Incident Report IDAHO STATE POLICE

M12000142

Supplement No



ORIGINAL

Reported Date
09/12/2012
Nature of Call
SEX OFFENC
Officer
KESSINGER, BRET

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Summary Narrative

On September 11, 2012, Detectives Bret Kessinger and Tim Hopkins of the Idaho State Police interviewed Tom Deknif, a Maintenance Supervisor for the Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections (IDJC) in Nampa, Canyon County, Idaho.

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- 1. On September 11, 2012, at approximately 3:55 p.m., Detective Tim Hopkins and I interviewed Tom Deknif, a juvenile work supervisor in the Maintenance Department for the Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections (IDJC) in Nampa, Canyon County, Idaho.
- 2. In interview, Deknif stated:

A. He has worked at the IDJC for approximately four years. He works an eight hour shift from approximately 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. He starts in the morning and readies equipment.

approximately 6.00 a.m. to 4.50 p.m. He starts	in the morning and readles	s equipment,
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paperwork for the juveniles community service (CS) hours, and checks email. He directly supervises the work of the competency (comps) and reintegration juveniles doing simple repair and janitorial projects around the IDJC. He works with juveniles that rotate out of vocational rehab classes to work with him about one to one and a half hours a day.

- B. He supervises the rotating groups of juveniles approximately four to five hours a shift. He will also supervise projects with the reintegration juveniles beyond the security gates of IDJC. He has never had a problem with the juveniles. He has had no instances of escapes, attacks on him, or juvenile on juvenile violence.
- C. Mr. Fehrer, who used to work in his position and now works as a vocational rehabilitation teacher at IDJC, had juveniles run away from him when he was working as a juvenile work supervisor; the juveniles were captured. This occurred more than five years ago. If a juvenile escapes, they are not allowed to go out to work CS hours and have sanctions determined by the administration placed upon them.
- D. He has responded to approximately three or four code calls. He is not certified in appropriate use of force. According to the statute, he is not required to be certified in use of force. He has been trained in use of force, but not recertified. Typically, fighting juveniles are separated, the situation is de-escalated, staff find out what the problem is, and the juveniles are commonly placed into separate units.
- E. Nampa Police Department is called on occasion to respond to juvenile on juvenile and juvenile on staff attacks. It is up to the staff victim to press charges against the attacking juvenile. Usually, instances of juvenile on juvenile attacks are normally handled only in-house. The juvenile is disciplined and no charges are filed; he is unsure Nampa Police have been called for juvenile on juvenile fights.
- E. He has only hearsay regarding sexual activity in the IDJC. Julie McCormick, a former safety and security officer, allegedly had sexual contact with juvenile been released from IDJC, and who is currently in IDJC's Choices program. Another instance he has heard of, is when female staffer Francine Diaz allegedly had relations. He has heard of a separate instance in one of the classrooms. During a movie or some staff presentation, a juvenile fondled a juvenile. He did not know if Nampa Police Department was called on this instance. He was sure that if the sexual contact was substantiated, the police would have been called.
- F. He has seen many fights, but has not participated in stopping any fight. He has called a code but the responding safety and security officer wrote the incident report.
- G. About two years ago, during physical education in the upper recreational field, some juveniles distracted the staff and two juveniles jumped fences by the maintenance shop, got on the roof, and escaped by running across the bridge over the freeway. Those juveniles were apprehended. There have been occasions of home pass juveniles refusing to return to custody; this happens about once a year. He feels they are just scared to go back into custody. He is sure some juveniles are afraid of fights and the lack of staff coverage.
- H. In years prior, OA staff was strong but now policy has loosened and juveniles misbehavior is

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actually incentivized. There is an enabling culture that exists in that is reinforced by the lack of consequences for bad behavior. If a juvenile fights, the juvenile is placed into room time and then loaned a Gameboy type of device or given a book to read. If they want to be away from the group and want to play the Gameboy, they will act out and receive what they want: room time and/or game time.

- I. Raymond Gregston is his supervisor at IDJC. Raymond Gregston has a brother that also works at IDJC named Phillip Gregston. Phillip Gregston is a rehab technician at IDJC who is involved with the current lawsuit as well.
- 3. Deknif gave us a map of IDJC facilities promised to us by Robert Robinson; Robinson is referred to incorrectly as Robertson in the report on his interview. Using the map, Deknlf explained IDJC camera coverage, showed us routes of juvenile escapes, and specified the use of some of the rooms and locations in IDJC. The interview was concluded at approximately 4:24 p.m.