

At Mayor Jumper's request, Evans announced on March 23, 2015, that he would "review and evaluate the information in the [ISP] report and prepare a report for presentation at the next board meeting." (WLDS News, *South Jax police chief to prepare follow-up report to ISP investigation*) However, since Evans' inadequate statement raises considerably more questions than it provides answers, due diligence requires further investigation. The following analysis contains relevant portions of Evans' statement to the Board, along with comments and questions that now demand additional clarification.

NOTE: The legal implication of Evans' statement is that it is now part of the record, and must be considered by the Board-appointed Ethics Panel and other legal authorities if/when ethical and/or criminal sanctions are imposed.

RICHARD EVANS STATEMENT (April 2, 2015)

.....(Evans, p. 1).....
Please do not mistake the integrity and profound trust that I have for the Illinois State Police in this report. I have had nothing but high praise for their work and their leadership. I am just troubled over one investigator and why certain things were not followed up on.

First and foremost, it must be understood that the ISP's investigation into misconduct by Village officials wasn't conducted by one investigator, but an experienced team of highly decorated State Police Investigators.

State Police Master Sgt. Eric Hall served as lead supervisor during the investigation. As the report shows, Master Sgt. Hall had to approve every statement submitted by ISP agents. Last week, petitioner personally spoke with Hall by phone and Hall informed him that Senior Agent Deanna Harton is "one of the best [ISP] investigators in the entire State of Illinois." When asked if he stood by the accuracy and integrity of the ISP report Hall replied, "Yes, absolutely." Hall then informed petitioner that at least two State Police investigators were present during most interviews.

Indeed, the ISP report shows that in addition to Agent Harton, three other individuals interviewed and submitted reports about Village officials and employees: Trooper Eric Weston, Special Agent Luke Satterlee, and Special Agent Larry Piotrowski.

Eric Weston was an ISP Officer of the Year Nominee in 2014.

Luke Satterlee was an ISP Officer of the Year Nominee in 2008.

The ISP website states: "Officers nominated for the ISP Officer of the Year Award must display outstanding valor in the line of duty, exceptional knowledge and ability to complete job functions, overall productivity, civic contributions, and professional appearance and demeanor."

Larry Piotrowski was awarded a Lifesaving Medal in 2009 for saving 58-year old Beverly Sherer's life at a Springfield movie theater. On December 19, 2008, while working secondary employment at the Showplace 12 Theater, Piotrowski was alerted to a woman who had collapsed. The off-duty Trooper checked her for a pulse, and after finding none, began CPR. After 3 minutes, she regained consciousness, but stopped breathing a second time. Piotrowski administered another minute of rescue breathing until she started to breathe again and was transported to the hospital.

Village residents can rest assured that the yearlong State Police investigation was conducted ethically and according to the highest standards of policing by some of the finest law enforcement officials in the State of Illinois.

What "certain things" does Evans believe ISP investigators should have followed up on but failed to do so? What has Evans done to follow up on those "certain things?"

.....(Evans, p. 1).....
I received a call on June 10, 2014, the day after the State Police initiated their investigation from Mayor Jumper that Dick Samples and the Water Clerk, Kathy Culpepper, were observed at the water clerk's computer. It was reported that they had deleted 119 files. It should be noted it was clear they were deleting files because they deleted part of the billing program for the water and sewer bills.

It seems odd that observing the Water Clerk at her workstation on her computer caused such alarm that Mayor Jumper felt the need to call his Chief of Police, simply because another Village employee happened to be nearby.

Records indicate Jumper was absent from Village Hall on June 10, 2014. Who was the employee that allegedly observed and reported Samples and Culpepper to Mayor Jumper?

Computers require routine maintenance, including the erasing of temporary files. Evans' ambiguous accusation implies that Samples and Culpepper sat around her computer for an extended period of time to maliciously delete important information.

Specifically, what kinds of files were erased? On what day? Were they ever recovered?

Importantly, Petitioners have reason to believe that the mentioned incident did not occur one day after the State Police commenced their investigation on June 10, 2014.

If part of the billing program was actually deleted, as Evans claims, there should be documentation of the measures taken by the Village to correct such a serious technological glitch.

Accordingly, Petitioners request documentation concerning the restoration of the billing program that Evans says was partially erased on June 10, 2014.

.....(Evans, pp. 1-2).....
When I received this information, I called Agent Deanna Harton. When I told her what was going on, she was not very concerned at all that Samples and Culpepper were doing this. Agent Harton's actions concerned me because Clerk Dani Glascock, who is employed full time at St. John's Hospital, and Water Clerk Culpepper, were the ones who initiated the complaint with the Illinois State Police and Agent Harton.

Evans is highly critical of Illinois State Police Agent Harton throughout his statement.

.....(Evans, p. 2).....
Shortly after the filing period for the last Village Election, I received a phone call from candidate Dani Glascock asking that I come by her residence. When I arrived, she first asked me if I had circulated a petition for Linda Douglass. I explained to her that Linda's husband, Steve, had asked me to circulate the petition, which I did.

Here, Evans admits to violating Village Ordinance No. 876 by engaging in prohibited political activity at the request of Village Trustee Douglass.

.....
Her [Glascock's] comment was "how could you do that because we are all friends?" She then said "you are no longer my friend and you are no longer welcome in my home." I told her I was sorry she felt that way and as I was leaving, she said "I'll get you for this."

Evans' hearsay statements about Clerk Glascock bear no relevance on the State Police Investigation Report, and frankly are uncalled for.

EVANS NEXT RECOUNTS HIS ISP INTERVIEW.

.....
When I was interviewed by the Illinois State Police regarding the investigation, the first question Agent Harton asked me if I knew what the investigation was about. I said no. She replied, "It's about two women who hate each other," and smirked about it. I might add that that is not mentioned in the State Police report. The third question she asked was "if I had been asked by Linda Douglass to circulate a petition for her. I said no – it was her husband who asked me to circulate it and she abruptly went to other questions.

According to the ISP report, both Trooper Weston and Agent Harton were present during Evans' noncustodial interview. (ISP, p. 410) The report shows that Evans initially inquired if he was a suspect in a crime, said he'd want a lawyer present, and then declined investigators' request to record the interview.

First, Evans was asked "if he knew the definition of Official Misconduct."

Second, he was asked if Linda Douglass had engaged in official misconduct.

Third, Evans was asked about "discrepancies dealing with the water accounts."

Fourth, Evans was asked if he was aware about Douglass' prohibited political activity.

It wasn't until after Evans told investigators "the women at the Village Hall [are] always arguing and fighting" that he was asked about circulating a petition for Douglass.

Contrary to his statement, the ISP report shows that Evans "admitted he did ask Officer Wilson and Water Superintendent Green to sign Douglass' petition for election. He admitted Wilson was on duty at the police department and in uniform when he made the request. Evans had heard some people were upset because he did that, and he admitted he should not have done it." (ISP, p. 410)

Additionally, it is unlikely that Senior Agent Harton would make an unprofessional comment about an individual currently under investigation to someone she and another ISP Agent were interviewing. If anything was said, it was likely said in jest.

.....(Evans, p. 2).....
As this investigation was ongoing, I was asked by Mayor Jumper to have all the computers backed up in the Village Hall. The backup was done by a private firm and one police officer stood by while the backups were being done at night.

It seems rather peculiar that Mayor Jumper asked the Village's highest-ranking law enforcement officer to handle the administrative task of backing up computers. Furthermore, computers can easily be backed up during normal business hours and without armed security.

Even after Evans' explanation, the circumstances still appear extremely suspicious.

.....
At one point during the backups, Dick Samples entered the building and I was told he was somewhat irate and told Officer Greg Lowe, "You're putting yourself in a compromising position." On several occasions when security checks were being done, we noticed that people would show up whenever we were there."

Samples seems to have been justifiably upset about the strange behavior going on that evening. He wasn't alone in his thinking either. Village Clerk Glascock also believed the activity was odd, and called on-duty SJPD Officer Joshua Hallock. According to the report, Hallock said he felt "something shady" was going on and contacted ISP investigators. (ISP, p. 486) If the suspicions of these three individuals were true—that a cover-up of wrongdoing was underway—Officer Lowe's guarding of the building could most definitely be seen as compromising.

Moreover, Evans' statement that people "showed up" at Village Hall during normal business hours means nothing, and uses innuendo to misleadingly attribute unsubstantiated actions of anonymous individuals to Samples.

.....Evans, pp. 2-3).....
As Jim McCabe, News Director at WLDS would say, "according to the internet," in 1999 Dick Samples was brought before the [Regulatory] Board for a disciplinary hearing. It was brought to the attention of the Board that he had failed to understand and properly recognize appraisal techniques. Further, that he had committed substantial errors of omission, which resulted in misleading appraisal reports. As of this date, he still does not have an appraiser's license. The internet indicates he was assessed a \$4,000 fine.

By his own admission, Evans searched out Samples' personal background on "the Internet" with the purpose of apprising Village Trustees and residents of information wholly unrelated to the ISP report. Astonishingly, online records actually show that Samples was never assessed a \$4,000 fine, and that he *is* currently licensed as an Auctioneer. Not only is it entirely irrelevant for Evans to point out the licensure status of a former Village employee who was never a subject of the State Police investigation, but it is worth noting that the spreading of false lies about Samples' fitness for his occupation is Slander per se.

Local news journalist Jim McCabe was also not spared in Evans' deviation from relevant matters. Such personal attacks are unbecoming of a Police Chief, and are entirely unrelated and immaterial to the ISP report.

.....(Evans, p. 3).....
During a routine maintenance on the camera system in Village Hall, it was discovered two cameras were not working. I started reviewing videotapes and found that Dick Samples had covered one up [with tape] and the other one recorded him doing it and then it showed him covering the second one. I thought this was very suspicious if he didn't have anything to hide. Sometime after Samples left employment with the Village, we found out why the cameras were being covered and that matter has been turned over to the Appellate Prosecutor's Office.

Unlike Evans, Dick Samples has never been publicly accused of ethical or criminal wrongdoing, and was never a subject of the ISP investigation. In fact, the ISP report shows that Samples attempted to expose what he believed to be criminal wrongdoing committed by Village officials. Evans' statement about having nothing to hide again uses innuendo to falsely imply that Samples had engaged in misconduct, which borders on defamation.

Also, since Evans says he turned the matter over to the Appellate Prosecutor's Office, Petitioners look forward to their response on the matter.

.....(Evans, p. 3).....
Agent Harton was notified that we found [internal Village] security cameras had been duct taped ... her off the cuff comment was "they just think you are spying on them." This may be in reference to the comment she [Agent Harton] had made and was overheard by employees of the Village on the day she initiated the investigation at the Village. When Village Clerk Dani Glascock was giving Harton a tour, Glascock showed her the cameras mounted and the comment was made that "they were just spying on you."

The cameras and the security system at the Village Hall were provided by a federal grant through Homeland Security.

The statement allegedly overheard by an unidentified Village employee and told to Evans is legal hearsay, and thus, extremely unreliable.

Additionally, it seems highly unlikely that Agent Hardin would seriously declare that the building's security system funded through federal grants were put in place to "spy on" Village employees.

.....(Evans, p. 4).....
Months went by and the State Police continued to request a list of water and sewer records and it appears the State Police, Village Clerk Dani Glascock, and Water Clerk, Kathy Culpepper could not find any of these records. It had been mentioned that they may have been shredded or removed from the building.

Evans says the State Police, whose investigators never conducted a complete physical search of Village Hall (because their Search Warrant request was denied in Morgan County), "could not find" the records that they were requesting. This makes no sense.

Clerk Glascock took office in mid-2013, only months before the ISP began their investigation. Water/Sewage Clerk Kathy Culpepper told ISP investigators that Douglass had ordered her "to not allow Glascock access to anything." (ISP, p. 9) During this time, Glascock also "asked the Mayor to have [Douglass] stop opening her mail, but he refused." (ISP, p. 7) Under these circumstances it seems unfair to blame Glascock and

Culpepper, who were both relatively new at the village, for misplaced and missing records. It is worth reiterating that numerous witnesses testified and ISP investigators concluded that Linda Douglass and her sister shredded a massive amount of documents under questionable circumstances immediately following her reelection loss.

.....(Evans, p. 4).....
I discussed this with Mayor Jumper and I said, "I can't hardly believe that amount of documents are gone." Mayor Jumper said he would discuss this with the Village Attorney. Several days later, the Mayor said he would like a record file inventory done of the records at Village Hall to see if any of these records could be found. Mayor Jumper talked with the Village Attorney, Allen Yow, and he in turn talked with the attorney from the Attorney General's Office, and they approved of this inventory being done.

This statement is troubling for a number of reasons.

Most problematic is Evans' assertion that the Attorney General's Office consulted with and gave legal advice to Village Officials prior to its decision not to pursue criminal charges against those same individuals.

Why did the Attorney General's Office give legal advice about matters directly related to the ISP's investigation?

Petitioners request copies of the communications between the Village, Allen Yow, and the Illinois Attorney General regarding this matter.

.....
Shortly after this occurred, two police officers from the South Jacksonville Police Department conduct this file inventory search ... The complete search lasted over a period of two days and we found hundreds of pages of documents which had been reported either missing or destroyed ... A list of those located documents was shown to Harton who according to Mr. Green replied, "I'm not interested in those."

It seems rather peculiar that when administrative documents allegedly couldn't be located, Mayor Jumper ordered his top law enforcement official to have officers conduct a warrantless search of Village Hall for those documents.

Why is Mayor Jumper misusing the Village's limited law enforcement resources for clerical matters related to investigations of his administration's wrongdoing?

It also seems unlikely that Agent Harton said she wasn't interested in documents that ISP investigators had requested and were supposedly missing, but were then suddenly found.

Why, after Evans' officers allegedly located a large volume of "missing" documents, did ISP investigators decline to accept them, since they had been requested and were essential to their investigation?

.....(Evans, p. 4).....
When Kathy Culpepper was asked if she knew where we could find any of these particular records, she offered that a handful were located in her lower desk drawer and others were located on a shelf under the counter in front of her desk and in a file behind her desk. One specific and important document was ... allegedly either lost or destroyed and otherwise missing. Kathy Culpepper when asked by one of my police officers if this document existed or if she knew its whereabouts, she replied no but it is in the computer and then she printed it out. The report itself dated back to security deposits from 1971.

Evans' criticism of Culpepper seems prejudicial and unfair. Although Evans tries to portray Culpepper as a disorganized person, she simply told officers where documents were located. It is also unreasonable to say that Culpepper didn't know the whereabouts of a document that she subsequently found and printed out for Officers. Not to mention, the purported "missing" document dated back to 1971, nearly 40 years before Culpepper was employed with the Village.

.....
It is important to know that the employees interviewed by the Illinois State Police were never asked if they knew the whereabouts of any of the missing documents nor did the employees offer any knowledge of the alleged missing documents according to their statements. It is also important to note that in a subsequent review of the water and sewer computer, it was discovered that many years of documents were being stored on that employee's desktop icon and happened to be the documents that had been called into question. Yet, the employee never offered this to the Illinois State Police.

Evans misquotes the mostly paraphrased ISP report about what questions were asked and what information was or wasn't offered during interviews. The majority of individuals who were interviewed said they believed documents had been taken or destroyed.

More importantly, if the "documents that had been called into question" were found by Evans' officers during their search, when were those records forwarded to State Police investigators? What computer were the files found on?

.....(Evans, p. 5).....
After believing there may be further improprieties, I contacted the Illinois State Police with my concerns and there [their] reply to me was "that if it did not directly involve their specific investigation, the [SJPD] should do their job and do their own investigation."

Which ISP investigator told Evans that the located “missing” documents “did not directly involve their specific investigation.”? When did Evans place this call and to whom?

It is unreasonable to believe that investigators requested but did not receive certain documents, and when they were eventually located investigators declined to accept them.

.....(Evans, p. 5).....

It was at that time that a parallel investigation into possible official misconduct was initiated by the [SJPD]. The investigation began in June of 2014 and is still open as of this date. Since the initiation of that investigation, there have been at least two other allegations with substantial evidence of official misconduct.

Evans’ timeline doesn’t add up. After a preliminary inquiry, the Illinois State Police launched their investigation into official misconduct by Village officials on June 9, 2014.

Evans claims that in that same month, June 2014, only weeks later he launched his own internal investigation, which included searching for and finding documents ISP investigators had requested, but that when he contacted ISP investigators with that information, they declined to accept it. Petitioners have reason to believe these documents actually turned up several months later, in the fall of 2014.

Why, after Evans’ officers allegedly located a large number of “missing” documents, did ISP investigators decline to accept them, since they had been requested and were essential to their investigation?

.....

A copy of the Illinois State Police investigation was requested as part of our internal investigation to determine what witnesses were interviewed as well as what those witnesses’ statements were so we wouldn’t be looking into the same matters.

Why would Village Police *not* look further into wrongdoing found by ISP investigators?

.....

A review of that report showed, unbeknownst to me, my internal investigator [Officer Greg Lowe] was also alleged to have committed inappropriate conduct which could cause conflict of interest issues if we continued our investigation. The conduct they are referring to was when he was standing by at the Village Hall when the computers were being backed up.

If Lowe’s guarding of Village Hall [at Evans’ orders] constitutes a genuine conflict of interest, Evans should have simply appointed an alternate SJPD Officer to lead the investigation. Furthermore, a thorough review of the ISP report’s 514 pages shows no allegations of wrongdoing or impropriety against Lowe. If anything, accusations

concerned the alleged late night destruction of Village Hall computer evidence at the orders of Mayor Jumper and Chief Evans.

.....(Evans, p. 5).....
I want you to know that part-time police officer, Greg Lowe, has the following credentials: Nov. 2011 — began at SJP.D.

It is unclear why Evans shared Lowe’s employment history with the DOC. Nonetheless, one obvious question arises: Why, with only 4 years of law enforcement experience, was Officer Lowe chosen by Evans to lead the Village’s internal investigation?

It is worth noting that Officer Lowe resigned from the SJP.D on April 10, 2015, one week after Evans made these comments.

.....(Evans, pp. 5-6).....
I then immediately ordered my investigator to meet with the Morgan County States Attorney and because of an appearance of a conflict of interest, it was decided to refer our two completed investigations to the Appellate Prosecutor’s Office for an independent review of the facts to determine if prosecution was warranted. In addition, two other cases that still needed work were going to be referred to the Illinois State Police for completion but after contacting the Illinois State Police, they declined to take the two cases. Instead they referred us to the Illinois Attorney General’s Office, Division of Investigation. I have decided to have the Appellate Prosecutor’s Office review these two cases as well before proceeding.

As mentioned, though Evans’ lead internal investigator Officer Lowe was never accused of wrongdoing, he could have simply been replaced by another SJP.D Officer to avoid a conflict of interest. However, instead of replacing Lowe, Evans claims to have referred the investigation to the Appellate Prosecutor’s Office.

Subsequent to Evans’ statement, on April 10, 2015, WLDS News reported: “We reached out to the Appellate Prosecutor’s Office this week, [and] were told that they were not aware of anything being submitted to their office from the South Jacksonville Police Department.” (WLDS News, *Two new village resignations come from SJP.D officer, police chief’s sister*)

Why did the Appellate Prosecutor’s Office tell WLDS News that they were not aware of the investigations Evans claims to have referred to them?

Petitioners request copies of the internal investigation reports that were forwarded to the Appellate Prosecutor’s Office by Evans.

.....(Evans, p. 6).....
One of the things mentioned in the report was inappropriate apps that were loaded onto my cell phone. I did not knowingly load these items on my cell phone. However, I have learned since this investigation that my Ebay account, my iTunes account, one of my credit cards and my personal email address were compromised by unknown individuals during this time. I have initiated a formal inquiry into this matter and possible legal action. During this investigation, it was discovered that the Police Department's security codes and passwords were compromised and a private security company had to be called in to secure our systems.

This statement is troubling for a number of reasons.

Evans tries to absolve himself of all responsibility for the improper use of Village resources entrusted to him, and unauthorized purchases of illicit pornographic Apps on his Village iPhone. Incredibly, Evans claims that unknown individuals compromised his:

- iPhone paid for by the Village
- Ebay account
- iTunes account using sjpd@southjacksonville.org email address
- Village Credit Cards used by Evans
- Official Village email used by Evans
- SJPD security codes and passwords

For security reasons, Apple requires all iTunes account holders to enter their password when they want to download an App from the App Store. A credit card is used to secure every iTunes App Store purchase. In addition, the Apple Company sends account holders an email every time an App is downloaded to their individual iTunes account.

On October 20, 2013, Apple sent Evans an email with the subject line "Your recent download with your Apple ID." (ISP, p. 463)

The email to sjpd@southjacksonville.org states:

Dear Richard Evans:

Your Apple ID, sjpd@southjacksonville.org was just used to download Adult Sex Dares from the App Store on a computer or device that had not previously been associated with that Apple ID. You may also be receiving this email if you reset your password since your last purchase.

If you initiated this download, you can disregard this email. It was only sent to alert you in case you did not initiate this download yourself.

In addition to the direct email communications sent by Apple to Evans concerning his illicit App downloads, the ISP report shows that Evans downloaded pornographic Apps onto his Village issued iPhone over a period of at least 5 years:

11/27/2009: **Hot Weather Girls** App was purchased by Richard Evans on Apple ID sjpd@southjacksonville.org. (ISP, p. 468)

1/28/2012, **365° 300+ Best Sex Positions** App was purchased by Richard Evans on Apple ID sjpd@southjacksonville.org. (ISP, p. 479)

2/7/2012: **iKamasutra Lite: Sex Positions from Kama Sutra and Beyond** App was purchased by Richard Evans on Apple ID sjpd@southjacksonville.org. (ISP, p. 466)

4/3/2012, **400+ A Sex Positions** App was purchased by Richard Evans on Apple ID sjpd@southjacksonville.org. (ISP, p. 480)

10/20/2013, **Adult Sex Dares: Sex Toys and Lingerie Guide** App was purchased by Richard Evans on Apple ID sjpd@southjacksonville.org. (ISP, p. 464)

10/30/2013, **A Sex Guide** App was purchased by Richard Evans on Apple ID sjpd@southjacksonville.org. (ISP, p. 464)

1/20/2014, **SEX-Facts: Hot Adult Knowledge and Tips for Guys** App was purchased by Richard Evans on Apple ID sjpd@southjacksonville.org. (ISP, p. 464)

Given the facts, Evans cannot reasonably claim that he was unaware of the literally dozens of pornographic apps downloaded onto his Village iPhone over a 5-year period.

Why, in 2015, is Evans just now launching an investigation into actions that occurred in 2009, 2012, 2013, and 2014?

How did Evans not notice the appearance of dozens of pornographic Apps on his Village iPhone over a 5-year period? Was a Village issued credit card used to secure payment?

If, from 2009 to 2014, illegal purchases were made on Village credit cards issued to Evans, why were those purchases not noticed and reported at the time they were made?

Further, Evans stored his personal Ebay and PayPal login information on official SJPD documents. (ISP, pp. 437-38)

Is Evans claiming that unknown individuals compromised his Ebay account to buy/sell items online? If so, what unauthorized items were bought and/or sold on Evans' Ebay account by unknown individuals?

Is Evans claiming that unknown individuals collected PayPal revenues from the Ebay sales they used his account for?

What unknown individuals sent the email from sjpd@southjacksonville.org to sjpdchief@southjacksonville.org with picture attachments of Bookcases to sell on Ebay? (ISP, p. 460)

Beyond the many issues of impropriety, the most obvious question that arises is: How safe are Village residents when the Chief of Police can't even protect his own personal phone, credit cards, and email address, or the Police Department from being compromised by "unknown individuals"?

Petitioners request documentation about the hiring of a private security company after Evans learned that so many of the Village resources issued to him had become "compromised by unknown individuals." In addition, we request documentation of and hope to learn more about the formal inquiry initiated by Evans concerning this issue.

.....(Evans, p. 6).....

One of the questions in this investigation that has been mentioned is my take home car policy. In 1999 I discussed and received approval to use my take home car while on and off duty. This policy is similar to a lot of other departments who allow their chiefs to use their department vehicle for off-duty use.

Without question, many people raised questions about Evans' extensive personal use of his Village issued patrol car. However, the ISP report shows that Evans often allows his wife Mary to drive the patrol car. No police department policy in Illinois allows the spouses of police chiefs to drive patrol cars. Evans did not mention this violation.

Why does Evans let his wife drive a police car for her personal use?

.....

Another question that has arisen is petty cash being used for meals. The Village each year in all budgets makes allowances for meetings and meals. From time to time as the Chief of Police, I have taken visitors out to lunch which occurs in most businesses in our society. The most recent meals occurred when volunteers came to the Police Dept. to work on our facility. Each one of these volunteers worked with no compensation, and I felt it was only appropriate to feed the volunteers each day when they were helping the Village.

Government is not a business. In the business world (the *real world*), when money comes up missing, or when books and ledgers don't balance, people are held accountable.

Also, Petty Cash should not be used to pay for meals that are already budgeted for by the Village. That's the whole purpose of establishing a budget. In the real world, companies budget for expenditures on meals by cutting back on other expenses. Here, it appears that both the SJPD budget and Petty Cash fund were abused by Evans for unauthorized free lunches.

Why did Evans use Petty Cash for free lunches when his department already had money set aside for such expenditures?

Additionally, while the sentiment of providing refreshments to volunteers is certainly noble, paying for the lunches of an entire labor force every single day somewhat destroys the notion of "volunteering." By definition, volunteering means working without compensation.

.....(Evans, p. 6).....
In one incident, it was reported that I bought lunch for one of my police officers and he insists he wasn't there that day. Contrary to that another police officer feels he was present. I checked back on the log sheet for people on the log sheet and the people working that day and I may have inadvertently wrote the wrong person's name down that I took to lunch.

Evans said he takes visitors out to lunch "from time to time." But then he said he used Petty Cash to pay for the lunches of an entire "volunteer" labor force. Now Evans says he takes his officers out to lunch, and—whether intentional or not—has submitted fraudulent lunch tickets.

.....(Evans, p. 7).....
Every month I would submit expenses and to my knowledge as of this date, the Village Board and the Mayor have approved all these expenses.

Petitioners request documentation concerning lunch and other Petty Cash expenses submitted by Evans, including any invoice, receipt, or statement used for reimbursement.

Did the Board approve Evans' use of Petty Cash to pay for officer lunches on a regular basis? Also, did the Board approve Evans' use of Petty Cash to pay for the lunches of volunteers who worked on the Village PD, as Evans claims?

.....
I think throughout this investigation numerous people have made statements and allegations and have said things like "I don't have any direct evidence"; "I don't have anything to support the allegations"; "I don't have any proof, I just have suspicions"; and "I actually have no proof to back up my claims." These are comments made by people that the State Police interviewed. THIS REALLY TROUBLES ME.

Contrary to Evans' claims, none of these alleged witness statements appear anywhere in the ISP report. Additionally, it is somewhat ironic that after attacking ISP investigators and Village whistleblowers with hearsay and innuendo, Evans accuses others of operating on suspicion and without proof.

Interestingly, the ISP report shows that Evans agreed with ISP investigators that enough probable cause exists to arrest Linda Douglass for theft. (ISP, p. 412)

Why, if enough probable cause exists to arrest Douglass, has Evans failed to do so?

Furthermore, why did Evans' statement fail to mention the allegations made against Linda Douglass, which was the primary cause and focus of the State Police investigation?

CONCLUSION

WHEREAS, Richard Evans' public statement on April 2, 2015 about the Illinois State Police Investigation Report explicitly refutes and conveniently ignores most of the factual conclusions reached by ISP investigators and referenced in the Complaint, strikingly fails to address allegations of theft against Linda Douglass, and instead focuses on attacking the credibility of State Police investigators and Village whistleblowers.

WHEREAS, conspicuously absent from Evans' statement is any explanation of the ISP Investigation Report findings concerning his fraudulent certifications of LEADS users, his use of LEADS for personal purposes, his use of Village resources for personal benefit, and allegations of misconduct against Gordon Jumper and Linda Douglass.

WHEREFORE, since Evans' statement created more confusion than clarity, petitioners respectfully request that the Ethics Panel and other appropriate authorities include and consider this Addendum along with the original Citizens' Ethics Complaint filed with the South Jacksonville Village Clerk and Board on April 2, 2015.

WHEREFORE, knowing that Evans has publicly announced his intent to retire on May 31, 2015, Petitioners urgently request that the Village Board take immediate action, including the holding of emergency Board meetings if necessary, to appoint a 3-member Ethics Panel, retain legal counsel, and properly investigate the allegations contained in the Complaint in a prompt and timely manner.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dated: April 13, 2015

BY:



Tyson Manker, Esq.

On Behalf of the Petitioners

