

PAID POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT



A MESSAGE TO THE RESIDENTS OF BUCKINGHAM COUNTY



We all are human and we all make mistakes- but there's really no excuse for making the same mistake twice! Think of that when you go to the polls in November.

LISTED BELOW ARE SOME FACTS THAT BUCKINGHAM RESIDENTS NEED TO BE AWARE OF:

FACT #1: Recently (July 2007) the sheriff of Buckingham, accompanied by a high powered attorney from the big city, and one of the sheriff's principal sponsors, went to the county administrator's office and a Freedom of Information Act request was filed. The request was quite lengthy (two pages) and in a nutshell it asked for all of the minutes, notes, resolutions, motions, correspondence, etc. of all the board of supervisor meetings from January 1, 2007 through July 18, 2007. This request also included all closed session meetings and all information in regards to the recent audit on the sheriff.

QUESTION: What is the purpose of this action? In our opinion, it clearly is a feeble attempt to somehow justify laws broken and mistakes made by the sheriff in regards to the money he spent (drug account monies) and the 5 bank accounts he opened. The sheriff (and some of his sponsors) are attempting to place the blame for all of his troubles on the members of the board of supervisors! The supervisors only did the job they are required to do when they unanimously called for the audit and to further the investigation. They are charged with being responsible for taxpayers' money.

QUESTION: Why should the supervisors and the administrator's office be subjected to this nonsense, this waste of everyone's time (except for the big city lawyer who charges big bucks)? They shouldn't be- this entire fiasco is a desperate attempt to shift the blame somewhere other than where it belongs- with the sheriff!

FACT #2: According to records obtained from the county administrator's office that show where the sheriff chose to spend the department's money (regular account) in regards to vehicle fuel and maintenance (January 2004 - June 2007), the lions share was spent at two or three businesses who were major campaign sponsors of his.

QUESTION: Why shouldn't these monies be spread around to all businesses in the county where possible? Wouldn't this be the fair way to conduct business? Could taxpayers' money be better spent by shopping around or taking bids? And lastly, do these kind of business dealings reek of payback?

FACT #3: Currently there are ongoing investigations that pertain to citizens of the county being (or have been) intimidated, harassed or threatened by members of the sheriff's department. Some of these incidents are assumed to be politically motivated, some are not. Records show that the majority of these incidents are associated with three or four deputies.

QUESTION: Why on earth would any citizen of this county tolerate this? Why should they have to? Why should law abiding citizens fear those whom they pay to protect and serve them? Is this a leadership problem?

Never before in the history of Buckingham County have we ever been subjected to such treatment.

As voters, citizens, taxpayers, and human beings, we deserve better.

We demand better!

We want the sheriff's department to do their job and enforce the law.

We respect those who wear a badge and have sense enough to do their job properly.

But we will not tolerate being mistreated.

If anyone that reads this have had similar problems with the sheriff's office or has legitimate problems in the future, please don't hesitate to report the incident to the Commonwealth Attorney's Office.