talk about the band and song, probably caused a large benefit and bump in sales.They say there is no bad publicity.

REPLY 1  

Dave Carsley 2 months ago

Pretty funny that the name of the band whose album cover got good guy arrested is "The Rites"

REPLY 1  

Timothy Smith 3 months ago



I specifically want the police to read my comment. My entire life I've always been respectful of them and any interactions I've had with law enforcement were always handled 100% professionally on the part of the officer. Additionally I truly believe in the vast majority of issues they are put into a position which they have nothing but a crappy few choices they can make. I also fully appreciate the fact that I have absolutely zero idea of the situations and stress which they face every shift.

Now the other thing is that from the standpoint of a human being I believe EVERY human should be able to go to work and make it home safe. I don't ever want to see anyone hurt.

Now with all that said, and I seriously hope I do not offend anyone that has lost a family member, I do not feel the same type of empathy as I once did for fallen officers.

Furthermore if I happened across a situation in which an officer was in danger I'm not sure I would feel as obliged to assist in any way as I would have felt 10 years ago. For one I don't know what legal trouble I would get into or how my safety would be in jeopardy when 20 more cops show up. More than that I am starting to deeply feel there is an "us vs them" mindset and I'm not a them so by default that makes me an us and they have taken so many of us I get a little feeling that it's nice when one of us gets one of them once in a while.

That sounds horrible and I'm very reasonable and wish I did not feel this way. I just don't understand why we hear about police violence so much these days and we don't hear too much from the police to refute the reality that the media feeds us about these interactions.

REPLY 1  

**Jon Durak** 3 months ago

The song isnt too bad..

REPLY 1  



**jonny-five** 3 months ago

It's a gang retaliation for someone dissing one of the gang's dead homies on the internet. That's all it boils down to.

REPLY 1  



**Jesse Greathouse** 3 months ago

Emotionally fragile police abuse their authority to retaliate against some petty online squabble and the tax payers of Tennessee end up paying for it. Classic.

REPLY 1  



**BoB A LoB** 4 months ago



REPLY 1  



**Melkor Morgoth** 4 months ago

No cops stopped it because they all have egos bloated like balloons....

REPLY 1  



**Ian Pand** 4 months ago

Aaaand there will be NO CONSEQUENCES for the crimes committed by the government ... We are the only ones who pay for crimes , OURS AND THEIRS . FCK the police , and the corrupt government that enables them !!!

REPLY 1  

**Journey of a Lifetime** 4 months ago



Serious first amendment violation. Since the officers and judge swear an oath to the constitution, it is reasonable to assume they know the law, so qualified immunity is off the table. The officers and the judge who set bail should all be held personally liable.

REPLY 1  

**Anonymity** 4 months ago



My dad and I were held at gunpoint and arrested on my parent's farm for a noise complaint for sighting in our hunting rifles, which is perfectly legal. Someone told the police that "the war crazed veteran was shooting up the neighborhood" as my dad was in the air force and I was aviation navy, technically veterans but not very war crazed. My dad made the cops show us the laws we violated and they were on the hood of the cop car leafing through books for a long time. It came down to a polite ask that we stop sighting in the rifles, which we were happy to do. They also apologized for pointing weapons at us.

My mother was less enthusiastic and started a neighborhood group called "citizens against the fun police" and hung fliers all around the neighborhoods about the dangers of frivolous 911 calls.

REPLY 1  



**Ian Mackenzie** 4 months ago

All of you law enforcement worshippers had better smarten up really quickly.

REPLY 1  



**BigAl 777** 4 months ago

Police not knowing the law is a feature not a defect.

REPLY 1  



**B G** 4 months ago

Why didnt the judge dismiss the case? Why did a judge issue an arrest warrant?

REPLY 1  

**Lisa Grafton** 4 months ago

They either figured the guy wouldn't have enough money to fight the charge or they're hoping no-one would notice they, themselves, are breaking the law by illegally arresting someone for free speech issues! They say and do things every day to citizens as they harass and arrest them. They need to act better and maybe citizens wouldn't feel the only way to fight back is by posting memes!

REPLY 1  

**Bond James** 4 months ago

Shoulda charged him with "soliciting". sarcasm.

REPLY 1  

**4catsnow** 4 months ago



Even in this day and age..you can still find cops left over in the strata of "make it up as you go along" now these gendarmes could very well find a 42 US Code 1983 doo wop knocking on the door at city

hall..

REPLY 1  


**Ben Dover** 4 months ago

You know that conspiracy "Dumbing down the people"? Me Thinks that was a Hypothesis!

REPLY 1  



**Krazy A Productions** 4 months ago

You would think they would have real crime to solve!!

REPLY 1  



**A Tsylor** 4 months ago

You should watch body cam videos of police when they're huddled up at a scene talking to themselves (when they forget to mute their mics). And what I've noticed, at least from the ones I've seen. Is that they don't look at the persons conduct and see if that fits a crime. It's more like they just start naming crimes to see if it's marginally plausible to charge him with. It's usually very generalized Crimea like obstruction, hindering, disorderly conduct, harassment. And my personal favorite resisting arrest without any other underlying offense.

REPLY 1  

**leef\_me** 4 months ago

Can't the widow of the dead cop, or the cop "brothers" be emotionally distressed?

REPLY 1  


**leef\_me** 4 months ago

@Cyndi Rothrock You misunderstood the term 'cop "brothers" '

REPLY  

**leef\_me** 4 months ago

@Cyndi Rothrock It appears I was mistaken, you DO know what the phrase means.

REPLY  



**0756rocketman** 4 months ago

Just makes me fear for my life when the police might interact with me. Yes, read between the words.

REPLY 1  



**Joe Murray** 4 months ago

I heard on another channel that TN authorities are in the top 10 most corrupt in the nation.

REPLY 1  

**asbe01** 4 months ago

Please update us on this case .

REPLY 1  



**Charles Wieand** 4 months ago

Maybe the district attorney is a lawyer dog

REPLY 1  



**Herr Frankenstein** 4 months ago

Should be able to pencil in a law if you are in a hurry... Cheers

REPLY 1  

**No More Odor** 4 months ago

TBI Person that asked for this non sense to be investigated needs to be fired. Prosecutor needs law licenses revoked

REPLY 1  

**No More Odor** 4 months ago



And police wonder why more and more people dislike them more and more everyday

REPLY 1  

**LANMark Networking** 4 months ago

R.I.P.

Rest In Piss.

REPLY 1  

**Dave Halden** 4 months ago

This is the image


<https://i2.wp.com/blog.simplejustice.us/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Chris1.png?resize=625%2C643&ssl=1>

Btw Steve, why don't you at least post links to the stories you are talking about?

REPLY 1  

**MrAmptech** 4 months ago

Aston Villa

REPLY 1  

**Bob Hyde** 4 months ago

Steve it is always a pleasure to see you wearing your Aston Villa Football Club jersey, I always send a link to your video to my cousin in Hollywood, Birmingham, England, as he is a Birmingham City Football





Club supporter. There is a lot of rivalry between the supporters of both teams as they are both based in the same city of Birmingham, England.

REPLY 1  



E. Zurb 4 months ago

Don't really live my life thinking about lawsuits but if I was that guy would sue the piss out of them.

REPLY 1  

weshowe 4 months ago

Actual police quote: "He might beat the rap but he won't beat the ride".

REPLY 1  



Terry Lawrence 4 months ago

As a Lawyer, you should know Sticks and Stones is battery when applied illegally :-))))

REPLY 1  

Scotty Wad 4 months ago

see what happens when you marry your sister in Tennessee you become a cop

REPLY 1  

Brian Leeper 4 months ago



See, everybody says that the problem in these places is inbreeding. I'm not so sure. I think the smoking and drinking during pregnancy might be a factor, too.

REPLY  

Mike Smith 4 months ago



"Take care of the man wrongfully arrested."

Translation: "Give the cop some paid vacation time and fine the taxpayers."

REPLY 1  



chris page 4 months ago

Another part of this story that is crazy is a \$76k bond for harrassment. The police, DA and the judge (who is supposed to protect a person's rights) are all tyrants for allowing this to happen

REPLY 1  

Anthony Marsalla 4 months ago

Nothing happens to the cop or DA  
that is why they still do it  
END QUALIFIED IMMUNITY

REPLY 1  



RedSkaal 4 months ago

Does this mean we can't make fun of dead Hitler because he may be offended? Does this mean BLM and Antifa will be shut down for hurting cops feelings?

REPLY 1  



**accurate alloys** 4 months ago

Until qualified immunity is revoked, cops certainly can, do and will arrest people for fun. Then the tax payers will pay for their abuse.

REPLY 1  



**fehlrock** 4 months ago

Shows ya how Thin Skinned Police really are. They don't know the law anywhere near they should

REPLY 1  

**Tami Tami** 4 months ago

They know the law, they think they can get away with this behavior.

REPLY 1  



**krazzy granny** 4 months ago

seems like the judge who ok'd the bond should also be called on the carpet for not knowing the law

REPLY 1  

**Ebr-fan** 4 months ago

Let's not forget about the judge who issued the warrant doesn't know the law either.

REPLY 1  

**Black Labs Matter** 4 months ago

I'm not surprised. Cops have been earning the hate here in TN for long enough to harvest the fruits.

REPLY 1  

**Sand Man** 4 months ago

Jail the people who violated his rights

REPLY 1  

**bugalaman** 4 months ago

First question, can you harass a dead person? Second question, can't you sue the police and courts for kidnapping and extortion? Setting bail on something that isn't a crime is the definition of extortion.

REPLY 1  

**reeread** 4 months ago

Free publicity for the band



REPLY 1  

Feedback



**reggy hanenberg** 4 months ago

And how about the judge? Did he go to lawschool

REPLY 1  



**Hawk 1966** 4 months ago

Aww, The Rites song isn't available on Amazon unlimited. Although the version of 'Pissing On Your Grave' by the Detained is pretty good punk rock.

REPLY 1  

**Steve Lehto** 4 months ago

It's on YouTube. The link is in the description.

REPLY 1  



**Hawk 1966** 4 months ago

@Steve Lehto Thanks Steve! Didn't think to look there I just yelled at my Echo to play it :)

REPLY  



**twopairofkids** 4 months ago

I agree that to my taste it's bad. Then again, I've seen lots of artwork that I question. I choose not to buy it. No crime here.

REPLY 1  

**Sergey Petrov** 4 months ago

Nevertheless, The guy was punished: arrest, search, jail... Who is going to pay for all of this? How about three months salary of these cops going to his bank account instead of theirs? I believe, cops will learn the law really quick.

REPLY 1  



**TheGuruStud** 4 months ago

Nope, take ALL of their retirement. Every single penny. Ban them from having any public role and make sure they have felonies on record, so they can only work a minimum wage job. And when these losers commit more crimes just let em rot for life.

REPLY  

**T Leonard** 4 months ago

they dont need to know the law, they can do whatever they want without repercussions of their own freedom or money.

REPLY 1  

**Ian Battles** 4 months ago

Exactly - the cops don't lose anything by making a false arrest, whereas the citizen has EVERYTHING to lose.





It's an abusive, one-sided system.

REPLY 1  



**Jerome Mc Kenna** 4 months ago

As someone who studied art in college, I would suggest that far more offensive material is common in college art studios.

REPLY 1  



**Jim** 4 months ago

Another classic case of Law enforcement showing zero mentality.

REPLY 1  



**Paul Crumley** 4 months ago

It looks to me like the dead officer's portrait was photoshopped into the record album cover.

REPLY 1  



**Michael Stagar** 4 months ago

Note: Under common law and according to the definition of this defamation, deceased individuals cannot be defamed. Defamation is defined as an act or statement that damages one's reputation. The dead do not have reputations to damage. The memory of a deceased person can be damaged, but this is not addressed under the tort of defamation.

REPLY 1  

**Richard Rice** 4 months ago

cops attending an interview or arrest or violation of someone's rights, do NOT intervene nor do they correct the primary officer.

REPLY 1  

**William Calhoun** 4 months ago



Did the dead man have children, wife, parents to be worried that they were next?

REPLY 1  

**ihatecrackhead** 4 months ago

TN arrested a man for being raped by a minor and gave immunity to testify against him.

bail was set at \$250,000 for 5th degree felony after 3 weeks. an officer who raped a female in jail, on camera, with his gun was set at \$110,000 for 2nd degree felony rape.

REPLY 1  

**Matthew K** 4 months ago


Please explain how he was raped by a minor.

REPLY  

REPLY



ihatecrackhead 4 months ago

@Matthew K 11 states don't have a force requirement for rape.  
you cannot threaten, drug, coerce, trick or blackmail someone into sex. this include but not limited to deceit, trickery, misrepresentation and subterfuge.

REPLY 1  



Lou T 4 months ago

The video to the song has 150 views. Curious to see if Steve link helps it.

REPLY 1  

Steve Morris 4 months ago

Guy is getting \$

REPLY 1  

Mahlatse Sathekge 4 months ago

I love your Aston Villa jersey.

REPLY 1  



Steve Lehto 4 months ago

I need to introduce you to the two guys (so far) who have insulted me for wearing it.

REPLY  


LoveClassicMusic0205 4 months ago

I hope he sues them for millions for violating his civil rights.

REPLY 1  

Dale Fry 4 months ago

When he sues 'them', he actually sues 'us'.

REPLY  

robert woodliff 4 months ago

"a person.....being emotionally distressed".....could his relatives not have a case, on that basis.

REPLY 1  

Dale Fry 4 months ago

Yes.



REPLY  

Jebediah Kerman 4 months ago

This is what I came here to say. It seems like there is a case here and I'm disappointed Steve didn't touch on it.

REPLY 1  

**mikaelhg** 4 months ago  
Contempt of cop.

REPLY 1  



**chill will** 4 months ago  
Don't forget the criminal JUDGE ...

.. who imposed a bail amount on a man who committed NO CRIME.

They are all a herd of foolish buffalo jumping off a cliff together ... not a single one of them with the brains to point out the obvious.

REPLY 1  



**Jeff Hollenbeck** 4 months ago  
Sadly some cops just don't care. They know they're covered by immunity while on duty and that it's a small chance of someone piercing that immunity. They do what they want just like Loki in the Marvel films.

REPLY 1  



**Shekhar Moona** 4 months ago  
The fragile egos in positions of power need to be dealt with. This is getting out of hand.

REPLY 1  



**Hammer** 4 months ago  
I hope the prosecutor is soon to be unemployed and disbarred. The Judge should not be forgotten either. Should not be on the Bench, should be on the beach, thinking about what to do now that he is unemployed.

REPLY 1  

**Don Wayne** 4 months ago  
Dickson, not Dickinson.



REPLY 1  

**Jim Wheeler** 4 months ago  
Can you say cha ching?

REPLY 1  

**Wayne Davis** 4 months ago

It's going to get really scary if the law enforcement continue to do stupid stuff, contrary to the law stuff. Speech and thoughts are not in the purview of cops. I support all cops that obey the law and understand it. Stay within the lines guys, or these idiots that want you de-funded and attacked will gain the moral high ground.

REPLY 1  

**Derek Johnston** 4 months ago

Well now I wanna hear that song Steve!

REPLY 1  

**Jim March Simpson** 4 months ago


So here's where this gets particularly interesting in the inevitable civil suit this guy will file.

Prosecutors normally have absolute immunity for everything they do except that this entire investigation appears to have been started by the prosecutor's office in which case the prosecutor was acting as an investigator.

that means the prosecutor was acting as an investigator and only has qualified immunity instead of absolute immunity.

Weather; may be seeing a rare situation where a prosecutor pays a heavy price personally for a civil rights violation.

We can only hope.

REPLY 1  

**Ron Peacock** 4 months ago

1. shows how cops will go overzealous to "protect" each other... 2. shows just how little of the law the police really know... you get a step beyond traffic laws and they are the blind leading the blind all too often (and in some cases... even traffic laws are beyond them)

REPLY 1  



**DoReMi Fabrications** 4 months ago

unfortunately, I think that some court has ruled that the police cannot be held responsible for enforcing laws that do not exist. For that matter, they enjoy immunity for just about anything that the rest of the professional world do not. Example, plumber, electrician, carpenter, therapist, doctor, lawyer...all have codes, laws, and rules that they are responsible to know and adhere to or they will pay the consequences. Popos be immune from that.

REPLY 1  

**Robert z** 4 months ago

This is why their are "protesters" marching in the streets yelling \$%^ the police..... everyone involved in this travesty from the cop to the Prosecutor and judge. Should be fired and have their Pensions revolt

REPLY 1  

**Your Wife's Boyfriend** 4 months ago

No. Those "protesters" are paid to be there. They're homeless mental patients and brainwashed college communists being manipulated for political purposes.

REPLY  



**Robert z** 4 months ago

@Your Wife's Boyfriend you wish... people are tired of the 2 sometimes 3 tier justice system

REPLY  

**Varian Styles** 4 months ago

of whom...sorry, you knew it was coming from someone :) EDIT: At least you know that I listened to your entire video!

REPLY 1  



**Dashy** 4 months ago

Its pretty crappy to insult any dead person. But insults are free speech, the arrest of this man was a violation of his rights

REPLY 1  

**Boikat Sapiens** 4 months ago

Ben between the two right knives in the Canada mug.

REPLY 1  

**Das KritterHaus** 1 day ago

I insult cops regularly. bit of time travel: august 9 2005, getting LAUGHED AT by 3 cops trying to tell them a thief took off in a cab. fast forward, Karma has decided to KILL 7 of them. exceptionally funny !!!!

REPLY  

**sepins r** 3 days ago

Wonder how much the settlement will be.....

REPLY  

**John Lennon** 4 days ago

Taxpayers are going to get punished again, and the perpetrators (cops) will get a few weeks of paid vacation.

REPLY  

**mgtow mechanic** 4 days ago

Cops nowadays are feelings enforcers instead of law enforcement

REPLY  

REPLY

**Joe Owens** 5 days ago

There are folks arrested all too often for NOT BREAKING ANY LAW—I call these a "Contempt of Cop" arrest! The Police who do this type of stuff I call OPINION ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS!

REPLY  

**Kevin Knowles** 6 days ago

The crime here is Contempt of Cop. Butthurt pigs.

REPLY  

**Prairie Viking** 9 days ago

What about the Deceased officers's family? Couldn't this be considered harassment of them?

REPLY  

**Christopher Mullen** 13 days ago

Attitude arrests began when the first badge was issued.

REPLY  

**Darnell Jackson.** 14 days ago

Wouldnt it be emotionally distressing to the deceased police officers family?

REPLY  

**Aaron LaBranche** 14 days ago

Conspiracy

REPLY  

**Michael Sowden** 16 days ago

Remember the murderer Derick Chauvin is claiming pre-trial publicity was unfair so he wants a new trial. He KNEW he was on CAMERA the whole 9+ minutes he was murdering George Floyd! Publicity he claims!

It is these kinds of cops who cause that album cover and sentiment to begin with!

REPLY  

**Andy** 16 days ago

The question that really needs to be asked is "Why do so many people hate the cops"? Well hello ~ if elected officials and town councillors didn't employ narcissist, bullies, power trippers, thugs and people of limited intelligence and supply them with lethal weapons to freely kill and maim tax paying citizens without remorse and protected by their badges, then less would go to the grave. If you live by the gun and abuse and turn a blind eye to others who do, then you must expect to one day become a statistic and in turn have people pissing on your grave...

REPLY  

**Ric Ladouceur** 17 days ago

How stupid is this. What a waste of resources. Imagine if they went out and arrested everyone who looked at it or commented on it or anyone who had the single. Police want protection from mistakes through qualified immunity but the public is given no such advantage. They arrest someone and violate their rights.

REPLY  

**guitaristxcore** 17 days ago

Cops when someone talks back: Where did you go to law school?

Also Cops:

REPLY  

**S Watkins** 18 days ago

\$76,000.00 bond for "harassment"? Are you sure it was in the USA? Sounds more like Red China or Russia.....

REPLY  


**primus 1** 20 days ago

Any update on this case.

REPLY  

**Don Carlin** 21 days ago

Another story I would expect to come out of some third world country or authoritarian one, not out of the USA!

REPLY  

**MJ** 24 days ago

It does bring "hate speech" to mind, which brings on the question of how is that ("hate speech") defined?

REPLY  

**charlie pearce** 25 days ago

Cops in my country has just jailed a man for taking photos of a cop that later died from a car crash.. I can't see any laws being broken in his case.

REPLY  

**Solo Skipper** 28 days ago

They knew it was a fake image all along..they pretend to be ignorant of that fact so they can inflict damage to this guys life.

REPLY  


**Glori from NJ** about 1 month ago

"TBI" is traumatic brain injury.

REPLY  

**Fight4ClimateChange** about 1 month ago

That's the real core of the issue here, what type of cops are being hired? Ones that don't think before they act? I completely agree that everyone in these positions of power should be being held to a higher standard. It's what I go on and on about .. I wouldn't be surprised if the retaliation against me continues.

REPLY  

**Induction by Force** about 1 month ago

Sue that county and enjoy that money. Spend money on showing your neighbors how their taxes had to pay him from the cops incompetence. Public humiliation is a great way to get back.

REPLY  

**Stephen Baker** about 1 month ago

I smell a lawsuit

REPLY  

**Kenneth Iman** about 1 month ago

FB plays the same game all the time. Twitter too.

REPLY  

**John Titor** about 1 month ago

You know what's more shocking, appearing before a Judge that does not understand or like the laws. Oh, well what are going to do, just words on paper, totally worthless in the USA

REPLY  

**David Turner** about 1 month ago

We love to point fingers at other countries and talk about how corrupt their institutions are but we don't seem to be able to recognize our own hypocrisy when it comes to the justice system, in fact I believe using the word justice is very misleading, it should be the incarceration system. As soon as we made it a for profit business we lost what little moral authority we may have had. I have to laugh when I hear people talk about liberty and freedom in this country. those are reserved for the rich and powerful and they will continue to be until we stop victimizing each other because we look, think or act differently.

REPLY  

**Robert McNearny** about 1 month ago

This is the exact reason why people post despicable images and completely distrust the police.

REPLY  

**Robert McNearny** about 1 month ago

Federal lawsuit coming.

REPLY  



**Robert McNearny** about 1 month ago

The case was dismissed. Now he gets to sue the crap out of the city that had him arrested.

REPLY  

**Chet Gravatt** about 1 month ago

They who turn their swords into plows will work for those who don't.

REPLY  

**Chet Gravatt** about 1 month ago

When tyranny becomes law, rebellion becomes our duty. keep your 2A rights or suffer under those who still have weapons.

REPLY  

**Chet Gravatt** about 1 month ago

And they want to take our guns away. think what will happen then, Nazi Germany in the USA

REPLY  

**American Axe & Tool Co** about 1 month ago

Hell the feds just arrested a guy in Florida for posting a meme on Twitter during the election! Then transported him to the southeastern district of New York! Such bullshit to do that!

REPLY  

**R D** about 1 month ago

Settlement should come from police budget or pension plans!!!

REPLY  

**Tomahawk ISFC** about 1 month ago

When the police break the laws like this Why dont they sitt in the jail?

REPLY  

**EmmittBrownBTTF1** about 1 month ago

It is a strange country that puts the rights of dead thugs over the rights of citizens.

REPLY  

**News Seeker / Drawn To Injustice** about 2 months ago

How can you have a community free of crime! When the Cops are the criminals?

REPLY  

**News Seeker / Drawn To Injustice** about 2 months ago

When Cops abuse your US-Constitutional rights hit them were it hurts: Court Judgements! When Cities/Townes go bankrupt, COPS WILL BE FIRED, & POLICE WILL BE HIRED!

REPLY  



**News Seeker / Drawn To Injustice** about 2 months ago

Citizens Desperate Cries For HELP!

Prayers Said Aloud... From Mothers For Her Child Lost In The Cross Fire... Screams From Wives & Children That seem Will Never Stop... We All Cry For Help...!

Please, please I know your are out there in the shadows way in the back ground. We desperately need you now, the "good police". We also need the old protectors of the citizens, those police that left the force, because you could not stand for what was becoming the police force of today. Come back, join with citizens & the real POLICE. Those who were the bold, the brave, the defenders of the citizens & country . Your needed most desperately now more than ever. Citizens are dying for no good reasons, but from what we can see only as thrill killers (BAD COPS) THAT HAVE NO RESPECT FOR LIFE! We need you good police to step forward, and say enough is enough! They (BAD COPS) can, and must stop spilling blood! It is NOW uniting a force movement across the country that will only end up killing more, and more police (GOOD & BAD ALIKE) along with good citizens. Please, in these desperate moments, if we do not stop this cycle of violence it will lead to a civil war between police & groups of citizens seeking justice, the only way left to them. HOW MANY MORE ON BOTH SIDES HAVE TO DIE? Terrorist are not going to tear our country apart, we will do it ourselves while the whole world watches! By ~David W. Robertson~

REPLY  

**News Seeker / Drawn To Injustice** about 2 months ago

Please pass these words along to every citizen in every part of our great country! Get the word out that we can make a difference! "United We Stand & Divided We Fall" we the people are the "UNITED STATE OF AMERICA", and need to get all Americans to remember that fact. One Citizen can not force change but all Citizens can affect change for what is right!

REPLY  

**News Seeker / Drawn To Injustice** about 2 months ago

This fight we fight for our rights & freedoms may not be a short one, but we will endure. And, as it was said before is the same needed today!

---

"Today, we need a nation of Minutemen Citizens who are not only prepared to take up arms but Citizens who regard the preservation of freedom as the basic purpose of their daily life and who are willing to consciously work and sacrifice for that freedom." Speech By (John F. Kennedy).

---

He was a great man, our President, and before his time. Our leader that will be remembered for ever!

REPLY  


**News Seeker / Drawn To Injustice** about 2 months ago

!!! ~ CRIME STOPPERS ALERT ~ !!! Take a bite out of crime! Video Record Your Police, And Local Government Officials!

REPLY  

**Rudy Morales** about 2 months ago

They know the law. They just chose to ignore the law. They're not held criminally responsible because they have immunity. Any civil judgment will be paid to someone else. sweet deal. It was harassing

Feedback 

conduct on the part of the TBI.

REPLY  

**M Zajac** about 2 months ago

His rights have been violated under color of law.

REPLY  

**SuperD** about 2 months ago

Police officers often enforce laws that they know nothing about or ones they think are law but are not law! 6 weeks of the police academy is not enough schooling to teach law for law enforcement officers especially when law is not taught during the full 6 weeks! Look how long a lawyer has to go to school then they have to pass the Bar to become a lawyer! A police officer only has 6 weeks in the academy & laws are not taught for the full 6 weeks!

REPLY  

**Thomas Murphy** about 2 months ago

Arrest the cops

REPLY  


**BR549** about 2 months ago

Constitutionally illiterate police is pretty much a redundant statement.

REPLY  

**TryHard FinessedYou** about 2 months ago

That's picture iss GG Allin's grave. He was a punk rocker who vomited pooped and pissed on his audiences. Wanted to bring the violence back to rock and roll Not exaggerating. So fans go to his grave and piss and shit on his tombstone to honor his legacy. Again I'm not making this up. Look it up.

REPLY  

**Able Baker** about 2 months ago

He might have a copyright issue but...

I can't even.

We have to protect the fee feez of people who have fought in court to have their jobs defined as, 'not to protect anyone.'

REPLY  

**Harry** about 2 months ago

The "arrested" person was put in jail after being fingerprinted, strip searched, and then required to post bond. His name and family were also put to public shaming for this incident. He was also forced to pay a bond in order to get out of jail. All of this cost him money and hits to his reputation. Having his fingerprints and possibly he faceprint kept in a database will affect him for years to come.

At the least, all records should be expunged, the records for fingerprints, etc. should be eliminated from both local, state and federal records. And he should be paid a significant sum of money as well

as receive a public apology from each of the officers involved as well as the attorneys involved in prosecuting him. The person who established the high bond should be suspended for at least a month and be required to attend remedial training in the rules pertaining to the Constitution.

REPLY  



**frank facts** 2 months ago

The cops' actions prove more cop graves should be pissed on

REPLY  

**Dunn Tawkin** 2 months ago

This is the world of liberals. Arrest and prosecute, knowing full well both are illegal. Legal and illegal are meaningless to a liberal, just as legal and illegal are meaningless to a criminal or sex offender. Enjoy your new liberal world while you can, for you are likely to soon become a victim of it.

REPLY  

**Tim Overture** 2 months ago

sadly it shows how out of control law enforcement is that without any law behind it they can conspire to arrest a person. not just one person but the WHOLE STATE of officers.

REPLY  

**Franky Flowers** 2 months ago

the entire Westboro Baptist church would be in prison if this was illegal

REPLY  

**Simon Rook** 2 months ago

Oh god no, Steve is a Villain.....

(Residents of Birmingham in the U.K. will understand this).

REPLY  

**Larry B** 2 months ago

I sent a notice of claim to my Towns Attorney. They claimed that was harassment. I just about begged the cop to arrest me. Incidentally the town perjured themselves as well. That is just not the level of police work we have around here.

REPLY  

**stuart boschen** 2 months ago

G'day Steve, long time viewer and enjoy your content. I'm from the land down under :) and are curious if the AG referred it to the TBI shouldn't the AG know the law? Second question is if law enforcement officer is fired, disciplined or jailed after being found guilty for breaking the law. In most the the youtube videos there always seems to other cops standing around not stopping the law/oath breakers from committing a crime. If someone commits a crime i.e murder everyone with him is charged criminally as well for acting in concert, why the double stand. Just asking? love a video explaining.

REPLY  



**Richard Metz** 2 months ago

What judge set a bond for no crime? 76,000.00 bond !!! Law suit will be paid for this ignorance and paid for by the tax payers not the cops!

REPLY  

**Bob Hart** 2 months ago

There will likely be no punishment for the police involved. Even the ones that know arresting a man for posting a meme is wrong have no incentive to speak up and stop it.

REPLY  

**kpw84u2** 2 months ago

Meanwhile, every year, cops desecrate the grave of Fred Hampton with gunfire – who they murdered extrajudicially... smh

REPLY  



**Jennifer Lopez** 2 months ago

Interesting

REPLY  

**Gilles Thouin Jr** 3 months ago

Biggest crime in America, disrespecting a police officer. That's why they hate cell phone camera now.

REPLY  

**mattcolver1** 3 months ago

Bad taste is not a crime.

REPLY  

**Raul Garcia** 3 months ago

law enforcement has been waging a war on the American people the one thing they dont take into account is we haven't even STARTED fighting back

REPLY  

**Ben Martin** 3 months ago

The original photo shows people peeing on GG Allin's grave.

REPLY  

**John Lewinski** 3 months ago

You thought you had rights LUL

REPLY  

**B Management** 3 months ago

Police are ONLY criminals.

REPLY  

**Big Rich** 3 months ago

Police know the law; they just don't care. They know they have QI so they feel they can make your life miserable if they don't like you and get away with it. If the police broke the law, why are they not arrested? They're not arrested because they are above the law.

REPLY  

**Abi Wan Kinobi** 3 months ago

The irony is strong on this one.

REPLY  

**acprive** 3 months ago

Police are getting out of control. Thank god for video and photos these days. I would imagine many people are in jail or have criminal records simply because the police fabricated a charge. It used to be a noble profession but not anymore.

REPLY  

**eac 123** 3 months ago

Its also bad taste to shoot someone for running away because of a child support warrant and plantin a taser on them, its also bad taste to walk into the wrong apartment and shoot someone who is eatin their dinner.

REPLY  

**Bobby Ossenbeck** 3 months ago

I won't be going to Tennessee anytime soon

REPLY  

**Long Shanks** 3 months ago

The cops and agents illegally arresting him was wrong beyond belief, and they deserve to be jailed for knowingly doing what they did, , but the court not dropping it and going as far to hold him and assign a bond of 76k is far far worse.

REPLY  

**Huallacanes Mambo** 3 months ago

End Qualified Immunity and get rid of the police union and all this will stop over night!

REPLY  

**Eilene Kellogg** 3 months ago

Cops are such babies!

REPLY  

**Ckom** 3 months ago

Police training in constitutional law has to be longer than a trip from the police station to the donut shop.

REPLY  

**Greg Haggard** 3 months ago

"Police cannot simply arrest people for the fun of it", ..... well apparently they can, in fact I know they can, they just can't convict him!

REPLY  

**Jay Wolf** 3 months ago

I clicked on this headline knowing there's more to the story

REPLY  

**iRdMoose** 3 months ago

When people post these memes about police, and police go after them, it simply PROVES and REINFORCES the reason for posting it. Bad taste isn't illegal. Kidnapping, which is what these police did, is. I hope he declines any offer of settlement and pursues criminal kidnapping charges, including stripping these police of QI.

REPLY  

**Greg Gould** 3 months ago

If someone insults the Police severely enough they can throw you in jail with a bunch of other inmate while loudly saying "You shouldn't be raping little black girls and you wouldn't be in jail", in the hopes that the inmates will beat him to death. That'll teach him to insult us cops, is probably what they be thinking as they do it. It happens, you can count on it.!!!!!!

REPLY  


**Greg Gould** 3 months ago

It might be illegal to arrest someone for 'fun' but I'm certain Police do it quite frequently.

REPLY  

**Joseph Wiese** 3 months ago

My rights are not subject to your feelings.

REPLY  



**J L** 3 months ago

Sounds like those police are a bunch of snowflakes who got triggered.

REPLY  

**Bernice Aucoin-Thieme** 3 months ago

Tenn is a red state. To think they're not as power hungry to have police state of sorts as the left is absurd.

REPLY  

REPLY

David Graham 3 months ago

I promised my grampa I'd piss on the grave of hanio jane fonda

REPLY  

William Barnes 3 months ago

We must demand an end to qualified immunity call and write your representatives today.

REPLY  

Sine Quanon 3 months ago

The police cannot simply arrest people for the fun of it? Wanna bet?

Whether they "legally" can or not isn't the question. Cops arrest people for the fun of it all the time. We are told, don't argue at the scene, wait til you get into court, in other words, submit to an illegal arrest, hire a lawyer, take time off work, possibly lose your job, and then, maybe, if the DA and judge aren't crooked, you'll get to walk having lost "only" a couple thousand bucks. All because cops DO simply arrest people for the fun of it every day.

Guess you haven't been paying attention Steve.

REPLY  

Tori Hawthorne 3 months ago

Its Dickson. I live in the next county over

REPLY  

3rdFloorblog 3 months ago

Smells like a counter-suit filed for false arrest, false imprisonment and defamation of character....

REPLY  

Adam L 3 months ago

To me it makes no sense that law enforcement is not experts at the law. You are enforcing something your not an expert in?

REPLY  

Frantz Jensen 3 months ago

i see that community paying 10s of thousands of dollars maybe 100s of thousands

REPLY  

Stephen Murray 3 months ago

I watch so much stuff like this where the police are not well trained enough to know what the most basic of laws are. Perhaps if more of their training was given to law and less to firearms this would not happen so much.

REPLY  

Jerry Rodriguez 3 months ago

Feedback



How does the judge put a bond for that arrest? Civil lawsuit upcoming.

REPLY  

**Dave Sanders** 3 months ago

"They" arrest people "FOR THE MONEY"!!! Otherwise known as EXTORTION!

REPLY  

**Dawg Entertainment** 3 months ago

Sir what is the opinion on " Pocket Warrants" with Anonymus witness

REPLY  

**Dawg Entertainment** 3 months ago

Bad Taste Police!! Ouch my coffee just went all over Bad Taste Police.

REPLY  

**House Of Lattimore™** 3 months ago

Express yourself or exercise a right,get arrested. Police commit felonies while on the job, not arrested.  
1600-2021. Many cases but how much is justice?

REPLY  

**Angl0sax0nknight** 3 months ago

No qualified immunity for this one boys...

REPLY  

**ChrisD4335** 3 months ago

if the police wonder why people feel that way about them well stuff like this is why

REPLY  

**John Google** 3 months ago

Stop using Google!

REPLY  

**John Google** 3 months ago

That cops buddies just should have visited that person and tuned him up a bit. Case closed.

REPLY  



**Niles Wright** 3 months ago

"The world is a vampire....."

REPLY  

**Ken Lopez-Maddox** 3 months ago

Is it just me or do most of these cases of cops not knowing the law occur in the South?



REPLY  

**Led Wallet** 3 months ago

Everyone gets qualified immunity. Qualified immunity = We can do it again without recourse. Guess what, they will do it again!

REPLY  

**Elana Hammer** 3 months ago

@ Lehto's law and community... Free speech is not the same as bad speech. Although they are interconnected it is not cool to use some speech at times. My dog as a service animal  peed on my dad's grave. Although my dad would have had a good sense of humor about it, it is really not something a dog can control. However a human hmmm, sounds like a case of bad taste. Yes people can pee freely but that doesn't mean that they should. How about some respect  for a human that once walked the planet?

REPLY  


**Travis Brown** 3 months ago

It would've been more distasteful 20 years ago..... if you were White!!

REPLY  

**Pete Ortiz** 3 months ago

The judge that issued the high bond on this person is the biggest idiot of all.

REPLY  

**Christopher Holt** 3 months ago

Tennessee has Republican/Trump appointed judges!

REPLY  

**John Ross** 3 months ago

What's so distasteful about pissing on a dead pig's grave

REPLY  

**angel cat** 3 months ago

Because of their questionable behavior; arrests, which are really kidnapping. Maybe that is why pictures such as this are being created. They are violating people and then complaining

REPLY  

**Aubrey Tycer** 3 months ago

You should read more about the TBI. Scandal ridden and noted for poorly trained officers. Not surprising that this incident happened.

REPLY  

**Robert Walker** 3 months ago

WHO? ARGUABLY RSURVING RELATIVES OF THE COP?-- "ARGUABLY" IS A POWERFUL ATORNETESQUE WORD!

REPLY  

**WAYNE American** 3 months ago

And the reason why people can't stand the cops nowadays is on full display here. The fact that they did that arrest in the first place is ridiculous. What a waste of taxpayer money. The fact that a judge would set a bond for such a ridiculous case in the first place is a big problem.

Obviously the cops and investigators are that stupid that they think they'll actually get away with this. The fact that it was investigated in the first place is ridiculous. They earn the hate all by themselves.

REPLY  

**Scott Behr** 3 months ago

No he needs to sue them...easy win!

REPLY  

**Joseph Harrington** 3 months ago

What is a crime is wearing an Aston Villa top.

REPLY  

**Steve Lehto** 3 months ago

Right up there with calling it a "top."

REPLY  


**Nelson Turnbull** 3 months ago

So if your being wrongfully arrested by a bully with a gun shouldnt citizens have an IMMEDIATE way to defend themselves?? So if they kill someone arresting him for nothing, we the citizens have to pay that cops court settlement. How about a hotline for citizens to call when this shit goes down. Where someone with guns is called to intervene

REPLY  

**Nelson Turnbull** 3 months ago

isnt it time for a citizens cop watch actual department to charge and jail and personally hold liable when THEY break the law. They got the hotlines for cops if someone sees us doing something wrong. This will instantly endvtheir bullshit bullying

REPLY  

**Maria G.** 3 months ago

Insults are allowed; threats not. The guy posted an insult and the cops threatened his freedom

REPLY  


**MrSavagebeast50** 3 months ago

Until they strip officers of qualified immunity and make lawsuit settlements against these paid criminals come from the actual police who abuse the system for feeling's enforcement instead of actual law enforcement. Sadly nothing will change and justice system is not for the actual citizens rights. All they are about is collecting Revenue for this corrupt system. No matter if a person committed a crime or not.

REPLY  

**hisxmark** 4 months ago

"The police can't simply arrest people for the fun of it." What? If that's so, why would anyone want to become a police officer? Getting to shoot people is fun, but you can't do it every day.

REPLY  

**420 traveler** 4 months ago

Gonna go piss a cops grave because of this.

REPLY  

**420 traveler** 4 months ago

As long as any cops who do this get away with this, all cops are guilty

REPLY  

**possumverde** 4 months ago

I don't support the arrest but it could be argued that it's emotionally distressing to the deceased officer's family. Also, if one's answer to a question in court etc. includes the word google, there will likely be a bit of facepalming (that's somewhat like citing wikipedia as a source in a research paper.) You send someone to go eyeball the grave just to make sure.

REPLY  

**Lisa Peral** 4 months ago

The police need to be sued.

REPLY  

**Gods Among Men** 4 months ago

This is why everybody who serves on a jury must vow to never, ever convict a cop killer.

REPLY  

**Andy L** 4 months ago

That shows how stupid those officers are , they can't even do a google search. They must hire any high school drop out.

REPLY  

**Sade Jones** 4 months ago



They most certainly can arrest u for anything. And I have to prove u didn't do it because the jury is always on the cops side along with all the lawyers and judge. And your lawyer too if you have a public

defender.

REPLY  

**lil woody** 4 months ago

I would say everyone involved owes him what the bail was set at. The judge double because of all those involved he should have known better and thrown the entire case out. The gave all those involved a very public verbal tongue lashing.

REPLY  

**G Boni** 4 months ago

It not about the law, it about feeling....

REPLY  

**August S** 4 months ago

Do you believe the officers and lost Qualified Immunity?

REPLY  

**Krod Krod** 4 months ago

Police act on feelings like this all the time. There are thousands of videos online all over the U.S. where cops arrest people for just videoing in public which is also protected by the first amendment. Police don't know their training, policies, the law, or the constitution. I wish I could find a job where I don't have to know anything about it.

REPLY  

**Mark Harris** 4 months ago

Most of us are governed by three sets of rules, moral, ethical and legal. Sometimes, like a pastor killing his married parishioner who was his lover all three sets of rules are broken. However, if he hadn't killed her only ethical and moral rules are broken, he might lose his job but the state can't take any action.

An American lawyer who's a Villain. Though he always went to Rovers for about 40 years because he lived in B'burm my late father was a Villain. He was born in Droitwich and my grandmother was a Brummie so it was natural for him to support Villa.

REPLY  

**H A Ritchie** 4 months ago

You did say TBI

Wonder if Bill Lee is looking for new revenue

Seeing Trump is no longer in office

REPLY  

**cory proffitt** 4 months ago

This is not accidental, this is purposeful deprivation of rights under the color of law.

REPLY  


**jesse mayle** 4 months ago

Police are constantly abusing people or violating their constitutional rights and people still think that police are their friends, that they only want to help everyone. Just remember corrupt law makers would have no power over you if the police didn't act as their enforcers

REPLY  

**locked nloaded** 4 months ago

Kidnapped by road pirates LOL isn't there a saying something about you can have your rights but you still have to take the ride?

REPLY  

**Allan Peda** 4 months ago

Funny how police officer "ignorance" of the law usually works in their favor.

REPLY  

**Don Quihote** 4 months ago

Disrespect is never a class act. It may not be illegal, but, it is unwise. You may beat the rap, but, not the ride. I am fairly certain that all involved knew what they were doing.

REPLY  

**tod jones** 4 months ago

All graves are in grave danger!

REPLY  

**Ygritte Snow** 4 months ago

Without an actual law to arrest isn't this just aggravated kidnapping? Does it really matter that they are wearing costumes? Or is the court and legislation actually saying cops are not just immune but above the law?

REPLY  

**Jadiaz3399** 4 months ago

I'm jealous. This guy just hit the lottery with a lawsuit against those cops and agents.

REPLY  

**Jp San** 4 months ago

Its Dickson, not Dick-a-son

REPLY  

**Walter White** 4 months ago

Pigs wonder

REPLY  

**Phyllis Stein** 4 months ago

Whenever I see video of cops violating rights that results in a lawsuit settlements I think, "are they in cahoots?" I seriously wonder why cops are so eager to aid in lawsuit settlements with taxpayer money. Are cops getting kickbacks? Why are cops helping people file suit against them by violating rights?

REPLY  

**Liberty Freak** 4 months ago

and punished him with a ridiculous bond to show him a lesson. They received hundreds if not thousands of phone calls an they did not give a damn!

REPLY  

**Liberty Freak** 4 months ago

FINALLY!! Someone with a voice highlighting this. Thank you thank you!

REPLY  

**Shadow Of Wiggin** 4 months ago

Here in Vermont, in a town called St Albans about 40 min North of me some guy got pulled over and charged for it. I can't remember the bs charge. Like what you'd give to someone out in public causing a major scene or similar. But it was dropped and he's suing. I'll try to remember to send it to Steve if I remember to.

REPLY  

**Daniel Dreyer** 4 months ago

This is another action by cops that only turns more and more Citizens against them. Most of the population hates cops. And when they do crap like this rightfully so. They had to know this was bullshit. There are 2 ways to look at this. They are either a bunch of ignorant assholes or they just don't care about the Constitution or Bill of Rights which makes them Nazi Gestapo scum.

REPLY  

**Richard Lord** 4 months ago

So state attorneys have immunity in federal court?

REPLY  

**scbentz** 4 months ago

Settlement is fine, but we need to see CONSEQUENCES for the arresting officers! Surely their misconduct can't be protected by qualified immunity?!

REPLY  

**Randall Serrano** 4 months ago

Question.


So, in this case, the police and TBI broke the law. Do they get charged with criminal charges? I think I already know the answer.

REPLY  



**Rob Murray** 4 months ago

Law enforcement officers often don't know the law and instead enforce feelings. The first thing they should investigate is the law instead of suspicion. Do you suspect me of breaking the law.

REPLY  

**Jason Ford** 4 months ago

"Police can't arrest people for the fun of it." The police haven't gotten that message yet.

REPLY  

**Fred Flintstone** 4 months ago

In today's topsy turvey world it's often considered worse to call a person a liar, than it is to be a liar. Since cops are allowed to lie, and they do, is it wrong to call a cop a liar?

REPLY  

**LectronCircuits** 4 months ago

Cops can be very dangerous, so let's be careful out there. Cheers!

REPLY  

**mwwhited** 4 months ago

... man we need to get rid of qualified immunity

REPLY  

**Kimber E** 4 months ago

Is this the second arrest this month for a meme there was somebody that was arrested for memes that had to do with voting by text I think

REPLY  

**Daniel A. Thornton** 4 months ago

In the photo he posted, over the officer's picture, the name on the gravestone is G.G. Allin, so the Texas Bureau of Investigations couldn't see that on the picture and really had to drive out to the gravestone to look at it to make sure the picture wasn't real.

REPLY  

**Steve Lehto** 4 months ago

If they had googled the name GG Allin they would have realized the pic was something quite different.

REPLY  

**Pork Chop 13** 4 months ago

Please oh please keeps us updated on this

REPLY  

**Pork Chop 13** 4 months ago



**Pork Chop 13** 4 months ago  
DICKSON LOL. I live here it is Dickson tennessee

REPLY  

**Joe Nichols** 4 months ago

More babies did they get their feelings hurt look this is all brought on by bad cops doing bad things and yes good cops catches flack because good cops don't speak out against the bad cops

REPLY  

**Mark Chase** 4 months ago

Free speech! Soon to be obsolete!

REPLY  

**Left Hook** 4 months ago

Only gonna get worse.

REPLY  

**kevin kelly** 4 months ago

The Dream Police are suiting up to perform a Cheap Trick

REPLY  

**hoogabooga** 4 months ago

oh steve. Sticks and stones no longer apply. Feelings and victims.

REPLY  

**Michel Forgues** 4 months ago

Distasteful, rude and insulting are qualities I appreciate from a standup comedy.

REPLY  

**Michel Forgues** 4 months ago

Imagine all the money and time wasted by official morons.

REPLY  

**Jacques M** 4 months ago

Stupidity at its best , folks America is crumbling if we don't pay attention it's coming if you blink .... 😬  
you'll only be surprised and then POW !!!! It's done and mind you I'm not against the cops at all just the bad ones and knows that get trained in properly ... 😬

REPLY  

**sleepib** 4 months ago

I think the cops in this one should be criminally charged.

REPLY  

**Michael Lee** 4 months ago

They just make it up as they go and double down when they now their freakin wrong !!!

REPLY  

**Michael Lee** 4 months ago

News flash 📺 When the police and government officials loose THE PUBLICS TRUST!!! WE ARE ALL IN SERIOUS TROUBLE!!!

REPLY  

**Desert Dweller** 4 months ago

the police should post photos of themselves urinating on this man's family members graves. not illegal, just bad taste and appropriate quid pro quo

REPLY  

**dreiss** 4 months ago

Killing all police officers in the State of Tennessee is the only appropriate and just response to this bullshit.

REPLY  

**mwduck** 4 months ago

A former LEO whom I know in a big city once admitted that they would roll someone up knowing the charges wouldn't stick, but that at least the guy would spend a night in the lockup with the gang bangers.

REPLY  

**Stupid Plumbing** 4 months ago

Our government and it's agents, have been trying to get rid of the Constitution ever since it was ratified.

REPLY  

**pferguson1313** 4 months ago

Now they're feelings police 🤔🚓. The police, the judge and DA needs to be hold accountable for this injustice of the 1st amendment.

REPLY  

**AndyBeans** 4 months ago

OMG the claret and blue...

REPLY  

**Rusty** 4 months ago

I'm going to get professionally printed signs and post them at their department saying: IF IDIOTS COULD FLY, THIS PLACE WOULD BE AN AIRPORT!

REPLY  

**Rusty** 4 months ago

Surprised they didn't give him a compliance beating!

Apparently my 13 year old daughter can do better investigative work than the TBI.

Can we PLEEEASE now get rid of qualified immunity?

REPLY  

**Matthew Kane** 4 months ago

I may not agree with what you say, but I would fight to the death your right to say it

REPLY  

**shakey** 4 months ago


I don't buy the theory that these cops didn't know the law. They know the law... they just wanted to punish the guy for disrespecting cop authority. They know it's bogus and they don't care. They have inconvenienced the guy and that was their goal. This happens all the time. YouTube is full of videos of cops misbehaving and people claiming the cops don't know the law, but they really do know the law.

REPLY  

**David Jensen** 4 months ago

Colour of Law.

[#BustThePoliceUnions!](#)

REPLY  

**Heather Yllanes** 4 months ago

We need to do away with qualified immunity across-the-board

REPLY  

**Heather Yllanes** 4 months ago

Once again united states law enforcement shows their true colors nothing but bullies and thugs

REPLY  

**F165** 4 months ago

I know some people who has piss on a cop grave.

REPLY  

**RogerWKnight** 4 months ago

Then there is the case of US v. Douglas Mackey in the Eastern District of New York. Arrested for an Internet meme. Viva Frei goes over this.

REPLY  

**emdxemdx** 4 months ago

"Special" agent, as in "retarded"?

REPLY  

**LJ Whitmire** 4 months ago

This is why the police need to be defunded. They are involved in way too much stuff. No reasonable person can keep up with all the laws in the books in this country. More times than not, the police end up making most situations worse.

REPLY  

**B G** 4 months ago

Well obviously the police felt threatened

REPLY  

**BEAR TRAX RC** 4 months ago

It's DICKSON. About 40 miles west of NASHVILLE.


REPLY  

**Juan Guzman** 4 months ago


So it was dicks on police 🤔

REPLY  

**Mike Schwab** 4 months ago

Ask for a Write of Habeas Corpus for the person being insulted, because they will have to testify that they felt fear. And if they don't show, the DA has to pay for wrongful arrest. And if the DA won't pay, th 

sit in jail for Contempt of Court.

REPLY  

**Frank Kolton** 4 months ago

Perhaps they should of arrested him for copywrite infringement for the unauthorized reproduction and distribution of a trademarked image. They apparently lack knowledge of the laws they are supposed to be enforcing. Harassment? They're also found wanting in creativity and imagination department. Oops, shame on me, that could be construed as an insult.

REPLY  

**Aaron Kreber** 4 months ago

Not knowing what the history between the picture poster and the dead cop was I don't believe you can equivocally say that the post was disrespectful. Can't say it wasn't either. The respect or lack there of should not be commented on IMO.

REPLY  

**wyldvigilante** 4 months ago

A similar situation has occurred in San Antonio where the Chief of Police has declared and has arrested people for talking vulgar to police. Yes arrested for talking. No threats were made just name

calling and a man got arrested for it. The local government is supporting it. No more freedom of speech for us.

REPLY  



**Karl von Eschenhof** 4 months ago

The photograph clearly did result in "someone being emotionally distressed": the police department that arrested him!

REPLY  


**Tim Kaldahl** 4 months ago

How the hell does a judge even set a bond for this? We really need to stop passing high school kids with scores lower than 80% in government class.

REPLY  

**Psychozen 71** 4 months ago

It dickson, tn. They not to smart around here. One of the local cops been fired for using some system to do background checks on "hot woman"! Aparrantly getting home addresses and phone number from license plates. Aparrantly a husband got some alert about his plate being ran at the same place around the same time each day about 120 times in a month. Turns out his wife was taking their teenager daughter to a paino lessons. The cop ran the plate and the insurance company alerted the husband.

REPLY  

**Officer Boyz** 4 months ago

If court are going to waste thier time on that stuff....I want my taxes back

REPLY  

**Talin D** 4 months ago

Feelings Police.

REPLY  

**Dustin VanKeuren** 4 months ago

1st amendment violation. There needs to be consequences.

REPLY  

**Chris Alden in Alaska** 4 months ago

After hearing this maybe pissing on their graves is a good idea. Cops are out of control. Better yet get some fertilizer and make a Swastika with on the [grave.it](#) because this is what they are becoming.

REPLY  


**Indigogo Igorgo** 4 months ago

Copyright infringement perhaps? But that would be a civil case.

REPLY  

**Indigogo Igorgo** 4 months ago

Also, could cop who reposted the photo, could also be guilty of copyright infringement? If it was not public domain.

REPLY  

**Bond James** 4 months ago

isn't the TBI supposed to be one level above local cops? More professional supposedly.

REPLY  

**Steve Lehto** 4 months ago

Generally you can have local police, county sheriffs and state police. Each level up does seem to be a bit more professional.

REPLY  

**Dave Cochran** 4 months ago

This crap will continue and get worse when nobody is ever personally held accountable for this foolishness. Sure a lawsuit can be failed after the fact, and a judgement or most likely a settlement (with attached NDA). But it's that community, city, or states' citizens that pay... not the clowns who are violating citizen's rights.

REPLY  

**John Rowlands** 4 months ago

Are memes now becoming an illegal offence?

REPLY  

**CJ Dixon** 4 months ago

If the late police officer was one of my children I would be feeling hurt and more than a little upset that someone had desecrated his grave.

REPLY  

**Bond James** 4 months ago

nobody desecrated his grave. watch the video.

REPLY  

**Jim & Rose's adventure in Manila Philippines** 4 months ago

Are you trying to tell me the cops lie ??

REPLY  

**Steve Lehto** 4 months ago

I'm starting to think there is a possibility . . . .

REPLY  

**Ken Cnorney** 4 months ago

False arrest, false imprisonment, assault, kidnapping. One or more of those should stick in court.

REPLY  

**kidwave1** 4 months ago

"The court ordered a \$76,000 bond" ... Arent judges also lawyers? Perfect example that the courts and judges DONT KNOW THE LAWS EITHER!

REPLY  

**NuncNuncNuncNunc** 4 months ago

It was GG Allin's grave and he would be proud. Distasteful, I don't know, but apparently appropriate. The police in TN are idiots.

REPLY  

**Arizona Homesteading And Travels** 4 months ago

Wow..Now I've seen it all! I hope this guy sues the police for a huge amount..This is totally stupid..but then again, Do you expect anything else from backwoods TNN police? Bully police..This is why people post these things!!! In fact, I'm going to buy the song on Itnes to show my support for the album cover art!! Poor taste? Well maybe so but no worse than the poor taste the cops that killed innocent people in the past!!! Nah, Not poor taste at all..Nobody says the cop was in poor taste for wrongs..oh no..heaven forbid a cop get hurt..oh and for the record I have no problem with LEO nor have I even ha a darn ticket to all the boot lickers who will comment on my opinion..like I care anyway..

REPLY  

**Bobby French** 4 months ago

If we are lucky someone will help the dirt bag pigs who did to an early grave.

REPLY  

**Steven Harvey** 4 months ago

They kind of just solidified his feeling toward them

REPLY  

**ZenMaster** 4 months ago

All of the "officials" involved in making this arrest happen, deserve to lose their jobs AND be banned from any such position of power ever again.

REPLY  

**Stefano L** 4 months ago

I normally dont comment in general. But one thing is what peoples opinions is. But never talk bad about a dead person he or she cannot defend themselves. Let them be yes it doesn't have anything about the law but just my humble opinion 😊😊😊 I really like watching this channel.

REPLY  

**Kai82 Holman** 4 months ago

Can he sue for false arrest and violating his civil rights?

REPLY  

**Noah Ellis** 4 months ago

Hopefully the guy gets a huge payday from the city and police department. But also the arresting cops need to be fired or at the very least direct traffic on a one way street. The prosecutor should be reprimanded and have his license suspended for prosecutorial misconduct. When cops and prosecutors pull stunts like this they only hurt the reputation and trust in the justice system and of law enforcement.

REPLY  

**Robert Creighton** 4 months ago

Kill the police kill the whole force before we're all robots

REPLY  

**Paul Collyer** 4 months ago

Here in the UK, not only does there need to be a crime committed/suspected, but also a "necessity for arrest", in so much as there are specific necessities that will allow an arrest.

Unlawful arrests are, even here, shall we say, costly, in so much as the detained person is entitled to a large sum per hour of detention. Thus, an arresting Officer needs to convince the Custody Sargent of the circumstances leading to arrest and the necessity. If either is not enough, the Custody Sargent WILL refuse detention.

REPLY  

**Jerome McCollom** 4 months ago

This district attorney who wanted the arrest should be voted out. People should pay attention to their local district attorneys/prosecutors and if they are supporting illegal arrests (or urging them on) and looking away at illegal police acts or brutality, they should be voted out. Every district attorney who comes up for election should be googled before the election by voters. The Tennessee Governor appointed the TN Bureau of Investigation head who was OK with this illegal arrest. He should be voted out. This also illustrates why groups like Americans Civil Liberties Union are so necessary to try to hold bad cops accountable, and bad prosecutors.

REPLY  

**Capt. Rich** 4 months ago

Was the picture copyrighted, and could the man be on the hook for using it if it were?

REPLY  

**Steve Lehto** 4 months ago

Assuming there wasn't an exception that covered this, maybe. But it's not something the police enforce.

REPLY  

**Capt. Rich** 4 months ago



@Steve Lehto

Oh right, would be a civil matter. Thanks for responding; I've been enjoying your content and wit for some time.

REPLY  

eddie f 4 months ago

Dixon co. Tn. has a city Dickerson

REPLY  

Steven Flaig 4 months ago

Villa Villan!

REPLY  

FurbySlayer 4 months ago

Steve as we continue to see this more and more, even if by visibility, but also by the "auditor" crowd, when does the whole ignorance of the law excuse come into play for the police. worse in this case is the judge set bail? and the prosecutor hid out on it as you put it?

the amazing level of checks and balances failing which will only lead to taxpayers paying another bill for incompetence in both the judicial and executive branch.

REPLY  

David Wetter 4 months ago

Yet another case for qualified immunity, a chunk of taxpayer money and a really big broom/rug comb

REPLY  

senseofstile 4 months ago

Great informative video. Yep, it was in bad taste. However it was also legal. I am retired but, when these fraudulent arrests come up, I always wonder if these victims need to list this this arrest on an employment application when it is requested. Also, different countries have

different laws. I am living in the Philippines and they have laws regarding insults against dead people. It reads something like; " .....any act or statement meant to blacken the reputation of the dead." Again different country, different laws.

Maybe the DA didn't want to step in and straighten out the situation is police pressure. He didn't want the police to feel offended. Hence he made a decision to avoid doing his job.

REPLY  

azmika85 4 months ago

Are we going to ignore ignore fact the DA and Judge were complicit with enforcing something they should know is constitutionally protected.

REPLY  

harleylif1 4 months ago

This is another reason why so many people no longer trust or respect the police.

REPLY  

**Sphinx Rising** 4 months ago

Technically speaking, the only law the man broke was using copyrighted material.

REPLY  

**David Phillips** 4 months ago

No one will step forward because there in the same pot the brotherhood of corruption!

REPLY  


**john mirbach** 4 months ago



REPLY  

**Fred Derf** 4 months ago

... did this happen in the Soviet Union?

REPLY  

**Fred Derf** 4 months ago

George Orwell needs to rename his book. Call it 2020.

REPLY  

**Roy Sullivan** 4 months ago

It is abuse of power by the police and the prosecutor as a, "We don't like that." therefore we are arresting this person just to teach him a lesson.

Well, it didn't work and it will cost the local government a lot of money. And for the man that was arrested, he will not be free of the police harassment.

REPLY  

**Always TRUMPER** 4 months ago

Treason

REPLY  

**Citizen Defence** 4 months ago

Steve needs arresting for wearing an Aston Villa football club shirt!!!!

REPLY  

**Steve Lehto** 4 months ago

I keep telling people - It was a gift from a viewer. If you think there is a more appropriate shirt for me to wear, someone needs to send it in. XXL

REPLY  

**bryan Jaeck** 4 months ago

Cops just show how stupid they are.....Yeah Tennessee demonstrates they really have stupid cops.

REPLY  

**Vincent's helpful hints** 4 months ago

Where are the good cops people talk about.. I will wait

REPLY  

**J Hill** 4 months ago

DA: you didn't talk to us before publishing your article.

Editor: you didn't answer your phone.

Me. Boo. Hoo. Hoo.

REPLY  

**J Hill** 4 months ago

Cops arrest people because they can all the time. Hell, a neighbor in the police reserve used to put on his uniform to harass neighbors on a regular basis and the department didn't do crap about it.

REPLY  

**J Hill** 4 months ago

Hmm. Sounds like a big lawsuit for violation of 1st Amendment rights. Cops. DA. Court.

REPLY  

**j42398** 4 months ago

Just buy the cops a jelly doughnut for their feelings that were damaged.

While they shoot unarmed people with melanin.

REPLY  

**Mark Fuller** 4 months ago

He should be able to sue for false arrest?

I don't know im asking thanks

REPLY  

**Doug Jenks** 4 months ago

They should be charged with felonies and no more organized crime!

REPLY  

**Michael Snyder** 4 months ago


Seems more and more uneducated costume wearers are making headlines and costing municipalities millions of dollars because LEO's can't work google or Municode.

REPLY  

REPLY

**Greg Williamson** 4 months ago

It's scary all cops that dont have knowledge of the laws they claim to uphold

REPLY  

**さくら** 4 months ago

Really, everyone in the legal system involved here in furthering the injustice (including any judges) should be named and shamed. And maybe put on a six month+ **unpaid** suspension, with a mandatory constitutional law class.

REPLY  


**Kerby Hyland** 4 months ago

[#copsRcriminals](#)

REPLY  


**weldabar** 4 months ago

- 1) How can you say the image is distasteful? Clearly it seems appropriate for these specific officers who do not respect the law.
- 2) Steve you're wrong. Police can arrest people for the fun of it (you're reading one such story right now). Police will do what they want, throw you in jail, make your life miserable, then release you when they have to. More often than not they don't face consequences.

REPLY  

**.357Addict** 4 months ago

Maybe they should garnish the wages of the cops who did the unlawful arrest to help pay for any judgement imposed by a court.

REPLY  

**wmmonahan** 4 months ago

All envolved in arresting this man should at least be fired. I would say because they broke the law for arresting a man for not breaking the law, they should be thrown in jail. I also would sew the f out of them.

REPLY  

**mark brown** 4 months ago

using google to investigate doesn't require overtime

REPLY  

**Jeff McCrea** 4 months ago

I'd like to know where the judge who signed the arrest warrant went to law school. One would think that the final filter would have kicked in but then again, this was Tennessee. That explains a lot.

REPLY  

**Tony Mc** 4 months ago

In 4 years Biden will sign orders to get rid of everything in the constitution to make this legal for the cops to do.

REPLY  

**Garrett Guitar** 4 months ago

Let's address censorship.

CCPA data portability gives users the right to get their data back from service providers.

This solves a few problems, but particularly, it helps users who have been censored to get their content back and take it to another platform.

CCPA only helps when the company being inquired complies. If the company does not comply, the only recourse by the user is to hire a lawyer or to contact the district attorney.

After having been censored by a few different websites, I contacted those websites, including [Nextdoor.com](https://www.nextdoor.com), who ignored my lawful request.

I contacted the district attorneys office multiple times by phone. Both times they were extremely rude and hung up on me.

I've been contacting the district attorney through the district attorneys website. The district attorney, replied by physical mail.

The district attorney's letter told me that I have the right to hire an attorney to defend my rights protected by CCPA. Their reply is more vague than my inquiry and appears to be General information that was pre-written.

The problem with CCPA data portability clause is that it does not do people any good if the companies do not comply. And since there seems to be no disincentive for failing to comply, they don't.

Companies continue to censor users with impunity. Well intentioned laws like the weak protections afforded by CCPA data portability clause are toothless. They don't help consumers, generally.

District Attorney phone number  
(800)-807-6755

More information and broken links:  
<https://oag.ca.gov/contact/faqs>

REPLY  


**#NOASLFAKERS** 4 months ago

Do you as an Attorney foresee a civil suit on the officers executing the arrest.

REPLY  

**lenny lenny** 4 months ago

"the police simply can not arrest people for the fun of it" that statement is simply not true anymore. not only can they arrest without cause, but judges will uphold that arrest and set bail outside of judicial authority.

REPLY  

**Steve Lehto** 4 months ago

If you really think I meant that literally, you believe the police arrest people for the "FUN" of it?

REPLY  

**lenny lenny** 4 months ago

@Steve Lehto no not literally for fun. mostly for profit. or for lack of knowledge on the part of the big headed officer regarding his lawful authority to arrest without warrant or crime.... or what constitutes a crime.

REPLY  

**Mr Random** 4 months ago

You are allowed to kill a cop for false arrest ...of course pigs don't want you to smoke the bacon.

REPLY  

**Michael Wilson** 4 months ago

Point of information: Dickson. It's about an hour west of Nashville. (I live in the greater Nashville area

REPLY  

**Pez** 4 months ago

"Bad taste police", you mean "communitied based policing" where actual police departments get defunded and locals police themselves? Or HOA's?

REPLY  

**Lisa B** 4 months ago

What about the Judge and the DA, shouldn't he/she know better?

REPLY  

**Stango** 4 months ago

They just made this man rich while reinforcing his views. Gg

REPLY  

**asbe01** 4 months ago

It seems pretty cut and dry, make them pay big.

REPLY  

**Michael Wilson** 4 months ago

**Kaiser basireus** 4 months ago

How is it "shocking" that cops don't know the law? We get new examples every week!

REPLY  

**T-Roy C** 4 months ago

In my experience the first officer on scene is the lead and its his/her case the other officers are there for backup or evidence gathering but leave the decision to arrest to the first officer

REPLY  

**lost in the future** 4 months ago

Pronounce just like it looks .same as hickson(dickson) both are cities here in tennessee

REPLY  

**bob marker** 4 months ago

Ben in the Canadian mug.

REPLY  

**Jack Hudler** 4 months ago

They still make 45's?!

REPLY  

**Amritt Villa** 4 months ago

"Daddy what does formatting drive 'C' mean?"

ROFLMAO

;-)

REPLY  

**maggie spillane** 4 months ago

I am anti socialist I think the first socialist program we should abolish is the police

REPLY  

**The Germansplainer** 4 months ago

You may beat the charge but you can't beat the ride. That is the message being sent. Also, the guy will have to spent thousands on bond, lawyers, etc. and he will never recover any of it because of qualified immunity.

REPLY  

**raymond mckay** 4 months ago

This is why there are no good cops if there were he or she would have sounded an alarm but judges,district attorney's and state and local police fail the American people at every turn. In conclusion there are no good cops


REPLY  

john beach 4 months ago  
@Whoop!!

REPLY  

Ghost Writer 4 months ago

i think they are saying the widow is the victim, and I would bet the guy arrested did not even know the officer was married

REPLY  

Casey Baiter 4 months ago

I commented on a older post just a couple mins ago. I hope you have time to read it. Thanks

REPLY  

Steve Lehto 4 months ago

I'll go check the 1000+ videos and look for it. Thanks.

REPLY  


glenn schemitsch 4 months ago

Even Barney Miller would know better. A public apology should be required of the officials concerned.

REPLY  

Kala Looney 4 months ago

Wait a minute...

REPLY  

russlehman 4 months ago

If I understand correctly, it was the DA who initiated the arrest, and he should have known better.

REPLY  

Sebastian K 4 months ago

disrespect a police officer = attempted suicide by cop = a justified officer involved shooting

REPLY  

btfoom ny 4 months ago

This sounds dumber than the NJ state troopers who arrested an attorney for "remaining silent". Oddly, they did not see the contradiction when they read her the part about "you have the right to remain silent". The state paid her \$30,000, but did not admit any wrongdoing. Well. you didn't pay her \$30,000 for being RIGHT!!! I hope this guy wins the TN damages roulette.



REPLY  

somebody else 4 months ago

The shmuck that got arrested will have to go through the ordeal of a civil suit to get his day in court, and he'll get paid with taxpayer money even if it's an out of court settlement. How are those cops going



to get convicted of their indisputable crime? Aside from an administrative slap on the wrist, what criminal penalty will they have to pay?

REPLY  

**steven Hughes** 4 months ago

Love the Aston Villa football top

REPLY  

**Ian Lloyd** 4 months ago

@Steve They have already completed their aim.. He obviously can beat the Rap, But he's currently doing the Ride.....

REPLY  



**wolvernar** 4 months ago

How is it possible that police today are THIS ignorant of the laws and constitution? I blame our corrupt school systems.

REPLY  

**btfoom ny** 4 months ago

Quite often they converse with a prosecutor before the arrest. It may be a prosecutor who slept through Con Law.

REPLY 1  

**Darren Porsch** 4 months ago

The police arrest people all the time just for the fun of it and then you have to go through the trouble and bear the expense I'm getting it thrown out in court after you hire a lawyer something needs to change about the system and then after they arrest you for no reason you got to hopefully find the lawyer will take your case on the contingency and sue them to get any restitution and anything changed in the system. supreme Court case dealing with this that I can think of would be Houston vs Hill and I'm not an attorney. if police actually got fired and then arrested for illegally arresting you then this stuff would stop real quick but the system wants to protect the police. most of the DA's don't have enough integrity to charge them

REPLY  

**Conservative Voices University** 4 months ago

It is insane that everyone is still using these platforms, I guess there is some use for them still... This is going to a fun couples of years for sure...Yes I am being extremely sarcastic in this post!!! I am here to also help feed the algorithm F\*ck off YT!!!

REPLY  

**Dennis Koppo** 4 months ago

What about urination in public. It's interesting to me that I could urinate in public on something to make a political statement but if I did it just on the street it would be illegal. I guess my defense would

be I was making a statement about the Department of Streets and Sanitation.

REPLY  

**Steve Lehto** 4 months ago

The guy isn't the one in the photo. The photo was of other people, taken years ago.

REPLY  

**Anthony Mcdonald** 4 months ago

Please do a follow up on this . The really sad thing is that the tasteless idiot who posted this will now score a crap load of compensation .

REPLY  

**The Savages Of Deletion** 4 months ago

Format is never a good thing. It like nooooo. Don't push that button twice. Noo jr.

REPLY  

**NarnianRailway** 4 months ago

What is truly graceful about this case (based on nydaily mail article on Friday) is the cop that died was murdered in May 2018. The person arrested for the murder will not stand trial until October 2022 due to covid-19 backlogs in the courts.

From articles on line, it does not sound like the photoshopped picture was shared to social media of the deceased officer's family so it would not not have been harassment directly at the family. Based news articles the TN Bureau of Investigation was asked to investigate the pic and determined it was photoshopped and no desecration of the officer's grave occurred. The false arrest falls on the Dickson County DA and police/sheriff departments involved. Various news outlets that covered the list have cherry picked the details rather than investigative, honest journalism.

REPLY  

**AllynHin** 4 months ago

Okay, so did the guy who posted the album art violate copyright by posting it? That has nothing to do with the case, but I'm just wondering if this might be a thing.

REPLY  

**mark smith** 4 months ago

Lets go to the other side of this. If 2 guys dressed in black with black vests and skin heads where pictured peeing in Martin Luther Kings grave , what would happen? I will tell you, there would be riots calling for those 2 to be arrested or beaten to death. All i can really say is do not screw with grave sites.. Stand up and show the respect you want in return.

REPLY  

**Vinson Russo** 4 months ago

Steve do you really think cops know the law? If that's the case I have a bridge to sell you. They are taught more about how to shoot, falsify, mislead, lie on the stand then the 1 day of law training they get which basically teaches them how to look up a law in a reference book they are provided. More

often than not the person they are arresting for something, its for something they did not originally engage them for because they need to find something to justify the arrest for.

REPLY  

**Sean J** 4 months ago

What about the judge? Or is this one of those situations where the Judge merely asks the Prosecutor what the charges are and is there enough evidence to go to trial, but not actually looks at the merits.

REPLY  

**ChaosRising0** 4 months ago

I'm a bit confused with US law, to be in a situation where you'd need to post bail don't you need to be charged with something? What was he charged with?

REPLY  

**SomeDarnGuy** 4 months ago

Somehow I don't think this is going to change his opinion on cops.

REPLY  

**catt man** 4 months ago

His bond is set for \$75,000.

REPLY  

**Kansas Hunting/Fishing** 4 months ago

Other people living my dream. Getting arrested illegally and going to get a pay day.

REPLY  

**Jim McGaughy** 4 months ago

Who were they harassing?

Answer: The family of the deceased.

REPLY  

**Ghost Writer** 4 months ago

they are probably saying that yes, but the law is also clear in something else: the person intentionally communicates in person with the victim of the person's crime. I would bet he has no idea who the family is, nor communicated in person to them

REPLY  

**RALPH FRASIER** 4 months ago

Sorry Steve, some people's feet are meant to be stepped on!

REPLY  

**Mike Weller** 4 months ago

And this is why those attitudes and opinions are becoming more common.

REPLY  

**Cop Cuffs** 4 months ago

@8:06 contact & cover

REPLY  

**un important** 4 months ago

It took me forever to find the \$100 bill today

REPLY  

**BlankBrain** 4 months ago

The judge should be disbarred.

REPLY  

**Byron Watkins** 4 months ago

Definitely bad taste and I'm not impressed by the "music" either.

REPLY  

**Ian Battles** 4 months ago

Luckily, it's not illegal to have poor taste.

REPLY  

**Fadamor** 4 months ago

Yay. So Tennessee is arresting people for expressing opinions now? This has firmly altered MY opinion of Tennessee.

REPLY  

**boedude** 4 months ago

how do we not also find the judge criminally negligent in his duty? he accepted on face value that a crime had been committed. would appear that he (she?) does not know the law and personally abused the rights of the defendant

REPLY  

**Robert Morrison** 4 months ago

I am not sure what is worse, this arrest or that Aston villa jersey

REPLY  



**jerome clements** 4 months ago

What the hell are you doing wearing an Aston Villa shirt? Seriously.

REPLY  

**Mwokozi Taylor** 4 months ago

How did the magistrate set bail so high on top of that. A lot of blame for not knowing the law. How can they all be responsible for enforcing the law, when they are so ignorant of the law? How is the general citizenry not allowed to make legal mistakes, that it is not defense for the common citizen, but the people that are entrusted with upholding are not only allowed ignorance of the law, but not prosecuted for enforcing made up law, that results in detrimental harm to the citizens they are sworn to protect?.

REPLY  

**E. Zurb** 4 months ago

This is why decent law-abiding human beings feel like the police officers around us are just s\*\*\*... because they are s\*\*\*.

REPLY  


**Reverend Fry** 4 months ago

Silly rabbit, of course the "state" can do whatever they want because the rule of law is dead and the Republic lost.

REPLY  


**Nathan Brazil** 4 months ago

When law enforcement and DA's realize they have made a mistake they never admit that mistake... They always double down and make things worse

REPLY  

**Francis Campagna** 4 months ago

Arresting people who commit real crimes may involve too much paperwork.

REPLY  

**raymond andrus** 4 months ago

my question...does not our constitution mention unuaslly and cruel punishment , 76,000dollars for bond sounds quite extreme for a lowly harassment charge

REPLY  

**00UncommonSense00** 4 months ago

Bad taste? Of course. Against the law? Not even close. That pesky 1st Amendment.

REPLY  

**Michael Sweeney** 4 months ago

Can you copyright a gravestone? Just wondering.

REPLY  

**Jeff Holland** 4 months ago


Dickson Tn. Just outside of Nashville.

REPLY  

REPLY

**Rob Emmons** 4 months ago

This is so alarming that the cowards with badges have law knowledge as badly as their firearm handling skills

REPLY  

**DC Steve** 4 months ago

The sad fact is the top down incompetence involved here, most troubling from the judge who arraigned him. That judge should have thrown that case out immediately

REPLY  



**David Wright** 4 months ago

The real goose here is the person that set the \$76,000 bond should have been 50 cents the IQ of the police and prosecutors appear to really below par.

REPLY  

**CapitalDColen** 4 months ago

Its jarring to me that Count Dankula had his political career kickstarted because something similar happened to him, but everyone who propped him up are silent on this.

REPLY  



**Terry Lawrence** 4 months ago

Just so you know, Having sex with animals IS illegal in Tennessee.

REPLY  


**Steve Lehto** 4 months ago

Is it enforced?



REPLY 1  

**Terry Lawrence** 4 months ago

@Steve Lehto I don't know. Never been caught.

REPLY  

**Pinche Villa** 4 months ago

streisand effect. the dead pig will be the official cop piss meme.  

REPLY  


**A Cole** 4 months ago

I want to clarify does the right of a person such as suing for slander or in this case harassment cease at death or does their name/ image/ reputation still have legal protection?

REPLY  

**Mister Deplorable** 4 months ago  
IF..... HALF THE COPS DID THEIR JOB

THE OTHER HALF WOULD BE IN PRISON!

REPLY  

**Daniel Bowden** 4 months ago

A lawyer had to have signed off on the arrest at some point. I would think the police had to file charges with the DA's office or a judge to get an arrest warrant. And certainly a judge had to sign off on \$76,000 bond amount. This sounds like the Justice System went along with an old police saying; He may beat the charge, but he won't be the ride. Meaning that he had to be arrested and transported to jail and spend time in jail until he could bond out, which cost money that he will not be back unless he put up the cash himself. He will have to pay a lawyer to even get the charge dropped. So yes, I see a lawsuit in the future for all involved. Of course the justice system will claim "Qualified Immunity" in hopes of any lawsuit being thrown out.

REPLY  

**starhawke380** 4 months ago

If you spend a bunch of your time trying to piss off the police, don't be surprised when it works...

REPLY  

**Jerry C.** 4 months ago

question for you Steve, with everything you mentioned regarding protected 1st Amend. rights, to what degree can a person insult a judge and still be protected under 1A? obviously one couldn't do that in court and would be subject to contempt and quick arrest I would assume, but what about outside of court? while even out of court in most cases I would still think it would be distasteful, if not the very least disrespectful, but for example the Michigan female judge you've mentioned many times that was put in prison for her antics, besides how she treated you and others while in court, at what level could a person then insult a judge out of court? with that said, and what you've explained in your vid, I think it's a legit question and very interesting and I think many folks would like to know since we're on that subject. I'm very much hoping please that you can elaborate more on that in a follow up video or possibly if you follow up on this particular case. checking in from Muncie, IN. as usual, Jerry

REPLY  

**Stephen Green** 4 months ago

Wow, The stupid is strong in Tennessee. I was born in middle TN. I am ashamed of my home state now.

REPLY  

**Eric Logos** 4 months ago

If you photoshop. Kiddie porn, with no real kid involved, you go to jail. What's the difference?

REPLY  

**john tracy** 4 months ago



And we pretend we don't have a police state. So much for the 1st Amendment.

REPLY  

**George Burns** 4 months ago  
Love this channel

REPLY  

**james amonett** 4 months ago  
I hope a jury gives this man atleast \$100 million in damages.

REPLY  


**james amonett** 4 months ago  
We must start protecting the constitution, or they will take it from us.

REPLY  

**Brian Rad** 4 months ago  
Tennessee Beareau of Idiots

REPLY  

**Michaelktm** 4 months ago  
I love the fact the Heather remembers the good old days of computer ownership

REPLY  

**Jason Bennett** 4 months ago  
What judge required bond for this? Why didn't the judge just throw it out?

REPLY  

**Chris Nordstrom** 4 months ago  
You know, it the D.A. wants to find a way to prosecute you he will. Remember, it isn't paranoia if they really are out to get you!

REPLY  

**Ultra AL** 4 months ago  
Steve police not knowing the law is the new norm.

REPLY  

**Chris Nordstrom** 4 months ago  
What if the wife of the deceased was intimidated, frightened or emotionally distressed? Could the live wife be the subject of harassment?

REPLY  

**Steve Lehto** 4 months ago  
Arguably. I did not see any mention in the story of who the claimed "victim" in this case was.



REPLY  

**Jeff 433** 4 months ago

They should have arrested him for inciting an insurrection of Dickson, TN. That charge seems to stick these days.

REPLY  

**Stephen Bolling** 4 months ago

Little visited You Tube video goes viral due to Lehto fans.

REPLY  

**Steve Lehto** 4 months ago

Looks like they've added 15 views so far today!

REPLY  


**vainwretch** 4 months ago

Couldn't the harrasment be against the family ? Wife , mother , children ?

REPLY  

**william burnett** 4 months ago

Love your knife collection Steve .

REPLY  

**Steve Lehto** 4 months ago

Rapalas.

REPLY  

**Notorious Jesse James** 4 months ago

We need to refund the police they just don't have enough training especially in these days

REPLY  

**David Turk** 4 months ago

Dickson is a very rural area.

REPLY  

**kenneth pollard** 4 months ago

So we have pissed off cops who already think they are above the law to begin with retaliating against someone who hurt their little feelers. This proves they think they are above the law, they are not stupid enough t believe they are within the law. It is simply about complying with their every whim or else.

REPLY  

**Willy S** 4 months ago

Can't prosecutors lose their law license for something like this?

REPLY  

**AnonOne** 4 months ago

The police arrested him. The court ordered him held on the charge under a 76K bond. What's worse?

REPLY  

**Greg L.** 4 months ago

It absolutely was harrasment all right, only it was the TN legal system doing it.

They knew it was BS. They were sending a message: "You might not do time, but we can make your life uncomfortable and make you spend money fighting this crap."

REPLY  

**Hy Cart** 4 months ago

I checked out the music clip. I, too, am no music critic, BUT THAT "MUSIC" IS CRAP, in my opinion.

REPLY  

**Unknown Stuntman** 4 months ago

You knew that shirt was going to get a response from a English person

REPLY  

**Native Atheist** 4 months ago

That song wasn't bad.

REPLY  

**scott findlay** 4 months ago

apparently the police can arrest anybody for anything, just shows the level of corruption going on in the world now.

REPLY  

**Gerardo Gonzalez** 4 months ago

I had a pick up order from court to pick up my son from his half sister. It took 5 patrol cars, more than 10 police officers, and almost an hour, including calls to supervisors, and police attorneys for them to know what to do. It was frustrating for me, waiting for an hour, but they wanted to be sure they knew what to do if they refused, and how to serve them to show up in court

REPLY  

**MonkeyJedi99** 4 months ago

Yet another case that highlights the need for a process to completely erase/negate/undo/vanish charges when they are found to be frivolous and/or unlawful.

Pro-cop rhetoric often says, "If the charges are not valid, just fight it in court."

Yeah, fight it in court by spending money (yours or the taxpayers', depending on your ability to pay) and even after a successful defense you carry the record of the arrest and charges for the rest of your life.


This can result in lost job opportunities, inability to gain specialized licenses, not getting accepted to college, losing scholarships, being denied financing for major purchases, and escalating later police encounters. To name a few effects.

REPLY  

**Rogue Cthulhu** 4 months ago  
actually, he did break a law. Copyright law.

REPLY  

**Steve Lehto** 4 months ago  
And the police enforce copyright law? Assuming the use wasn't an exception to the law?

REPLY  

**Mike Broadwater** 4 months ago  
The problem is that the cops, prosecutor and judge got their FEELINGS hurt and we know that FEELINGS GETTING HURT is also the law now  
KAREN AND KEVIN  
YES that picture is very distasteful but again FREEDOM OF SPEECH

REPLY  

**CJ Laity** 4 months ago  
The photo isn't illegal but that song should be.

REPLY  

**KR** 4 months ago  
When we ran a small motel my parents built I got a law book for specific innkeeper laws we would have to follow as society got more lawsuit happy. We ended up educating several of our village officers about those particular business related statutes. We have some laws for that type of business that others don't have to follow in this state. Nobody can know all of the laws. The problem comes when they are not willing to learn.

REPLY  

**Kristen Bromell** 4 months ago  
Can't find a crime? Its resisting arrest or harrasment

REPLY  

**Homefront** 4 months ago  
Sticks and Stones...

REPLY  


**Iain Herridge** 4 months ago  
Hurt feelings does not make you a victim!

REPLY  

REPLY


**Kenneth Shaffer** 4 months ago

They know the charges won't stick. This is retaliation all the way up to the judge based on the bond set. It's the old "you can beat the charges but you can't beat the ride"...and the attorney fees and the time it takes. Even if he sues and wins, it's not coming out of their pocket and not sweat of their back.

REPLY  

**Johnny Reb** 4 months ago

Would you be so kind as to keep us updated on this? I remember a post from years ago about cops "violating" a dead mans rights, "bringing his cell phone into the funeral home and unlocking it by using his index finger." they said the dead have no rights. Do dead people have rights?

REPLY  


**gandaulf2000** 4 months ago

Don't forget the judge. He is guilty also.

REPLY  

**Gabriel Janosi** 4 months ago

The police knew what they were doing. Two departments multiple officers. Once the DA knew he told them it's not illegal.

REPLY  

**William Parks** 4 months ago

Cops are corrupt

REPLY  

**Willie No Legs** 4 months ago

Looks like the gang of law and order cops are worthless.

REPLY  

**Bill Mielke** 4 months ago

Its Dickson, just west of Nashville

REPLY  

**R.A. Monigold** 4 months ago

My 'Up Thumb' is for the story teller - NOT the story. Thanks everyone...

REPLY  

**Dire Wolf** 4 months ago

The issue is that only the enforcement folks are allowed to use the sticks and stones while being oblivious of meanings of the words.

REPLY  

cperceptionsmusic 4 months ago

I really like your videos.

REPLY  

Karl G 4 months ago

We've entered the age of "You can dodge sticks and duck stones but lookout, those words are invisible and hurt more than anything." Obviously not, but that's the way a large swath of the population behaves, claiming they've been triggered by something someone said and it's done irreparable damage. Honestly, it sounds like a Con to me but then I'm old and jaded.

REPLY  

DeKrampus 11111 4 months ago

Someone's gonna be getting a payday from this....A BIG PAYDAY!

REPLY  

wkiernan 4 months ago

No matter how the arrested guy's case ends up, none of the people involved in the arrest will suffer any kind of penalty, and they will have achieved their goal of harassing the guy who hurt their very, very delicate feelings. True, he may, after a great deal of effort, get some kind of monetary compensation for this harassment, but none of the harassers are paying it. The taxpayers of Tennessee will get the bill.

REPLY  

Rhonda Flesher 4 months ago

Well, that sure improved his impression of the cops - not!.

REPLY  

AmericanBadger 4 months ago

Daddy, what does formatting Drive C: mean? 😊

REPLY  

AmericanBadger 4 months ago

It's not just the TBI and local police who are ignorant of the law. In order to set bond, doesn't there have to be a DA who is prosecuting the case, and/or a judge who sets the bond? So, four 'agencies' are wholly ignorant of the law? Not one out of the bunch said, "Uh . . . No!" The only pissing that should be going on is these idiots pissing up a rope.

REPLY  

pubcollize 4 months ago

I'm tired of all those asinine memes, but i will fight to death for your right to post them - VOltaire

REPLY  


Ben C. Enlots 4 months ago

I am anxious to piss on the grave of the local chief of police if he would just do the courtesy of dying.

REPLY  

**robert cline** 4 months ago

I wish I could have people arrested for being mean to me.

REPLY  

**kevin overholtzer** 4 months ago

from my experience people that have a bad opinion of a specific cop are people to avoid hanging out with its one thing to dislike cops in general but to hate a specific cop means you have trouble with the law. hopefully this guy gets let out soon but i hope he gets 0 dollars from this.

REPLY  

**ScooterFXRS** 4 months ago

The very fact that a DA supported this and a judge that set bond is beyond alarming. Earning the hate, the police state. While on the surface this does appear to be in bad "taste", there are individuals that deserve receiving bad taste. The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, Dickson County Sheriff's Office, Dickson County DA's Office, and a judge just got themselves nominated to receive bad taste.

REPLY  

**Coughaholic** 4 months ago

From a practical standpoint how can harassment laws exist in a way consistent with the 1st amendment?

In that vein, would the mere argument that the officers felt targeted by the meme be sufficient to defeat a wrongful arrest lawsuit?

REPLY  

**Chip Seal** 4 months ago

Tasteful insults need no protection.

REPLY  

**Andrew Kent** 4 months ago

Wow... I haven't watched the video yet, but this is insane. It blows me away that you can get someone so stupid and fragile they lock someone up because they are all up in their feels.

REPLY  

**Dwayne 73** 4 months ago

I learned that there is no justice over 30 years ago. It is about who has the most money and it is usually the government. What if this guy couldn't afford good lawyers? He still spent time in jail, probably lost wages, and might be paying for the lawyers to get him free. It is a known tactic to arrest people on Friday nights so that they have to sit in jail until Monday or Tuesday before people can get to an open bank to post bail, find a lawyer, etc.. The FBI likes to bring in boxes and boxes of "evidence" during a

trail for a jury to see and nothing relevant maybe in the boxes. Unless this person finds a lawyer willing to sue the TBI and the local police, they got away with arresting him.

REPLY  

**MrBachelorhouse** 4 months ago

They know the law.. they just dont care. Our constitution is a worthless and empty promise.

REPLY  

**Chevy Chase** 4 months ago

And who set the bail?

REPLY  

**Larry Townley** 4 months ago

Desecration of a grave !!!

REPLY  

**calvinthebold99** 4 months ago

The TBI did that because they were insulted, and the problem is that they employ thin-skinned troglodytes that have no idea what the constitution even is. Many of them have never heard of the bill of rights and they only care about imposing their will on others. Not every cop, but many, HATE, HATE HATE citizens that don't lick their boots.

REPLY  

**Patrick Ray** 4 months ago

The grave in the linked photo is that of punk rocker GG Allin who, i can ASSURE you, was not a police officer. I don't see how the living (but brain-dead) cops can even say that the photo is insulting to a dead cop.

REPLY  

**George H** 4 months ago

Cops abuse their authority like this way too often. Then the taxpayers have to pay the expensive court settlements when cops screw up. This system has to be fixed. Make the cops pay at least part of it when they get sued.

REPLY  

**Jerry H** 4 months ago

As Voltaire famously did not say, "I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it"

REPLY  

**the boss cat man** 4 months ago

its very sad that in today's age you can be arrested for a non crime by the felling's police and charged.

REPLY  

REPLY



**calvinthebold99** 4 months ago

I wouldn't post that picture, but this story makes it clear how much certain law enforcement officers HATE the constitution and HATE the law. They hate it as much as they HATE law-abiding citizens and HATE everything this country stands for. Those TBI officers need to be prosecuted for deprivation of rights and kidnapping.

REPLY  

**TheCaptainmojo1973** 4 months ago

People are literally illegally arrested in most cities of any size every day. I've been horrified by many of the videos I've seen on YouTube regarding just such actions by police across the nation. Every day there are hundreds of videos added depicting these types of abuses.

REPLY  

**Mark Williams** 4 months ago

Look the cops and prosecutors know that this individual didn't commit a crime but they are pissed so they arrest and charge the guy and give him excessive bail as the punishment, and try to drag the process out as long as possible as punishment

REPLY  

**Bullwinkle** 4 months ago

Hello from Tennessee! I know our cops, and it's not that they didn't stop and think, or didn't know that the arrest wouldn't stick, but that they knew that he would still go to jail, have to hire a lawyer, and cost him money and probably his job. They did it to me, they've done it to friends of mine, my uncle had his car seized under civil forfeiture and was never charged (but it would have cost more to get the car back than it was worth...).

Cops have just become a bunch of bullies.

REPLY  

**ALRIGHTY THEN** 4 months ago

It's going to take regularly imposing stiff personal fines or criminal protection to end this kind of behavior.

REPLY  

**martin wilk** 4 months ago

Obviously a shit state to live in but maybe it takes total fuckheads to make good whiskey because it's fucking great whiskey that comes from there

REPLY  

**Joey VanOstrand** 4 months ago

Look the up the album artwork for "Vaginal Jesus - Affirmative Arpethied."

REPLY  

Feedback



**Don Arnold** 4 months ago  
Thank You & Ms. Heather!  
Posting on Facebook...

REPLY  

**Joey VanOstrand** 4 months ago  
Like I always say. Folks laugh at dead baby jokes until they gots to put one in the dumpster.

REPLY  

**Joey Madding** 4 months ago  
Where is his grave lets go piss on the real grave...trained murders got what he deserved....freedom of speech....look it up...

REPLY  

**PS4sos21** 4 months ago  
You follow Aston Villa? Oh God man, I'm no sorry 🙏

REPLY  

**john conner** 4 months ago  
Not a crime?  
Right.  
But not yet.  
Pay attention to what you voted for, and watch as they squash free speech, especially speech denouncing the current Socialist regime of the US.  
Think I lie?  
Just wait...

REPLY  

**Gene Cooper** 4 months ago  
Who's headed out to hear The Rites ?

REPLY  

**Missing Link** 4 months ago  
yikes, I do not get why they are; so ignorant of the law. It is just like these cops saying "failure to identify" is a law and you must comply. When you are the passenger in a traffic stop, because they want to know who you are. I have been in that situation and the answer was; no. Just like that solicitation cop. It must be an ego thing, I guess. This is all some basic stuff; not convoluted at all.

REPLY  

**Ryan Mattiacci** 4 months ago  
Well, did it pass the Miller test and is it imminent threat?

REPLY  

**molskimauler** 4 months ago

It's Tennessee. The only Amendment they follow is the 2nd. All other amendments be damned!

REPLY  

**John Smith** 4 months ago

Please, don't call this the result of ignorance. This conduct is purposeful and widespread. It isn't being illiterate, it is about police intimidation. And rural American Red States are the most frequent locations.

I live in deep red Arkansas. My neighbors know, and tactfully accept, that I'm a left leaning Independent. However, the law enforcement here is less understanding, plus cops shuffle around a LOT, which is a whole other problem, because they are always "the new guy".

Each new cop hired by the little Podunk towns around here do these tricks regularly. Too regularly for it to be sheer stupidity. They are more in the flavor of testing the waters. Seeing just how much they can get away with. And who they can push, especially if they dislike certain bumper stickers.

Tickets. One of the scam/power move around here is the old "blocked back window" ticket. Anything at all seemingly, on the back ledge is a stoppable offense. Speakers, a winter coat, kid's toys, anything. Some kind of ticket usually follows.

I painted my back window black. My truck has two fully functional outside mirrors, so I can see fine. I got my ticket within thirty minutes. I went to court and simply asked them to please quote me the statute I was being charged with violating.


I'm not a lawyer, but I'm also not easily intimidated and logical thinking is the only recourse for the solitary man against a system. I pointed out that their interpretation of the law would stand in contrast to the Interstate Commerce Commission's obvious interpretation of the law in how they regulated the safety and practices of the trucking interests in particular.

After a bit of face massaging and throat clearing, as I explained the consequences of his logic on the total mobility of the state in general, I asked him if there was a chance his decision would be noticed by TV and the Internet, since it would have so much impact.

I then asked the JP if he would be willing to reconsider his understanding of the law in light of this. They did, Dismissed. Scammers always want to bolt when the light comes on.

Though as a parting shot, in thanking them while leaving, I told no one in particular, that I would help spread the word that this was no longer a problem in our town. You see, I feel that we wouldn't have near as many fruitcake crazy politicians as we do, if they get pruned back early.

It really is our duty as citizens to enforce our laws. Seriously. We do it through the election process, and we do it through vigilance. And we start with our own local crabgrass and dandelions. We have to thwart misadventures of this sort early, or we get national chaos.

REPLY  

**admthrawnuru** 4 months ago

Feedback



So... Some court actually ordered a bond for this? Some court actually saw this and went along with it? Did the cops lie about something, or does this idiot judge need to catch a nice 18 USC 241 charge to compliment the charges the officers should catch (but let's be honest, won't).

REPLY  

**Bradley B** 4 months ago

My nephew was mentally disabled and he was referred to as special. I guess these special agents probably suffer from the same mental disabilities

REPLY  

**tasteslikeawesome** 4 months ago

Looks like they're pissing on GG Allin's grave. Quite fitting.

REPLY  

**Reggie Benes** 4 months ago

I get the feeling that the type of guy that posts something like this isn't the type of person that will go away quietly. Also the police gave him exactly what he wanted, which was attention and reinforcement in his opinions about the police. Amazingly, this couldn't have been a spur of the moment decision to arrest him, it took a little time to investigate, and not one official involved realized this was a terrible idea even though it's plainly obvious to everyone else.

REPLY  

**Ed Hartgrove** 4 months ago

• • I haven't seen the "meme", but wonder if the person who posted it couldn't be sued for copyright infringement. Perhaps The Rites will make more money from a copyright infringement lawsuit than they ever did from their music.

REPLY  

**HollywoodHornet** 4 months ago

Well, cops can and do arrest people all day long for things that are not illegal, but we all know what you're saying. All jokes aside, how tf can you harass a dead person? Seriously, somebody thought that was a good idea? A dead person is being harassed, quick, arrest that man!

REPLY  

**Joop Terwijn** 4 months ago

@CRL, "dear daughter, that means if you even touch any key on the keyboard, you are going to be grounded for months and your pocket money is confiscated for the same period,... is this explanation enough dear daughter?,... 😏😏😏"

REPLY  

**jaschu09** 4 months ago

The proudest boast of our free speech jurisprudence is that we protect the freedom to express "the thought that we hate". United States v. Schwimmer, 279 U. S. 644, 655 (1929)

REPLY  

American Amy 4 months ago  
Feeling police.

REPLY  

Ed Hartgrove 4 months ago

• • Am I the only one who thinks that the music promoted by the album's cover (probably) sounds like the "other form" of the human body's way of eliminating its waste material (ie. opposite urination)?

REPLY  

cgarrand78 4 months ago

This is exactly why ppl want to piss on cops graves!!

REPLY  



American Amy 4 months ago

Glad you covered this I read the article. I was going to cover it on my channel because I know this is can't be illegal. I just don't get around to it. I am going to share this video though. 😊👍

REPLY  

Michael Walker 4 months ago

No it said in order to watch this video you have to complete this. There was no skip option. And then when it went to your video I had to check a box about the year I graduated high school. I had to pick other or don't want to respond. I'm older than all the age groups they had there. Thank you for your great video's. I watch you everyday. I don't know if that's a good or a bad thing. But keep making them.

REPLY  

Christian Smith 4 months ago

Everyone involved should be brought up on kidnapping, aiding and abetting, and conspiracy. From the cop, all the way to the judge. That is how it would work for a citizen. Hell, if those were citizens and not government, RICO could possibly come into play.

REPLY  

Christian Smith 4 months ago

And, as usual, the only people that will pay for the police breaking the law are the tax payers. If this isn't the best argument against "qualified immunity", I don't know what is.

REPLY  

djsting 4 months ago

It's Dickson...both the town and the county. I work there. sigh

REPLY  

RideGasGas 4 months ago

Was the prosecutor a lawyer? Seems like not knowing the law might be a strike against them with the TN Bar. If ignorance of the law is no excuse for someone who's broken the law, shouldn't it be no excuse for someone enforcing it?

REPLY  


**W.C. Smith** 4 months ago

Should take every penny he wins from the pensions of the ones involved

REPLY  

**Rick Ammon** 4 months ago

This is a perfect example of why police should not be granted immunity for their actions and must be held accountable for their actions!

REPLY  

**Cameron L** 4 months ago

Could they make a case for family of the officer be in fear, intimidated, or emotionally distressed?

REPLY  

**Larry Thompson** 4 months ago

But if the Officer has posted anything (even as a teen) that now someone considers objectionable. They are fired. You are also using hindsight. What did they know (or think they knew) at that time. Is it POSSIBLE they thought the poster actually pissed on the Officers grave? Was it, with other posts considered a threat? I don't know. YOU and I now know the source. Are Police that internet savvy? People accept photoshop every day. What a studio needed week to do. (In 2000). A HS kid can do in minutes today.

He was stupid, they made a mistake, it got corrected. He got the attention he wanted. Everyone except the Police won. But I'm sure he wants cash as well.

REPLY  

**wizard3z castor** 4 months ago

its funny how you lawyers say government cant do something yet they do and we have to pay twice for it?

REPLY  

**Silvio Schurig** 4 months ago

If the guy took somebody else's artwork and based on that may now expect a substantial windfall from a settlement, wouldn't the most interesting legal question be: So what about the creator of the original artwork / owner of copyright? Isn't he entitled to his fair share here?

REPLY  

**Tim Erickson** 4 months ago

illegal arrests should be considered kidnapping

REPLY  

**Nick M** 4 months ago

Bad taste aside, it was apparently the 'feelings police' that were called. When does common sense come in? Yes, that post should not have happened but someone, ANYONE should have stopped and thought about what they were about to do because all I see is a huge pay day coming up for false arrest, false imprisonment, illegal detention, defamation...

REPLY  

**B. H.** 4 months ago

All PD's have Training in Nazi potorcol?

REPLY  

**Nowhere Cam** 4 months ago

Go Villa!!! Nice shirt.

REPLY  

**Jon Shygye** 4 months ago

You did not mention the Judge that set bail. Shouldn't the Judge notice that no law was broken?

REPLY  

**Kurt Schultz** 4 months ago

It sounds like those officers involved (both TBI and DPD) should be criminally charged for violating 18 USC 242. The civil suit should follow later.

REPLY  

**Scott Lemiere** 4 months ago

You sure the cops involved weren't just plain illiterate?

REPLY  

**Brian Leeper** 4 months ago

"You know you have to read me my rights? Or get someone who can read to do it for you" -  
Fletch, from Fletch Lives

REPLY  

**Steve McQ** 4 months ago

10:40 "Formatting drive C means you are no longer my son!" 

REPLY  

**edd rabbit** 4 months ago

Steive why is it that ignorance of the law for the civilians is a big no-no but the cops get away with it all the time

REPLY  


**Kirby road** 4 months ago

Unfortunately things like this is the reason why some people hate the police. It seems like some officers go out of their way to give their profession a bad image. I bet the cops involved get away with illegally detaining and arresting him though which just perpetuates the well deserved bad image.

REPLY  

**William Zander** 4 months ago

Fred Phelps the Supreme Court of United States explained what Freedom of Speech is .They had graffig Signs everywhere of government workers .Stick figures . Taxpayers dollars went to Wasted time to arrest this man.

REPLY  

**Circe Čiernová** 4 months ago

Contempt of cop, death penalty crime in the US

REPLY  

**Dooley Knotted** 4 months ago

Let's talk about resisting an illegal arrest! Plummer v Indiana and Adams v Georgia are great precedents!

REPLY  

**david smudgley** 4 months ago

Nice to see a villa fan from the us, utv

REPLY  

**Capt. Irk** 4 months ago

The Rites are gonna get the Lehto bump on that video lol

REPLY  



**Michael Walker** 4 months ago

Mr. Steve Are you aware that I had to complete a survey in order to watch this video?

REPLY  

**Steve Lehto** 4 months ago

Not specifically. But the surveys I have seen have always had a box you could check to opt out of them.

REPLY 3  

**Rom Vernius** 4 months ago

What about the judge who set bail? Where is the courts responsibility in this farce?

REPLY  

**Mule TeamSixtySix** 4 months ago

You say that people can't be arrested for something that's not a crime but the agents of the State do it every day.

REPLY  



**geoxrge** 4 months ago

Is this arrest on his permanent record? If he is asked 'have you ever been arrested', is the answer no? Will it show up anytime a police officer searches on his driver's license? Passport control in foreign countries?

REPLY  

**Kevin Streehaugen** 4 months ago

back in about 1992 a neighbor down the street went to teach a guy a lesson. Turns out you can't beat someone up for calling people names, driving with a loud stereo, and banging your ex... Long story short, he's still paying on the 300K judgement... you can't bankrupt civil matters like that.. keep your emotions in check

REPLY  

**spacenut58** 4 months ago

Hurting someones feelings is now a crime.

REPLY  

**Silk City Pete** 4 months ago

There's an old saying among the police "you might beat the rap but you won't be the ride". His punishment was the arrest, high bond and time in jail even if the charges are dropped, and even if he sues he'll be run through the court for years and the taxpayers will ultimately pick up the tab. This is how police retaliate against anyone who dares to criticize them. This is a conspiracy against his rights that you'll probably never be able to prove.

They're like this across the country and it's called the Just-Us system

REPLY  

**djrand62** 4 months ago

What happens if it somehow comes out the TBI and the cops KNEW it wasn't illegal, discussed it, and arrested him anyway?

REPLY  

**popky101** 4 months ago


I think they think they're in britan

REPLY  

**Tyler MM** 4 months ago


People want you to keep thinking these are corner cases or isolated incidents, sadly they are not. These kinds of things happen on almost a daily basis and go unchecked until it happens to you and then it's a problem. Your not going to get justice if all the other cases are ignored.



REPLY  

**Deandra Stephenson** 4 months ago

People can do stuff like this about presidents but some random cop is god???

REPLY  

**Louis Jantzen** 4 months ago

**Great song! Thanks for the link, Steve.**

(not sure why yt labels it 'Explicit Lyrics' tho'... didn't understand a thing)

**Punk out!**

REPLY  

**Jim Stephenson** 4 months ago

Bad cops and bad judges. I have never met good ones.

REPLY  

**Benjamin Bailey** 4 months ago

Ok im lost here, to me it falls under hate speech if I was to draw a cartoon of me pissing on the grave of a well known Muslim Prophet while burning the Koran, to me I should be arrested, Both are insulting, both to me are a protected class?

REPLY  

**Booby Hatch** 4 months ago

Under color of law

REPLY  

**Heikki DTW** 4 months ago

They don't know the law....

REPLY  

**Ewan Marshall** 4 months ago

The song cover had guys urinating on grave (which is appropriate given the song name), that image was altered with the name of the police officer. So slightly more. I still think the TBI is making it clear the insult is well earned...

REPLY  

**Sarko the Mad** 4 months ago

do people never think about these things? who names their org TBI?


REPLY  

**James Snider** 4 months ago

Do not care if it is a protected act/speech... no official arrest should have been done.

Pissing on a grave is beyond acceptable - the "artist" should be ID'd and scorned and if the opportunity

presents - tarred and feathered by the community. (beaten by the "bad taste police")

REPLY  

**Sara Stewart** 4 months ago

If you don't protect obscene speech, someday, you will lose your freedom of speech. There are universities & other groups that are squelching speech they don't agree with as "hate speech!" Usually conservatives. What protects your speech?

REPLY  

**matman** 4 months ago

Contempt of cop charge

REPLY  

**Doug Jones** 4 months ago

Is the music from down under.

REPLY  

**Blacque Jacque Shellacque** 4 months ago

The photo on the bands video shows they are pissing on GG Allin's grave. GG Allin was a punk rocker that took a shit on the stage during his concerts and then threw it into the audience. I suspect that pissing on GG's grave is considered a compliment rather than an insult. In fact, they had to remove GG's grave marker because too many of his fans would vandalize it (and I would not be surprised if they left actual shit on the grave). Interesting dude.

REPLY  

**ChrisNVegas** 4 months ago

Looks like they were "washing" the grave stone to me.

REPLY  

**Ron Shreve** 4 months ago

File a kidnapping report with the FBI.

REPLY  

**Sherman Hofacker** 4 months ago

Things need to change so any judgements are paid from police funds; not general taxpayer contributions, that's the only way to make the cops act responsibly. As things stand cops aren't held to account financially when someone wins a settlement because of cops screw up.

REPLY  



**Bonno460xvr** 4 months ago

How much time do you spend looking for the thumbnail to videos.

REPLY  



**Steve Lehto** 4 months ago

Thanks for asking! Sometimes I see one while editing that I think will work. But sometimes I have go back and scroll through very slowly for one that works. I try to make it so that if you saw a column of them, they wouldn't all look alike.

REPLY 3  

**Tim Jones** 4 months ago

Arrested for ignorance of cop.

REPLY  

**Tim Jones** 4 months ago

False imprisonment?

REPLY  

**kadin castle** 4 months ago

I'm in Tennessee... Makes sense lol. I had to go after my local police once for not honoring my rights.

REPLY  

**B.k. Greg** 4 months ago

It's good to see, the idiots we hire, to protect and serve, are not limited to Michigan, but are prevalent, from sea to shining sea. Glad to see how the cops have no respect for the funds, given to them, for law enforcement, but will end up paying a huge lawsuit.

REPLY  

**Stephen Rother** 4 months ago

The crime was color of law.

REPLY  

**the Lying Scotsman** 4 months ago

But it wasn't even the cops grave,

REPLY  

**George B** 4 months ago

Yeah ok, I'm going to express my 1st Amendment rights and say that I sincerely hope that cops contract Covid and succumb to it. 😊👍❤️ us

REPLY  

**Jaybird Wedbetter** 4 months ago

They know the law ... some just don't give a shit about the law. They're the cops and they'll show you!

REPLY  

**OutRayJS** 4 months ago

Jesus said this is a satanic world.  
Proof is given EVERYDAY!  
Give your life to Christ.  
It's a free admission.  
His blood paid your ticket in.  
Luke 23:42,43

REPLY  

**SHI\*TTY TAKES** 4 months ago  
I will continue to speak freely until I'm dead.

REPLY  

**macnvettes** 4 months ago  
It is Dickson, TN. Thanks for doing a vid of my story!

REPLY  

**Tom Collins** 4 months ago  
They think their egos override the law

REPLY  

**Michael Dennis** 4 months ago  
Free speech. Jesus christ these cops are MORONS

REPLY  

**Selwyn Froggitt** 4 months ago  
Love America's freedoms

REPLY  

**Cincinnati James** 4 months ago  
Someone is about to get real-paid because of police and prosecutor incompetence

REPLY  

**Michael Moorrees** 4 months ago  
Any public official that fails a basic constitution quiz, held monthly, should be fired, and their pension revoked !

The greatest evil is mediocrity. Those who settle for minimum function. ALWAYS strive to do your best ! Back in the our hunter-gatherer past, if you failed to do this, a saber tooth tiger would quickly haul off your carcass.

REPLY  

**Sara Stewart** 4 months ago  
Or even, common local laws.

REPLY  


**art hansen** 4 months ago

This was in Dickson TN and the person that was supposed to have been harassed was the officers wife and the local force was upset over the whole affair and therefore undertook the escalation and display of truly staggering ignorance.

REPLY  



**Gus Lesnovich** 4 months ago

Hey Steve!....that was a weird ad at the beginning of your video

REPLY  

**LADETROIT** 4 months ago

Maybe the dead cop did him dirty ie: framed him, so he created the meme. Distasteful revenge.

REPLY  

**Tired Old Man** 4 months ago

Ben in coffee cup next to U.S. Coast Guard.

REPLY  

**Sara Stewart** 4 months ago

6th 

REPLY  

**dean goings** 4 months ago

Yes insults are protected under the constitution, but why does that matter when most judges are now corrupt and do not give a damn about the constitution?

I mean, it's now to the point where supreme court judges are getting that way.

REPLY  

**Jason** 4 months ago

I don't understand why people in a position of power (i.e. law enforcement) are not held more responsible for their actions. I'm sure the reason is more accountability, less applicants, and we can't have that.

REPLY  

**John Billings** 4 months ago

The couldn't even charge them if they did pee on his grave, except maybe disorderly conduct without a victim.

REPLY  

**Dixie Champagne** 4 months ago

It's Dickson, a burb of Nashville. That's insane, even for them

REPLY  

**Dan H** 4 months ago

In a more civilized age the matter would have been settled with a duel. Insult should never go unchallenged.

REPLY  

**Just Me** 4 months ago

So..... are we now being ruled by the king of Thailand? Insult someone and go to jail?

REPLY  

**Not my real name** 4 months ago

Even if charges get dropped or whatever, the police still got what they wanted. They threw a guy in jail for however long for insulting them. They still punished him. And nothing seriously bad will happen to them. Someone else will have to pay for the lawsuit, and even if they get fired, I bet they will be seen as heroes among the police community and land squarely on their feet.

REPLY  

**Raymond Caylor** 4 months ago

You know Steve's favorite day's of elementary school is when he got to read the announcements

REPLY  


**kirky org** 4 months ago

this is the new policing in the 2000's they just arrest everyone and all of them who cares if we are wrong we can say we are sorry or as they tend to do lie and make stuff up or escalate the situation until they can arrest someone it's how they roll

REPLY  

**Woody Stemms** 4 months ago

This is the actual photo that was posted: <https://blog.simplejustice.us/2021/01/25/seaton-dickson-county-goes-full-europe-on-speech/> The blank, Black, space in the record-sleeve image was replaced with a photo clearly showing the deceased policeman. In very bad taste, and reprehensible, but certainly not criminal.

REPLY  

**Tom Bogaert** 4 months ago

Distasteful? Yes....

Illegal? No....

REPLY  

**Louis Herzog** 4 months ago

I hope he sues the shit out of Tennessee. It's not ignorance. It is bullying!!

REPLY  

**James Drake** 4 months ago

I believe the law enforcement folks know exactly what they are doing and just don't care, practically a P.R. stunt. In the end they don't care because this costs them nothing, the insurance company will pay. If they had some financial skin in the game this would not have happened.

REPLY  

**R. Vaughn** 4 months ago

Speech police, thought police. why not good taste police?

REPLY  

**Otneimica** 4 months ago

As silly and pathetic as this story is, I don't agree with the "stick and stones" thing you brought up around the end. I never really understood why some people don't believe words can hurt. I understand being able to brush off silly things like some person on the Internet insulting you, and I'd definitely be able to ignore someone who posted an anti-police meme.

But to believe words can't hurt whatsoever is a very naïve and very dangerous. I mean, people have physically assaulted and even murdered other people because of the words that've been said to them. People have committed suicide because of certain things that have been said to them. Just because they bounce off you doesn't mean they bounce off everyone. Just saying.

REPLY  

**Netpackrat** 4 months ago

It's unfortunate that cops such as these don't get the John Bad Elk treatment.

REPLY  

**MattG** 4 months ago

Police will continue to arrest people for non-crimes because there are no consequences for the police personally. Then they are backed by higher ups because they are on the same team and once again have no consequences for ruining the lives of citizens. This is one reason why there is such a huge disconnect between the public and the police right now and it will continue to grow.

REPLY  


**Grizz nln** 4 months ago

It is past time to remove bad, corrupt, tyrannical, racist cops from law enforcement.

REPLY  

**storyguy** 4 months ago

bad taste and an Aston villa FC shirt, perfect!

REPLY  



**Jebediah Kerman** 4 months ago

There is a potential case for harassment. Who is being frightened, intimidated, or emotionally distressed you ask? Some of the local law enforcement people. I'm not saying this isn't bullshit, I'm saying they have a potential case.

REPLY  

**John Todd** 4 months ago

Oregon 2015 non-police officer in Klamath County applied for and executed search warrants, seized personal property, failed to report them, disposed of property and then lied under oath after Order was obtained for return of property (according to DA Costello to State Bar). State refuses to hold McMahon accountable or return property, Oregon Supreme Ct denies Writ of Mandamus. For more info USDC Portland [3:19-CV-2029](#) before Chief District Judge Hernandez (135 docs filed to date)

REPLY  

**Rich Bro** 4 months ago

TBI.....Total Bunch of Idiots!

REPLY  

**Vern Burke** 4 months ago

I'm assuming the cop's name wasn't GG Allin (punk rock icon) either LOL. Idiots with badges.

REPLY  

**Bird johnson** 4 months ago

TN man haves right because free speech. 🤝👍 i hear some song pigs cops song too. Are they going arrest songs rapper. Pigs cops corrupt and lies. Pigs cops red flags. Pigs cops like make owner's law.

REPLY  

**Skippy Lippy** 4 months ago

What is the "Remedy" for the victim who was falsely arrested?

REPLY  

**Lawrence Leavell** 4 months ago

Perhaps we need a national "Cop Butt Hurt" crime with which the police can use liberally to charge innocent citizens and thereby protect their fragile feelings.

REPLY  

**art morgan** 4 months ago

Shows how stupid the cops and TBI are.

REPLY  

**peregrine1970** 4 months ago

What it means, Dear, is that you should have piped the output in to null. Next time try, "Forat c: /autotest | null". (Intentional spelling error. Do not type command unless you really want a blank c



drive. Not so applicable in these GUI days, but back in DOS days that was a pretty solid way to get a lot of information lost.)

REPLY  

**colourfastt** 4 months ago

What, may I ask, is a "C" drive?

REPLY  

**James King** 4 months ago

Personally, I like dead cops. Don't take that the wrong way.

REPLY  

**Creole Daddy** 4 months ago

TBI = KGB! Waddaya call 32 TBI agents in a bar? A full set of teeth! Come get me tyrants!

REPLY  

**2TROLL1** 4 months ago

\$76,000 Bond', you can piss on somebody that's alive' and get released without bond; that Bail sounds punitive.

REPLY  

**NotMuchHere27709** 4 months ago

The police can't arrest people for the fun of it ... maybe they can't but probably they do ... (hate crime, thought police, minority report ... youtube!)

REPLY  

**Ed Herwick** 4 months ago

So, false arrest, or more likely, wrongful arrest with false imprisonment will be handled as a civil offence. As so many have said, until this changes, it constitutes the red flags of a police state. I know.....contact the District Attorney.

REPLY  

**NotMuchHere27709** 4 months ago

?Why would you expect the police to know the law ... they are not lawyers.??

REPLY  


**je lowry** 4 months ago

Cops try to make a point, try to punish someone for not liking them, end up making him wealthy and embarrasses themselves. Wow how come the police are so stupid not to see this?

REPLY  

**Crazy oilfield mechanic** 4 months ago

Yanna all this talk is good and everything but the fact is the guy is LOCKED UP IN JAIL !!! He can't read any of this and he most likely has a very difficult time even communicating with anyone outside of the jail. They work hard to make it as difficult as possible for anyone in jail to communicate by mail or phone with anyone. So while this discussion about how he shouldn't have been arrested is going on he most likely doesn't know it and is living in very uncomfortable conditions and having to eat absolute GARBAGE for food. So blabbing about his situation is a good thing but ultimately it is about as useful as complaining about the election. For the time being NOTHING is getting done about it.

REPLY  

Peter Panacea 4 months ago  
Feelings and Ego Enforcement.

REPLY  

2TROLL1 4 months ago

So the officer posted a picture and said it was a crime to post this picture; did the officer arrest him self after posting the picture.

REPLY  

kwkstar 4 months ago

I would like to have a high quality picture of that album I could think of a couple of politicians names I could put on the gravestone!

REPLY  

David stowe 4 months ago  
Letos'

REPLY  

Big Doug's Commentary 4 months ago

This is exactly why I don't sign on to Blue Lives Matter. Until good cops get rid of bad cops, I know there more than cops involved, I won't endorse the good cops that protect bad cops. Too many cops believe the ARE the law.

REPLY  

Steve Schlackman 4 months ago

The law is no problem since the police are just making up the law as they needed it for their own purposes. Check out the NYC Police being sued for false and violent arrests for BLM demonstrations. Also check out the scum police departments in Chicago, Detroit, Los Angeles and the exceptionally corrupt Los Angeles Sheriff's Department.

REPLY  

xenaguy01 4 months ago

3:50 Steve, you are wrong. COPS can and do arrest people "for the fun of it" every day in this country. The phrase COPS use is, "You can beat the rap, but you can't beat the ride." It means that, guilty or innocent, those hours you spend in jail are going to suck, and it's at the cop's

Facebook

discretion whether or not you're going to have to endure them.

Since the SCOTUS ruled COPS can make mistakes ok f law during arrests, there are no consequences for the COPS.

REPLY  

Clay I 4 months ago

this "insult" applies to this ..... It is a Class H felony, without authorization of law or the consent of the surviving spouse or next of kin of the deceased, to knowingly and willfully disturb, destroy, remove, vandalize, or desecrate any human remains that have been interred in a cemetery

REPLY  

Bluegoka 4 months ago

The USA used to be the land of the free, now it's just like any other country.  
In most (I bet all) European countries there's no protection for free speech.

REPLY  

darryl haynes 4 months ago

It's very sad that the tbi has the time to investigate this. No matter how offense it was the violation of nm the law that tbi committed is far worse than the crime they committed. They need to be charged for the crime of stupidity.

See how they like a made up charge. You would think the Tbi would know at least the law they are nr there .to enforce. Make them pay out of pocket. The tbi needs to have some Dickinson cider to n calm nm them down.

REPLY  

robert woodliff 4 months ago

Have to band re releases the music?

REPLY  

Greg Janes 4 months ago

They're giving a loser some money

REPLY  

Panse Pot 4 months ago

Reminds me of a news from Poland. I think a woman has been arrested and faces prison time for blasphemy. Her crime: placing two rainbow stickers on a "Madonna with baby". SMH.

REPLY  

apex 4 months ago

They obviously did this to get this guy's face out in public and make sure he would lose his job and can't get any job in the future. They've got nothing to lose besides tax payer money. Nothing more than a name and shame campaign by the cops.

REPLY  

turbochild 4 months ago

They probably got the idea of charging them for harassment because of the wife of the dead cop or his kids being emotionally distressed.

REPLY  

Wm. G. Thilgen Jr. 4 months ago

Are we sure he was "ARRESTED" or simply "DETAINED". There's a significant difference but reporting it as an "ARREST" would sell better.

REPLY  

machintelligence 4 months ago

He is obviously guilty of disrespecting the police.

It sounds like abuse of process to me.

Suck it up buttercups.

REPLY  

Boat Axe 4 months ago

The guy's an asshole, that being said, I may not agree with what someone says but I will defend to the death their right to say it.

REPLY  

kyle F 4 months ago

I was once threatened with arrest for having a rock in the back of my pickup truck. The offending rock was about 20lbs, my wife and I were walking at a walking track at a town we reside in. Someone called the police and said I was stealing rocks from the parking lot. Cop arrives and looks into the back of my truck and sees a rock, threatens to arrest me unless I put the rock back. I said where?

He became really angry, threaten to arrest me. I told him the rock was there to hold down the tarps they were on and that it came from my yard. He didn't accept my answer so I took the rock and threw it against a tree and said asked him if that was ok. He mumbled if you didn't take it why did you put it back and left....

REPLY  

Dale Fry 4 months ago

Lucky he didn't cite you for having an unsecured load after you took the rock out!

REPLY  

Neil Bracken 4 months ago


1st amendment dead as dillinger

REPLY  

D Bree 4 months ago

Steve you should check the history of the Dickson Co. and city cops.... it will open your eyes to more civil forfeiture stuff this is maybe the worst Co. in TN.

Feedback 

REPLY

**mikaelhg** 4 months ago

In Soviet times, Soviet citizens had a culture of these jokes called "anecdotes" about the system. Telling those jokes was horribly dangerous, but they still did.

A new arrival to Gulag is asked: "What were you given 10 years for?" – "For nothing!" – "Don't lie to us here, now! Everybody knows 'for nothing' is 3 years."

REPLY

**Dale Fry** 4 months ago

Should NOT have been arrested. But, if a member of the dead officer's family would have punched the poster in the nose, I would give them a pass.

Same as burning an American flag. You should not go to jail for that, but if you get decked by a citizen for burning it, well, many would applaud that move.

REPLY

**Barry Ervin** 4 months ago

This is the kind of "law enforcement" that takes place in totalitarian police states like China, Cuba, Myanmar, Saudi Arabia, and many others. Coming soon here.

REPLY

**Shekhar Moona** 4 months ago

Does this remind you of Communist Soviet Union?

REPLY

**Mark Allen** 4 months ago

The police had their marching orders. Most likely a socialist mayor or council member who's using the police state as a weapon against those with a different opinion. This problem is MUCH deeper than the police. It's only going to get far worse. By the time people are willing to admit it to themselves, it will be to late.

REPLY

**Account** 4 months ago

If SCOTUS could actually read, I'd be confident this would be a great civil suit for this guy.

REPLY

**Bruce Walton** 4 months ago


It seems to me that it is nonjudicial punishment. The probably knew that it would not stick, but the guy has to spend some time in jail, possibly lose time at work, and perhaps come up with some cash for bail and a lawyer. He may get money in a lawsuit, but it isn't the cops money. They have qualified immunity.

REPLY

Roadking911 4 months ago

Urinating in public or causing an unhealthy condition could be considered a violation

Now the TBI investigation into some silly crap is not surprising. Not much better than the FBI. They never expected Steve the man to put it on YouTube.

REPLY  



Nick 4 months ago

Easy to explain why the other cop said nothing - police that speak out against fellow officers are not police much longer.

REPLY  

David C. 4 months ago

Did the man taking the photo break any laws even if this was a real photo he was not urinating on the grave.

REPLY  

Linux Ninja 4 months ago

Soliciting in our neighborhood without a city-issued permit is in fact illegal and will result in arrest and/or being trespassed from the City. Our residents do have this enforced on a regular basis.

REPLY  

Matthew Beasley 4 months ago

Wrong video.

When you do get your comment on the correct video - it's still wrong ;-). Soliciting for commercial activity can be regulated. Gathering petitions is federally protected political activity and any law requiring a permit is constitutionally invalid.

REPLY  

Linux Ninja 4 months ago

@Matthew Beasley I'm glad we agree. Not sure why the YT app posted my comment to a different video. I wrote it while the correct video was playing.

REPLY  

JBT Cajun 4 months ago

There is little downside for the cops as they will claim qualified immunity. You can beat the crime but you cant beat the ride. Tax payers will pay not them.

REPLY  

Terrie Cotham 4 months ago

You should see the News 5 Policing for Profit , Its quite an amazing story and was not a quick peace that just toss to gather.

It was a well done peace over 1 too years if remember right , News 5 look deep into the DTF units all across the state and Dickson TN was part of the story. from the one DTF unit buying a Bulldozer and drop off at privet property if remember right to the Two officers getting into a spat when one officer

Feedback

stop a car in some other officers part of I 40 over him possible finding cash.

The one officer made it clear to the other officer he had better not ever stop another car in his part of I 40.

We all so had a DA charge a man after an officer kind of lost it after firing shots when a man was holding a cell phone or video unit , it was quite a story and the officers had video as well.

If a person can not handle someone calling him names or using four letter words and loose it very ease, One has to ask if this is the person we need in and law officers job and for a little more fun in possible bad law officers look into White Country TN and Sheriff Oddie Shoupe and how question of how things were done in the name of the law

I once heard of police taking people to jail or prison for speaking ille of the Gov. and most if not all of our leaders said how bad the Gov was in those places like China , N Korea, USSR and lest not for get Cuba and yet we have police tacking someone to jail for free speech one has to ask who gave the OK or was it just poor train officers who can not handle any crissum and if so should they work as law officers

Was it just a dumb mistake as we all make dumb mistakes at times and police can and do make mistakes just like ever one at times and no hard working officer should be hung out to dry for a honest mistake and should any one work in positions of power like law officers if they mis used that power,

Quite a story and one would the TBI would have done there home work before going that fair But possible not

REPLY  

xander james 4 months ago

If you haven't noticed, that's the problem. We must encourage the government to get rid of that troublesome 1st Amendment.

REPLY  

Ben 4 months ago

i thought photographs were from analog cameras and images are digitally made/created

REPLY  

Steve Lehto 4 months ago

Then what is digital photography?

REPLY  

Ben 4 months ago

@Steve Lehto a carry over from the old photography i guess, people dont like using new words? who knows

REPLY  

Ben Harmon 4 months ago

Ben Harmon 4 months ago

The photo shop was he added a picture of the cop's face to the headstone on the right side.

REPLY  

C Y 4 months ago

The arresting officer(s), the judge, and all involved, should not only lose their job(s) and all associated benefits but should face jail time as well. This was a blatant abuse of power. They were not acting within the scope of their duties as law enforcement officers, but merely using their position of power to carry out a personal vendetta. This was nothing more than kidnapping and false imprisonment.

REPLY  

Tommygunnz Frank 4 months ago

Be careful what you say to police and sometimes most people. I know a man that was charged with attempted serial assault for saying to an officer "Your daughter can S.M.D." Obviously the charges were dropped after he spent a month on the sex offender wing in jail. A guy a knows son did something similar in Burlington City, NJ. He was Charged with luring, attempted sexual assault. He was passing out flyers in front of a store and asking people to by home a blunt. A lady he asked called him a bum and they started arguing and he told her to S.M.D. now because the school just let out there were kids around he was charged with child endangerment. All felonies that would have landed him in prison and the sex offender registry. I don't know how that case ended, its fairly recent and I don't talk to his dad any more.

REPLY  

Wild Bill57 4 months ago

I find it distasteful, too. But, have to wonder why that person feels that way. Maybe, these cops reflect the mightier than the law attitude that their deceased brethren displayed. Don't know the answer, and in general, I am a fan of the police, especially the sheriff in my area. Could be irreverence, past clashes with the law or bad upbringing. Don't know, just wondering.

REPLY  

Bohemian Gnostic 4 months ago

This is our "new normal".

Get used to it... things are only going to get worse.

People keep voting for these politicians, that's called "positive reinforcement".

The politicians think we like it. The majority tells them to "do it harder", so you can bet your last roll of pennies they are more than happy to ram it to us harder.

REPLY  

Colin 4 months ago

Qualified immunity needs to end. Bad cops need to be sued and have judgements garnished from pay.

REPLY  

kenmelrac 4 months ago

Hopefully there are plenty of lawyers willing to take on his false arrest lawsuit

Feedback





REPLY  

**bc65925** 4 months ago

I have to disagree with you on the record sleeve only referencing side A of the release. The B side "Caught in Between" is clearly looking at the person in the graves point of view.

REPLY  

**Steve Lehto** 4 months ago

Good point!

REPLY 1  

**LR Disco** 4 months ago

For years police have arrested people on fictitious charges, lower courts will find you guilty. You then need a lot of money and courage to fight your way up the appeals process. The favourite one in the UK was breach of the peace.

REPLY  

**Dave McCauley** 4 months ago

"The Supreme Court has said that the police do not have to understand the laws they are sworn to protect: *Hein v. North Carolina*"

"There's no way to rule innocent men. The only power any government has is the power to crack down on criminals. Well, when there aren't enough criminals, one makes them. One declares so many things to be a crime that it becomes impossible for men to live without breaking laws. Who wants a nation of law-abiding citizens? What's there in that for anyone? But just pass the kind of laws that can neither be observed nor objectively interpreted, and you create a nation of law-breakers, and then you cash in on the guilt." - Ayn Rand, *Atlas Shrugged*

Police don't have too much of "ACCOUNTABILITY"...(HINT: 'Qualified Immunity').... when it comes to Liberty for The People...

I get it..Police don't have a easy Job...but there are FAR more dangerous jobs that WE THE PESKY CITIZENS do everyday...in which WE Might not come home to our family(ies)...after Our shift(s).

Police think that they are a "God".... Bet you that God don't think he is a 'Cop'.....!!!!

REPLY  

**july8xx** 4 months ago

Just shows how incompetent the Tennessee Attorney General is. This kind of action should be pointed out by his opponent during the next election cycle.

REPLY  

**Ch Carroll** 4 months ago

Dixon? Dickinson? No, it's Dickinhand.

REPLY  



**nacoran** 4 months ago

I loved the stinger at the end. My brain was already moving on to other things but it sat there in my auditory memory just long enough and then the chuckle came.

REPLY  

**Guisseppe Imbriago** 4 months ago

What moron judge approved \$76,000 bail?

REPLY  

**Your Wife's Boyfriend** 4 months ago

The entire comments section:

"WAAAAAAH COPS BAD ME NO LIKE AUTHORITY MOM MADE ME CLEAN MY ROOM WAAAAH"

REPLY  



**Ed Costine** 4 months ago

Couldn't it be argued that the emotional distress required for harassment has occurred to the family of the officer? Still, although what he did was probably not illegal, the guy is a dirt bag anyway.

REPLY  

**Steve Lehto** 4 months ago

How much you want to bet that the family never saw the meme until after this all hit the news?

REPLY 1  

**Ed Costine** 4 months ago

@Steve Lehto True! So true!

REPLY  



**Anthony Lago** 4 months ago

Well must remember that Tennessee law enforcement does not have the brightest minds in the world they all come from one of the worst educational systems in the country hence they are plagued with low IQ individuals so remember the movie "Deliverance" and the movie "Wrong Turn" well there you have it so if you find yourself around "Duelling banjos" GET OUT and run like Forrest Gump!!!

REPLY  

**Mystic Hawk** 4 months ago

So you have a DA, Two cops, a supervisor and a judge that are now guilty of harassment. Yeah America where having a gun is more important than free speech in the minds of the law.

REPLY  

**Matthew K** 4 months ago

Not really. If you have a gun they can find a way to shoot you.

There's a saying that "the 2nd Amendment makes the other amendments possible", but that's no



longer true because the 2nd has been infringed upon so many times.  
In Britain and Australia people are arrested just for saying bad things about Muslims, and maybe other things too. This is where we are heading. The Thought Police are now being trained. I believe they call it grade school.

REPLY  

**chokkan7** 4 months ago

I've often wondered how it might even be possible to 'desecrate' a grave. The deceased has passed on to another realm, and the ability of those remaining in this world to affect him in any way is nil. We can only affect those who are still here, as this clearly illustrates. Agreed, it was in extremely poor taste...when that becomes illegal, the entire US will then be under house arrest.

BTW, I'm not in any way anti-police, nor am I a liberal...just someone who believes in the Constitution as our map through life in these US.

REPLY  

**Thomas S** 4 months ago

Cops are out of control in this country and many times judges are just as bad. The cops should be fired (not just allowed to retire or resign) and the judge impeached.

REPLY  

**Michael Cox** 4 months ago

I beg to differ, the police can and do arrest people for the fun of it. It's not right but it's not illegal either they will just make something up; resisting arrest.

REPLY  

**cthulu8mytoast202** 4 months ago

Not a great song, but pretty typical for punk music. My wasted teen years have come back to haunt me.

REPLY  

**Walt Trotter** 4 months ago

I'll keep watching for those low flying owls!

REPLY  



**Steven Grim** 4 months ago

Stories like these make me wish we still had Will Grigg (William N Grigg). Always loved listening to his episodes. I miss him.

REPLY  

**Austin Tillman** 4 months ago

I'm from Tennessee and I find this hilarious. ACAB.

REPLY  

YT 4 months ago

Six months of training to be a cop two years to be a hairdresser. Just because someone has a badge and a gun, a political position, a shingle on their wall touting how great they are doesn't mean they're particularly intelligent. I've known a few very smart about very few things and really dumb about most. Think for yourself. An attorney that handles cases like that should be contacting the victim. There is some serious money to be made here for very little work. There's super serious money here for a lot of work. The unintended consequences of not stopping this cop early.

REPLY  



les butler 4 months ago

Man talks about taste while wearing AVFC shirt.

REPLY  

Steve Lehto 4 months ago

It was a gift from a viewer. Feel free to send a competing shirt. XXL

REPLY 2  

les butler 4 months ago

@Steve Lehto A proud and noble club since 1874.

REPLY  

Carl Stannard 4 months ago

The government, courts and police piss on citizen's graves daily - just as citizens do... That's why we have lawyers, right? ;)

"Mommy! Mommy! Daddy's crying and pulling his hair out!"...

REPLY  

John Smith 4 months ago

Pure fascism. Sadly I believe that the United States of America is now dead. We no longer value the constitution. Not the police, not the courts, and certainly not those in political office and worst of all is that many voters no longer value it.

I do not believe that we will ever be revived to what we were. Like any corpse all that is left is decay and great is that decay.

However I do believe that we can slow the rate of decay, but not prevent it so do not give up the fight. I strongly suggest that every person reading this either get right with God or if already right with Him seek diligently to draw as near as possible to Him as very bad times are ahead.

REPLY  

mjengel84 4 months ago

Bad law if it's a crime to offend someone by "causing distress".

If there is \$78,000 bail set there is a lot of blame to go around: cops, TBI, prosecutors office... JUDGE!

REPLY  



REPLY

**skow76** 4 months ago

Steve, I'm not sure that you can't say that no laws were broken here. You can say no crime committed, sure, but not no laws broken. After all, there is still civil copyright law. From what you said, we don't know if the defendant purchased the rights to use the picture nor do we have a fair use analysis. So at this point, it is reasonable to say that he could have broken copyright law.

REPLY



**Steve Lehto** 4 months ago

You're stretching. Among other things, the local cops don't enforce copyright laws.

REPLY



**skow76** 4 months ago

@Steve Lehto I was really hoping for a reprise of your story about when that guy used a photo you took and published on his website without permission in this story.

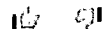
REPLY



**Crowwalks Always** 4 months ago

The authorities got it wrong. IF he (or confederates) actually urinated on ANY grave to create a meme, he/they should be charged with desecration of a grave. That IS illegal.

REPLY

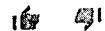


**Vera Lenora** 4 months ago

There's a John Belushi comedy bit, shows him dancing on his enemy's grave.  
So? Illegal for bad taste?

P.S. Sales of that music is going to skyrocket. Always, the only real benefit of music or literature censorship is to increase sales.

REPLY



**John D** 4 months ago

You can get arrested for insulting the living ones... R.E.S.P.E.C.T. The blue.... they have guns and keys to the jail...

1992 - Cop killer performed by Ice-T

2000 to present - Ice-T plays a cop on tv....

REPLY



**Dashy** 4 months ago

This incident will totally make this guy respect police. Lol, and there is no explanation. Yeah it's very distasteful and gross in my opinion but..... free speech is free speech he has every right to be absurd and offensive

REPLY



**Open Source Ordnance** 4 months ago



As my attorney friends so succinctly put it, this speech falls under the category of "Lawful but awful." That said, it is troubling that ignorance of the law is no excuse, unless you happen to be part of the organization charged with its enforcement. This strikes me as akin to playing chess with a 4 year old. They don't know the rules, play the game according to their own whims, and then declare victory.

REPLY  

Liam 4 months ago

Here comes the hate train

REPLY  


Matt 4 months ago

I love the old school WRIF bumper sticker.

REPLY  



Noah Karam 4 months ago

Hey Steve, just a thought, but maybe you could give a quick yes or no- obviously if this guy sent in the photo, he's pretty much off the hook. However, if the police wanted to look into something, might the guys who staged the photo be on the hook for something like public indecency or public urination? After all, we don't generally value guys just whipping it out and peeing wherever... stature of limitations, identification of the site, etc. Assumed to be valid.

REPLY  

Steve Lehto 4 months ago

The photo is several years old and very well may be photoshopped (or shot in a studio or shot on private property etc.) And the photo itself is not obscene. Bad taste? yes.

REPLY 2  

Charles Black 4 months ago

It's too bad stupidity isn't illegal, but don't worry, karma will catch up to the idiots posting the picture. Unless karma shows mercy to those that are stupid, well I guess stupidity is a great punishment.

REPLY  

Daniel Schein 4 months ago

Benjamin is in the Canada mug.

REPLY  

Sara Stewart 4 months ago

5th 

REPLY  

Chris Gibson 4 months ago

Not sure why he would take a settlement? Force a jury verdict with punitive damages. Not to mention all the things you can make public through discovery. I don't understand why the majority of these kind

of cases accept settlements? There's no accountability when you let them settle.

REPLY  



Trek001 4 months ago

Steve, had to vote this down simply for you having the audacity to wear a Villa shirt

REPLY  



Steve Lehto 4 months ago

I respect that. (The shirt was a gift from a viewer. You are free to send in a counter balancing shirt. XXL)

REPLY 3  

Trek001 4 months ago

@Steve Lehto I certainly will do... [#UpTheTigers](#)

REPLY 1  

bill james 4 months ago

Steve you are wrong Police can arrest anyone they want for no reason, and with pretty much no consequences . At least that seems to be how they think.

REPLY  

Foken Dikhed 4 months ago

Dickson, Tennessee

REPLY  

SittingInDetroit 4 months ago

Courts have "instructed" police that keeping their employees as ignorant as possible will actually protect the officers qualified immunity so they cannot be sued.

REPLY  

Bob Watson 4 months ago

Perhaps so. (Cite?). But doesn't that just kick the problem to the supervisory level... the people who hired and/or trained them?

REPLY  

SittingInDetroit 4 months ago

@Bob Watson For qualified immunity and criminal charges, courts have ruled that ignorance of the law is a valid defense for police and government workers. The supervisory level legally cannot be held accountable for the subordinates and in practice are not. Next level is the department itself, which enjoys qualified immunity unless criminality or negligence can be shown. If this happens, the taxpayers foot the bill. This is why you hear all the time that "the city council" has agreed to settle this matter.

REPLY  

REPLY

**Bob Watson** 4 months ago



Thank you. So... one might think that the taxpayers ( local and state) have an interest in settling, showing the pocketbook need for training. Or maybe not.

I've an old friend who blames 'most anything on an unnamed "them" because he doesn't sort through the issues. There's a lot of that type of magical thinking going around today, IMO, on both Left and Right.

REPLY  

**SittingInDetroit** 4 months ago

@Bob Watson The average citizen doesn't pay attention. My sister said to me the other day, I wish I didn't start watching the political stuff during the lockdown. I am so frustrated at all the political crap that goes on. She is 65 and never voted. Only now is she becoming aware.

REPLY 1  

**Carly Ellison** 4 months ago

Fry 'em up like bacon?

REPLY  

**Dennis Berman** 4 months ago

Who could even think up such a thing...

REPLY  

**jim bob** 4 months ago

oh golly gee, because pissing on somenes grave is a secret and people certainly haven't been doing this for thousands of years.

REPLY  







Nick Beres NC5

April 28

...

**BREAKING: THE TBI DIRECTOR AND DICKSON COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY ARE AMONG THOSE BEING SUED FOR \$1 MILLION.**

They are accused of violating a suspect's constitutional rights.

Many of you will recall this case from January.

The lawsuit stems from the arrest of a man who posted a controversial photograph that depicted a man urinating on the grave of fallen Dickson County Sgt. Daniel Baker.

Authorities arrested Joshua Andrew Garton.

He was charged with harassment.

Garton — who is disabled and suffers from a mental illness — spent two weeks in jail before a judge dismissed the charge for lack of probable cause.

It turned out the photograph was a fake and was posted to Garton's private page, but then shared by others.

Garton's lawyers say they obtained an internal correspondence between the defendants admitting, "We violated Garton's First Amendment rights" to post online and that he "has a right to post."

And yet they arrested him.

The lawsuit contends authorities did so because Sgt. Bakers' surviving family members have rights, too.

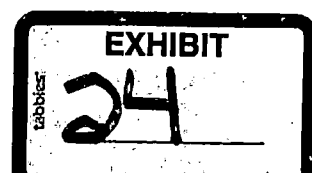
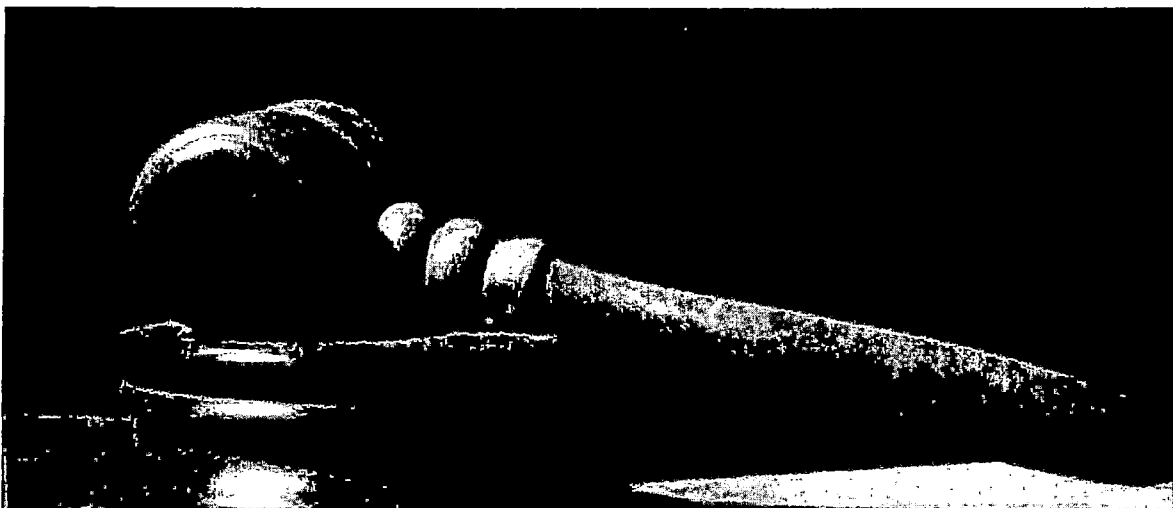
Lawyers say D-A Ray Crouch wanted to punish Garton for disrespecting law enforcement within his jurisdiction.

The lawsuit argues the arrest was part of malicious prosecution and violated Garton's constitutional right to freedom of expression.

He is suing the Dickson County District Attorney and TBI director and is asking for a jury trial.

Others named in the lawsuit, include: TBI Deputy Director Bradley Nealon, TBI Special Agent in Charge Russell Winkler, TBI Assistant Director of Criminal Investigation Division Joshua Melton, TBI Assistant Special Agent in Charge Joseph Craig, TBI Special Agent Andrew Vallee, Dickson Police Captain Donald Arnold and the City of Dickson.

I've reached out for comment.



452

288 Comments 91 Shares

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Comment

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All Comments ▼



Write a comment...



Press Enter to post.



**Beverley Kelly**

I don't understand people feeling he is just in suing the government and getting lots of money..... how does that help? I agree with the person who suggested the money come from the people's pockets that think he should be awarded the money. We have tu... See More

Like Reply Sw

8



**Regina Larklin Johnson**

Miss Kelly I have never sued anyone in my life either but if you're if you're if you have never had a mental disability then you don't understand what people go through you say I practice law in Florida and I came back to Tennessee and people made fun ... See More

Like Reply Sw



**Darlene Horn**

Beverley Kelly he is suing because they violated his amendments and rights that were intended to protect us.

Like Reply Sw

2



**Christine Baker Milton**

I'm not sue happy either but most city and state governments won't feel the need to implement and changes unless you hit them in their coffers. Then their citizens can be pissed at them for having to use that \$ for to their ineptness. The entire case ... See More

Like Reply Sw



**Chris Huddleston**

Beverley Kelly won't come from there pockets they got insurance

Like Reply Sw



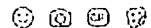
**Cathey Edwards**

Beverley Kelly it shouldnt have to be paid by the people !

Like Reply Sw



Write a reply...



Press Enter to post



**Debbie Kingery Bomar**

As long as free speech is respected by everyone, I support it. With the cancel culture, that doesn't happen. I do not like what this kid did. It was immoral. While most of us find his ideas repugnant, he has a right to voice them. However, taking action... See More

Like Reply · 5w



1



**Darlene Horn**

**Debbie Kingery Bomar** what actions did he take to be dealt with by the law. Posting that picture was wrong but it wasn't against the law.

Like Reply · 5w



1



**Debbie Kingery Bomar**

By taking action, I meant actually doing what was in the picture. This picture was "fake," and he did not actually undertake the action shown. He just used free speech to express it. His actions were legal.

Like Reply · 5w



1



**Jackie Smith-Ramirez**

You two obviously didn't read the entire article or didn't understand. He didn't piss on the grave or was a fake picture posted by the TBI on this guy's personal social media page. That is the issue.

Like Reply · 5w



Write a reply...



Press Enter to post.



**Ken Morris**

Not only was there a possible violation of his 1st Amendment, right to freedom of speech, there is a possible 4th Amendment violation, illegal search and seizure. If you are arrested you are being seized by the state.

Like Reply · 5w



9



**Linda Swinford Kimbro**

**Ken Morris** You say this and we get our rights violated on a daily basis right here on this platform that you're on right now

Like Reply · 5w



6



**Ken Morris**

**Linda Swinford Kimbro** Privately owned companies can do what they want. Don't like the service move along. Government is different.

Like Reply · 5w



11



Write a reply...



Press Enter to post.



Write a reply...



Press Enter to post.



**Darlene Horn**

What I learned from this is most people don't read the whole story before commenting. He DID NOT piss on the grave it was a fake picture. They DID violate his constitutional rights by arresting him and holding him for 2 weeks when he didn't commit an... [See More](#)

Like Reply · 5w Edited



**Gary Pilsbury Threatt**

Why does everyone on here feel he should get our tax money. They should take it out of the checking accounts that did him wrong. I didn't do anything to this man so why is my money being used. And he don't need a damn million dollars of our money.

Like Reply · 5w



^ Hide 13 Replies



**Top Fan**

**Bob Hawkins**

It turned out the photograph was a fake and was posted to Garton's private page, but then shared by others. he did not even post the pic. who every was doing the investigation dropped the ball, but i agree you Gary, it should come out of there pocket

Like Reply · 5w



**Amber Case**

Gary Pilsbury Threatt right! He's already on disability per our tax \$

Like Reply · 5w



**Kelley Seaton**

He just needs to remove 'the city of Dickson ' from his lawsuit and the others are individuals so it would come from their own pockets. Amber if you got arrested for something you posted on your personal Facebook page, wouldn't you be upset? Dont you... [See More](#)

Like Reply · 5w



**Ken Morris**

Amber Case Kind of a broad statment there. It's entirely possible he was in the workforce and paid taxes before being disabled. Disability is taxable income as well. If he was wronged by agents of the government while acting for them the government is... [See More](#)

Like Reply · 5w



**Deborah J. Cook**

Amber Case no he isn't "per our tax dollars". Disability insurance is payed into from the first job you have.





Karen R Johnson

**Gary Pilsbury Threatt** I'm seeing a bigger picture here. I know that neither one of us tax payers personally hired any of these people however indirectly we did by voting for all who hold public offices who do in fact hire these individuals. Sounds to me more like an accountability situation that as Tennessean taxpayers indirectly we are very much responsible.

Like · Reply · 5w



Pursley Steven

**Gary Pilsbury Threatt** he CAN sue them personally also.

Like · Reply · 5w



1



Steven Stuart II

**Gary Pilsbury Threatt** You have every right to feel this way. As a tax-paying citizen it is your responsibility to hold those public officials accountable.

Like · Reply · 5w



3



Steven Stuart II

Kerry Denison Because the person that posted it did not commit a crime. The police knew it was a photoshopped pic when they arrested him. Thus the unlawful imprisonment.

Like · Reply · 5w · Edited



1



Teresa McWilliams

He wasn't committing a crime .Yes It wasn't nice what he insinuated that he was urinating on a grave no matter whose grave it was but would this arrest not have taken place if it had not been a former cop killed in the line of duty .My brother is a 30 ... [See More](#)

Like · Reply · 5w



2



Richard Honeycutt

**Bob Hawkins** he posted to his private page but it had to have been a "public" post or nobody else could have seen or shared it.

Like · Reply · 5w



DeShawn Washington

**Gary Pilsbury Threatt** because your tax dollars paid for the police and district attorney to violate his rights.

Like · Reply · 5w



Top Fan

Bob Hawkins

**Gary Pilsbury Threatt** he did not post it, it was posted by some one else on his page

Like · Reply · 5w



Write a reply...



Press Enter to post.



**Joyce Lawhorn**

That is awful. They need to be prosecuted!

Like · Reply · 5w

3

↳ 6 Replies



**Davis Jessica**

So although distasteful and tacky.. he had a right to freedom of speech just like anyone else. I don't agree with what he posted but again it was his personal page.

Like · Reply · 5w

27

↳ 1 Reply



**Lee Workman**

It sure is difficult to trust any and all law enforcement, federal through county. I hope the lawsuits are successful for this event and other events (for example Comey/FBI).

Much more difficult helping, if needed, the corrupt legal system.

Like · Reply · 5w

13



**Tammy Dawson**

Punishment for disrespecting law-enforcement is not a crime !

Like · Reply · 5w · Edited

7



**Crista Johnston**

Tammy Dawson no it is not. But many don't know that. Let's spread the word!!

Like · Reply · 5w



Write a reply...



Press Enter to post.



**Jennifer Bancroft**

This is NOT acceptable!! The lawyer representing this man in this lawsuit is truly a piece of work.....

Like · Reply · 5w

2



**Rima Rosenbalm**

Good for him. If we don't fight for our rights we will so lose them all.. hope he wins!!! Time big brother, cops, any form of government learns they are not the law and certainly not above the law.

1



Top Fan

**Phillip Bailey**

I was forced to plead guilty for something I didn't do, simply because I didn't have the money for an attorney, my court appointed attorney told me she couldn't represent me in the courtroom on the day of my trial, then they offered me the plea, I fel... [See More](#)

Like · Reply · 4w



Top Fan

**Andrea Burnsed**

I am glad he is suing. This was government overreach in such an egregious way.

Like · Reply · 5w

13



**Annie Petty**

Yet we hear nothing of the officer they arrested in the White Bluff Dept. With this development and the W.B asst chief's charges, it has become obvious Dickson County has a serious bullying problem by authorities. Very sad indeed!

Like · Reply · 5w

4



**Patricia Grimes**

A person who is disabled and suffers with mental illness, he had the mind to post what he did though, now sue TBI. What had been done to Sgt. Daniel Baker was horrible, and add fuel to the fire. Is it okay for a disabled person with mental illness to p... [See More](#)

Like · Reply · 5w · Edited

21

^ Hide 21 Replies



**Caleb Banks**

**Patricia Grimes** he has a right to his first amendment. As does everyone. Period.

Like · Reply · 5w

11



**Glynda Brewer McDaniel**

**Shellie Stewart** the slippery slope is violating his first amendment rights, knowing you violated them, but yet arresting him away and keeping him in jail for 2 weeks. Is he trash for creating that pic and posting it? YES all day long. But no matter wha... [See More](#)

Like · Reply · 5w

10



Top Fan

**Andrea Burnsed**

**Patricia Grimes** I get where you are coming from but it was wrong what they did to him. It goes against everything that America is envied for. We have inalienable rights and when government officials are able to arrest, book and incarcerate someone base... [See More](#)

8

inalienable rights and when government officials are able to arrest, book and incarcerate someone base... See More

Like Reply 5w



Meghan Anderson

Patricia Grimes He did nothing illegal. He was arrested and imprisoned. He has every right to sue.

Like Reply 5w



Pamela Barlow

Sry but u cant count feelings in this situation...i know it was tacky of him but we cant act on feelings

Like Reply 5w



Caleb Banks

If you want to claim to support the constitution you need to support it and not use it like you use the Bible and only abide by some of it while trying to weaponize it against others.

Like Reply 5w



Top Fan

Shellie Stewart

Caleb Banks freedom of speech doesn't mean you are free from the consequences. He was smart enough to figure out how to make a fake photo yet isn't smart enough to understand why urinating on a grave, anyone's grave, is wrong? I'm he was in there fo... See More

Like Reply 5w



John Bradford

Shellie Stewart BULL...The police knew exactly what they were doing

Like Reply 5w Edited



Teresa Travis Bass

Caleb Banks as does others who have lost jobs due to posting of their opinions on their page

Like Reply 5w



Top Fan

Shellie Stewart

John Bradford and if you read my post I say quite clearly if they knew it was fake there should be consequences. Reading comprehension is a lost art...

Like Reply 5w



John Bradford

Caleb Banks I never ever agree with you.. But these people do this all the time., TEHIR SIDE IS NEVER WRONG JUST LIKE THE LEFT..

Like Reply 5w





TEHIR SIDE IS NEVER WRONG JUST LIKE THE LEFT..

Like · Reply · 5w



Caleb Banks

John Bradford so you agree just this once though right ? Lol

Like · Reply · 5w



Caleb Banks

Teresa Travis Bass the government didn't arrest those people. Did they?

Like · Reply · 5w



Teresa Travis Bass

Caleb Banks fired or arrested still not right

Like · Reply · 5w



Caleb Banks

Teresa Travis Bass maybe not, but the business didn't violate the 1st amendment. The government did.

Like · Reply · 5w



Top Fan

Shellie Stewart

Glynda Brewer McDaniel no matter what? So that includes racist and homophobic posts? It includes sexist and misogynistic posts? There's your slope when you start saying no matter what..... and I agree with you..... if they knew it was fake and did all t... See More

Like · Reply · 5w



DeWayne Starr

Shellie Stewart, if you took time to read the post, it stated that a fake picture was sent to his "private" page and was shared. Is there a law against that? If so, please feel free to share it....

Like · Reply · 5w



Top Fan

Shellie Stewart

DeWayne Starr it says he made the fake picture and posted it to his page,, where others shared it from.... again reading comprehension.... and no a fake pic is not illegal but desecration of a grave is. However if the police knew it was fake and arres... See More

Like · Reply · 5w



Top Fan

Roz Shirnexi

Patricia Grimes hurting feelings is not a crime



**Roz Shirmexi**  
**Patricia Grimes hurting feelings is not a crime**

Like · Reply · 5w



Top Fan

**Roz Shirmexi**

Shellie Stewart you keep talking about reading comprehension but it sounds like you need to read and comprehend the constitution. "Racist" and "homophobic" posts, as distasteful and offensive as they may be, are still protected speech. So yes, "consequ... See More

Like · Reply · 5w · Edited



**Glenn Wright Sr**

**Patricia Grimes** Mental illness takes many forms and only a very few of them have any effect on intelligence in fact a lot of the most creative and intelligent people have some type of mental illness.

Also he posted on his personal and private page it w... See More

Like · Reply · 5w



Write a reply...



Press Enter to post.



**Tori Novitski**

They absolutely did violate his First Amendment rights. They could not like it all they wanted and it was in poor taste but the family's feelings don't supersede someone's constitutional rights.

Like · Reply · 5w



**Nicole Combs Hughes**

I'll go stay in jail for two weeks if I too can collect a million \$ I hate that the man's rights were violated but I hate just as much that he feels he's entitled to a million dollars.

Like · Reply · 5w



**DeWayne Starr**

**Nicole Combs Hughes**, why would he be?

Like · Reply · 5w



**Deborah J. Cook**

**Nicole Combs Hughes** let someone who is in a position of authority over you violate your civil rights in this fashion and I'm sure you would think you are entitled a monetary payout!

Like · Reply · 5w



**Nicole Combs Hughes**



**Nicole Combs Hughes**

**Deborah J. Cook** fairly certain that many of our rights are being violated as we speak. Does that mean we should sue for 1 million per interaction? I'm not saying the man was done right by any means! I am saying he wasn't devastated to where he deserves... [See More](#)

Like · Reply · 5w



**Deborah J. Cook**

**Nicole Combs Hughes** he was falsely imprisoned. His character was called into question. Most people would think that is deserving of some kind of compensation

Like · Reply · 5w



**Nicole Combs Hughes**

**Deborah J. Cook** agreed. But not a million 🙄

Like · Reply · 5w



**Doug Davidson**

**Nicole Combs Hughes** He'll never get a million but he will get a chunk.

Like · Reply · 5w



Write a reply...



Press Enter to post.



**Betty Thomas**

Why has he urinated on the Sargent's grave? No excuse!

Like · Reply · 5w



Top Fan

**Andrea Jean Chapman**

**Betty Thomas** it says the photo was fake.. This was an ignorant arrest, this is exactly why people don't truly respect police officers, respect is earned, you don't try to force people to respect you.. It's a free country.

Like · Reply · 5w



**Anthony Haines**

**Betty Thomas**

Do you have a reading comprehension issue? Be informed before showing your ignorance, he never did it, it was a photoshopped image...

Like · Reply · 5w



Top Fan

**Bob Hawkins**

**Betty Thomas** he did not do it, some people CG the photo, and they posted it to his page,

Like · Reply · 5w



**Ernie Branson**

Like Reply · 5w



Ernie Branson

Betty Thomas say it with me, "Photo-Shop!"

Like Reply · 5w



7



Write a reply...



Press Enter to post.



Star Willis

If it would have been down here in Florida they would have arrested him for indecent exposure and put him on the "offenders list". 😊

Like Reply · 5w



3



Davis Jessica

Star Willis doubt that. Casey Anthony ran free. My ex was also in Florida and tried to set our children on fire in a vehicle and was threatening suicide. The cops were called and allowed him to LEAVE with our children in the car!!!

Like Reply · 5w



3



Michael Butler

Star Willis it was a fake photo. He didnt actually pee on a headstone... so I highly doubt it.

Like Reply · 5w



2



Star Willis

Davis Jessica you really doubt that? Ck FL law statues see if it's not considered indecent exposure to urinate in public and considered a sex offense. There are people on that offenders list for exactly that, people on their for making out in their car... [See More](#)

Like Reply · 5w



2



Star Willis

Davis Jessica I'm sorry you had that experience but I'm only talking about what's in this article. Trust me I know how Children and Families is crap here.

Like Reply · 5w



Star Willis

Michael Butler what I'm saying is like he was arrested there on a fake photo, if the same would have happened it down here in Florida He would have been charged with indecent exposure and made to register. I'm not saying he should have been.

Like Reply · 5w



2



Michael Butler

Star Willis doubt he would have made it to the registry. Would have been thrown out in court like it was here.

---

Like · Reply · 5w



Michael Butler

Star Willis doubt he would have made it to the registry. Would have been thrown out in court like it was here.

Like · Reply · 5w

1



Deborah J. Cook



Like · Reply · 5w



Write a reply...



Press Enter to post.



Tilia Healy

Good for Garton. They had absolutely no right or reason to arrest him. Hope he gets every penny he's asking for and is set to live a comfortable rest of his life.

Like · Reply · 5w

17



Patricia Mitchell Cunningham

Press Enter to post.



**Tilia Healy**

Good for Garton. They had absolutely no right or reason to arrest him. Hope he gets every penny he's asking for and is set to live a comfortable rest of his life.

Like · Reply · 5w

👍👍 17



**Patricia Mitchell Cunningham**

If the photo was a "fake" the person who put it together is the one he should sue!

Like · Reply · 5w

👍👍👍 14



**Caleb Banks**

Patricia Mitchell Cunningham no? Because they didn't violate his first amendment. Why are you ok with people being arrested for their constitutional rights?

Like · Reply · 5w

👍👍 8



**Christy Ann**

It was an old album cover picture (I don't remember the name of the band) and just had the words edited into it.

Like · Reply · 5w



**Christy Ann**

Remembered it.



Like · Reply · 5w



**DeWayne Starr**

Patricia Mitchell Cunningham, but, the originator isn't the one who got arrested

Like · Reply · 5w

👍 2



**Patricia Mitchell Cunningham**

Caleb Banks seems to me the person who put it together was just trying to incite a negative reaction.

Like · Reply · 5w



**Patricia Mitchell Cunningham**

Caleb Banks seems to me the person who put it together was just trying to incite a negative reaction.

Like · Reply · 5w



**Caleb Banks**

Patricia Mitchell Cunningham that doesn't mean he loses his first amendment right because people are snowflakes about a photo.

Like · Reply · 5w



**Glenn Wright Sr**

Patricia Mitchell Cunningham no laws against composite photos so no ground for arrest

Like · Reply · 5w



Write a reply...



Press Enter to post.



**Christina Nicole Sage**

What was posted was garbage, but he has a very good chance of winning. Don't think he'll get the amount he's asking for though. I understand emotions get in the way sometimes, but they can't let their emotions get in the way of doing their job. Period.

Like · Reply · 5w



**Regina Larkin Johnson**

Vote for David Wolfe he's the man for the job

Like · Reply · 5w



**Dorothy Sherron**

They need to just settle and escort him to the bank to make the deposit.

Like · Reply · 5w



**Doug Davidson**

While disrespectful and I have my opinions on one that would create and post such it is his right.

Also on a private page but shared by others.

That said the police were wrong here but he should expect to catch the wrath and anger from many for such ... [See More](#)

Like · Reply · 5w Edited




**Glenn Wright Sr**

Doug Davidson funny how people are so quick to ignore the one reasonable comment not fueled by pure emotions.

Like · Reply · 5w



 **Doug Davidson** funny how people are so quick to ignore the one reasonable comment not fueled by pure emotions.

Like · Reply · 5w

 1

 Write a reply...

Press Enter to post.



**Dana Allen**

The problem started with lack of respect. Many no longer respect law enforcement, then the stories get twisted and turned for the benefit of MSM.

Like · Reply · 5w

   11

^ Hide 23 Replies



**Susan Mears**

I do not care about this man's rights! The officers wife ..parents ..saw this pic. What about their rights? And I sincerely hope those that are bashing cops.. n just plain being hateful and stupid ..need assistance cause y'all all know you will call th... [See More](#)

Like · Reply · 5w

  4



**Anthony Haines**

**Dana Allen**

With the way law enforcement acts they have lost the respect of many. The actions they took in this case is just another example of them earning more disrespect!

Like · Reply · 5w

 3



**Dana Allen**

Anthony Haines the actions of a few does not represent all on either side of the equation. I happen to know Sgt. Baker's father and can't imagine what their family has gone through. Using his imagine was blatant disrespect.

Like · Reply · 5w Edited

  6



**Anthony Haines**

**Dana Allen**

Were they put in jail for two weeks for a non crime?

Like · Reply · 5w



**Dana Allen**

**Anthony Haines** they are living in a prison we cannot imagine.

Like · Reply · 5w

 2



**Anthony Haines**

**Dana Allen**

So that excuses criminal behavior of the cops and DA? I don't think so...

Like · Reply · 5w

 1



**Dana Allen**





**Anthony Haines**  
**Dana Allen**

So that excuses criminal behavior of the cops and DA? I don't think so...



1

Like · Reply · 5w



**Dana Allen**

**Anthony Haines** how would you solve the lack of respect issue? You seem to have answers for everything.



4

Like · Reply · 5w



**Anthony Haines**  
**Dana Allen**

How about law enforcement start treating people with respect... how about cops turning in dirty cops as opposed to coving up for dirty cops. How about local prosecutor offices prosecuting all criminal behavior of cops... that would be a st... [See More](#)



2

Like · Reply · 5w



**Dana Allen**

**Anthony Haines** pretty obvious the side you lean. Sgt. Baker was the epitome of respect of doing the job as it should be done. In this particular case two wrongs still don't make it right.



3

Like · Reply · 5w



**Anthony Haines**  
**Dana Allen**

I lean on law and order... cops are not above the law...

Like · Reply · 5w



**Dana Allen**

**Anthony Haines** sure doesn't seem that way. Again the actions of few do not represent the majority.



3

Like · Reply · 5w



**Anthony Haines**  
**Dana Allen**

Then why doesn't the many that witness the few turn them in? They seem to only cover up their criminal behavior which makes them accomplices.



1

Like · Reply · 5w



**Dana Allen**

**Anthony Haines** your stance is the police are always wrong. Blanket judgments aren't helpful.



2

Like · Reply · 5w



**Anthony Haines**  
**Dana Allen**

That's your words not mine... I only asked why aren't the good cops turning in the bad ones and you haven't answer the question...



2

Like Reply · 5w · Edited



Dana Allen

Anthony Haines since you know so much about policing please share specific cases. You're the expert here so tell us more.

Like Reply · 5w



Jessica Weatherford Willis

Anthony Haines why don't you go put on a badge and show us all how it's done? You seem to have it all figured out. I'm sure you can jump right in and get it all fixed.

Like Reply · 5w



Dana Allen

Jessica Weatherford Willis he's an expert on FB. Here they know how to fix everything and have all the answers.

Like Reply · 5w



Anthony Haines

Jessica Weatherford Willis

My education level is too high...

Like Reply · 5w



Top Fan

Bob Hawkins

Dana Allen he did not do it, it was fake, and some one else posted it on his face book page

Like Reply · 5w



Top Fan

Bob Hawkins

that man did nothing wrong

Like Reply · 5w



Dana Allen

Bob Hawkins clearly someone had poor judgement.

Like Reply · 5w



Anthony Haines

Dana Allen

Yup the police and the DA for jailing someone for not a crime, that will end up costing the taxpayers a lot of money!

Like Reply · 5w · Edited



Kathy Cope

Anthony Haines maybe they have tried. Maybe the bad cops have threatened the good cops family. Maybe they are afraid nobody will believe them. People thinks it so easy to report someone. And you have to have proof.

Like Reply · 5w



Kathy Cope

Anthony Haines maybe they have tried. Maybe the bad cops have threatened the good cops family. Maybe they are afraid nobody will believe them. People thinks it so easy to report someone. And you have to have proof.

Like · Reply · 5w



Write a reply...



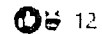
Press Enter to post.



Deddie Lindley

Does this mean we need to have a class action suit against social media for infringement upon our 1st amendment rights

Like · Reply · 5w



12



Burt Scott Staggs · Follow

Deddie Lindley

Only the government can infringe on rights

Like · Reply · 5w



6



Deddie Lindley

Oh silly me... I thought we have civil suits for that

Like · Reply · 5w



Anthony Haines

Deddie Lindley

Try learning what the first amendment actually states..... See More

Like · Reply · 5w · Edited



1



Write a reply...



Press Enter to post.



Sally Bowen

I am so bothered that a human could post such an image! Both parties are hurt in this. Do ppl get joy from inflicting this kind of thing

Like · Reply · 5w



5



Deborah J. Cook

Sally Bowen this is tame compared to some peoples standards

Like · Reply · 5w



1



Write a reply...



Press Enter to post.



Top Fan

Dora Baird Ferrell

Well in my opinion this kind of stuff happens all the time. It's not a good situation either way. Why is the TBI involved?

Like · Reply · 5w



Top Fan

**Dora Baird Ferrell**

Well in my opinion this kind of stuff happens all the time. It's not a good situation either way. Why is the TBI involved?

Like · Reply · 5w



**DeShawn Washington**

**Dora Baird Ferrell** because they are as crooked as it gets..

Like · Reply · 5w



Write a reply...



Press Enter to post.



**Mary Grace White**

This is amazing! I vaguely remember seeing the story in the news. This just proves that just because you see a photo online of something being done, good or bad, you can't accept it at face value. The old saying that "pictures don't lie" is true enough... [See More](#)

Like · Reply · 5w



**Linda Rebhorn Hardee**

Not enough jails on the face of the earth to house disrespect. Still not a crime anyway.

Like · Reply · 5w



Top Fan

**Mary Jo Faith Howell**

**Linda Rebhorn Hardee** . . i find that hard to believe and if not we live in a sad sad world. Their a difference in calling someone fat and pissing on the grave of the deceased. . maybe its a level system of what level of disrespect took place.

Like · Reply · 5w



**Crystal Tucker Wood**

**Mary Jo Faith Howell** did you miss the part where he didn't actually piss on anyone's grave? The picture is a photoshopped album cover. 😊

Like · Reply · 5w



Top Fan

**Mary Jo Faith Howell**

Its the point of the act. . even if he didnt actually do it. . think of it as ur love one and how u react?

Like · Reply · 5w



Write a reply...



Press Enter to post.

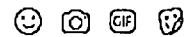


**Melissa Baltazar**

Dickson is Crooked county and should pay



Write a reply...



Press Enter to post.



**Melissa Baltazar**

Dickson is Crooked county and should pay

Like · Reply · 5w



**Anthony Haines**

**Melissa Baltazar**

The taxpayers will pay...

Like · Reply · 5w



Write a reply...



Press Enter to post.



**Randy Lewis**

This happens all the time and it's not a specific race!!!!people the county where I live the sheriff's deputies make up the rules as they go and there's nothing you do but wait and sue them but the problem is they act on emotion not follow the laws the...  
**See More**

Like · Reply · 5w · Edited



**Top Fan**

**Alan Stacey**

Typical, sue has become a standard in the USA

Like · Reply · 5w



**Shelley White**

Alan Stacey would you like to be arrested and held in jail for two weeks for not breaking any laws?

Like · Reply · 5w



**Shelley White**

Alan Stacey it's still free speech. I bet you appreciate the 2nd amendment but are trying to ignore the 1st.

Like · Reply · 5w



**Top Fan**

**Alan Stacey**

**Shelley White** I don't post pictures of that kind, I have a great deal of respect for officers and soldiers

Like · Reply · 5w



**Top Fan**

**Alan Stacey**

**Shelley White** not related to speech was it, was a picture of some peeing on a grave, is that free speech to you?

Like · Reply · 5w





Top Fan

Alan Stacey

Shelley White not related to speech was it, was a picture of some peeing on a grave, is that free speech to you?

Like Reply · 5w

1



Deborah J. Cook

Alan Stacey



Like Reply · 5w



Shelley White

Alan Stacey it was a photoshop picture that was an album cover. That is free speech. No grave was peed on.

Like Reply · 5w

2



Write a reply...



Press Enter to post.



Horace Temple Jr.

They should get their checkbooks out and be glad he only wants a million.

Like Reply · 5w

4



Top Fan

Lawanna Douglas

Oh wow..so claiming misincompotant says you can disrespect the dead REALLY???? And you can sue the government for this??But you can sue anybody for anything!!!!

Like Reply · 5w

3



Tina Geisler

Lawanna Douglas it was photo shopped. He didn't actually do anything to the



**Tina Geisler**

**Lawanna Douglas** it was photo shopped. He didn't actually do anything to the grave. So he should've never been arrested and held 2 weeks. Right!

Like · Reply · 5w



**Christine Baker Milton**

He was completely innocent, and they admitted as much-

Like · Reply · 5w



**Top Fan**

**Lawanna Douglas**

**Tina Geisler** then by all means if it was photoshopped he should be released of the situation and receive money from the State department for this injustice absolutely

Like · Reply · 5w



Write a reply...



Press Enter to post.



**Ricky Reynolds**

My thinking is why even post something like that someone's husband and dad was killed that is just wrong are you that mean of a person that is just cruel

Like · Reply · 5w



**Aaron Tanner**

**Ricky Reynolds** it said he suffered from mental problems brother I'm not saying it's right but if we start trampling on our own constitutional rights where does it stop I'm not a fan of the post and it was in terrible taste but having bad taste isn't a ... [See More](#)

Like · Reply · 5w



**Top Fan**

**Teresa Cline**

**Aaron Tanner** in this case it should be

Like · Reply · 5w



Write a reply...



Press Enter to post.



**Amanda Cornelius Bailey**

"Punish for disrespecting law enforcement"? That's not a crime.

Like · Reply · 5w



**Amanda Cornelius Bailey**

**Brian Sinclair Bennett** well, they are dead. I'd say they don't know it.

---



**Amanda Cornelius Bailey**

"Punish for disrespecting law enforcement"? That's not a crime.

Like · Reply · 5w



**Amanda Cornelius Bailey**

Brian Sinclair Bennett well, they are dead. I'd say they don't know it. Furthermore, no one wants to piss on anyone in my family's grave. And the guy didn't do it.

Like · Reply · 5w · Edited



**Brian Sinclair Bennett**

Amanda Cornelius Bailey that's not the point it's disrespectful for anybody to do that to anybody!!!

Like · Reply · 5w · Edited



**Amanda Cornelius Bailey**

Brian Sinclair Bennett DISRESPECT IS NOT A CRIME.

Like · Reply · 5w · Edited



**Amanda Cornelius Bailey**

FUTHERMORE HE DID NOT DO ANYTHING BUT POST A FAKE PICTURE TO FACEBOOK.

Like · Reply · 5w · Edited



Write a reply...



Press Enter to post.



**Karen Simpson Milliner**

It is all about the \$\$\$\$\$\$.

Like · Reply · 5w



**Mary Lou Gilley**

I don't care who it was, you don't do that to a grave.

Like · Reply · 5w



**Deborah J. Cook**

Mary Lou Gilley they didn't do that to a grave. The picture was photoshopped

Like · Reply · 5w



**Mary Lou Gilley**

Deborah J. Cook ok, thank you. I read it wrong. Sorry

Like · Reply · 5w



Top Fan

**Teresa Cline**

Mary Lou Gilley thank you!!!! I better not see anyone disrespecting his grave when I visit my family or there would be a heck of an argument ...

Like · Reply · 5w





Top Post

**Teresa Cline**

**Mary Lou Gilley** thank you!!!! I better not see anyone disrespecting his grave when I visit my family or there would be a heck of an argument ...

Like · Reply · 5w



Write a reply...



Press Enter to post.



**Angel Venegas Ibarra**

Good i hope he wins his case anytime law enforcement infringes anyones rights they should pay

Like · Reply · 5w



**Gary Pillsbury Threatt**

**Angel Venegas Ibarra** they are paying with our tax money

Like · Reply · 5w



**Angel Venegas Ibarra**

**Gary Pillsbury Threatt** probably why you and everyone else should hold them more accountable for their actions

Like · Reply · 5w



**Gary Pillsbury Threatt**

Still why should our money be used

Like · Reply · 5w



**Crystal Tucker Wood**

**Gary Pillsbury Threatt** because elections have consequences. People should think about that when casting their vote, or when choosing not to vote in elections.

Like · Reply · 5w



**Gary Pillsbury Threatt**

What does that have to do with using my money. Everybody has something to say that has nothing to do with my money being used. Charge it to the people that do the wrong.

Like · Reply · 5w



**Crystal Tucker Wood**

**Gary Pillsbury Threatt** did you complain this much when your tax dollars were paying those people to violate his rights?

Like · Reply · 5w



**Amber Lynn Jackson**

**Angel Venegas Ibarra** it's we that pay.

Like · Reply · 5w



**Angel Venegas Ibarra**

**Gary Pillsbury Threatt** sorry your tax dollars paid for that man's rights to be



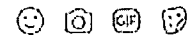
Angel Venegas Ibarra

Gary Pillsbury Threatt sorry your tax dollars paid for that man's rights to be violated

Like · Reply · 5w



Write a reply...



Press Enter to post.



Top Fan

Nancy Davis-Baker

They did Paul write his constitutional rights

Like · Reply · 5w



Carolyn Lane

There goes our property taxes going up

Like · Reply · 5w



Carol Skybear Cram Piper

NO ONE HAS THE RIGHT TO PISS ON A GRAVE NO MATTER WHO THEY ARE OR WHAT IS WRONG WITH THEM!!!!!! WHAT IF THAT WAS ONE OF YOUR FAMILY MEMBERS THAT GOT PISSSED ON

Like · Reply · 5w



Ernie Branson

Carol Skybear Cram Piper it didn't happen it was a fake/photoshopped picture. Tasteless? Yup. Illegal? Absolutely not.

Like · Reply · 5w



DeShawn Washington

Carol Skybear Cram Piper lmao read the article, read. He never urinated on any grave and it was photo shopped, hence free speech. Although, it was very distasteful, no laws were ever broken, yet he was arrested, and held against his will. I think you... See More

Like · Reply · 5w



Write a reply...



Press Enter to post.



JoAnn Jennings

There's a difference between having mental problems and being stupid

Like · Reply · 5w



Darlene Horn

JoAnn Jennings if they arrested everybody that does something stupid we will all have lawsuits. They cannot arrest people for doing something stupid unless

Like · Reply · 5w



**Darlene Horn**

**JoAnn Jennings** if they arrested everybody that does something stupid we will all have lawsuits. They cannot arrest people for doing something stupid unless it is against the law.

Like · Reply · 5w



**Glenn Wright Sr**

**JoAnn Jennings** not necessarily.

I know people who struggle daily with a mental condition called impulse control disorder which can cause the person to actually act on their first impulse no matter how irrational or wrong it is.

Like · Reply · 5w



Write a reply...



Press Enter to post.



**Shirley DeLung**

Well yes. He should not have been arrested. Fake photo.

Like · Reply · 5w



**Brad Sanders**

Ain't no fun when the rabbit got the gun

Like · Reply · 5w



**Christian Tatum**

David Stua of Lufkin, Texas was arrested for telling a joke in protest of the cops having been called on him in the Library of Angelina College for saying the word "circumcision." While protesting on the college campus, and recording his activities ... [See More](#)

Like · Reply · 4w



**Vickie OConnor**

They best get ready to set out the money. Authorities messed up!

Like · Reply · 5w · Edited



**Teresa McWilliams**

No crime was committed It was fake .Yes very distasteful I agree .And what about the person taking the picture He obviously didn't act alone . You can't make up rules & laws as you go .Someone needs to be accountably for these unlawful arrest ..My brot... [See More](#)

Like · Reply · 5w



**Top Fan**

**Debble Potts**

When are these ..... cops thinking!

Like · Reply · 5w

Like · Reply · 5w



Top Fan

Debbie Potts

When are these ..... cops thinking!

Like · Reply · 5w



Josh Glover

2weeks for a mill, easy peasy!! I can sleep that long

Like · Reply · 5w

1



Toni Corbin

The TBI have always seemed "above the law" to me

Like · Reply · 5w



Pursley Steven

I knew it wouldn't be long.

Like · Reply · 5w

Write a comment...



## Michael Curcio is at Tennessee State Capitol.

...

1 hr · Nashville · 🌐

Tonight the Tennessee House of Representatives passed the "Sergeant Daniel Baker Act" in honor of Dickson County's fallen hero. I was proud to stand with **Mary Littleton** in the well of the House with Daniel Baker's family watching from the gallery.



Ray Crouch Jr.

March 18, 2019 · 🌐

...

👍❤️ 18

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25