Incident Report IDAHO STATE POLICE



Supplement No 0015



ORIGINAL

Reported Date
09/27/2012
Nature of Call
SEX OFFENC
Officer
KESSINGER, BRET

Agency	Case No	Supplement I					Status	
IDAHO STATE POLIC	E M12000142	2 0015	5 09/27/2012 -		00:01	INVI	ESTIGATION	
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Summary Narrative

On September 13, 2012, at approximately 3:50 p.m., Detectives Bret Kessinger and Tim Hopkins of the Idaho State Police interviewed Raymond Gregston regarding an investigation into criminal activity at the Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections (IDJC) Office in Nampa, Canyon County, Idaho.

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- 1. On September 13, 2012, at approximately 3:50 p.m., Detective Tim Hopkins and I Interviewed Raymond Gregston regarding an investigation into criminal activity at the Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections (IDJC) Office in Nampa, Canyon County, Idaho.
- 2. In interview, Gregston stated:

A. He has worked for the IDJC eleven years as	s building superintendent a	and maintenance man.
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Typically he arrives at work and reads emails regarding damage to the IDJC facility, repairs the damage, performs normal scheduled building and vehicle maintenance. He also is the IDJC facility emergency planner.

- B. If there is damage done by the juveniles, he will look at the Incident Report (IR) and determine whether the damage was intentional or an accident. If he determines he is going to seek restitution for the damage, he will call the Nampa Police Department to file a police report.
- C. At times, the IDJC houses juveniles that are particularly destructive and the repair work increases as a result. Overall, he averages an incident of structural damage each week. Setting a restitution threshold has been discussed, but he only puts in for restitution for felony amounts; he thinks approximately seven hundred dollars of damage. Of IDJC's three facilities, Nampa is the only one that works to receive restitution. Restitution usually is not sought for simple sheet rock damage, although that is the most common. If glass is broken by a juvenile, he will always submit for restitution; he usually replaces broken glass with Lexan. When the damaging juvenile is mentally challenged, extremely poor, or is transferred to another institution before restitution is received, there is a diminishing gain in the process of submitting for restitution and, if continued, only makes the taxpayer end up paying more than the situation is worth.
- D. The practice of seeking restitution originated with former IDJC Director Larry Calicutt. Calicutt's thinking was to create documentation and a record for the courts to show what the juvenile had done while in custody of IDJC. This, he reasoned, would assist the judge in deciding if the juvenile needed to stay in the system longer. Restitution wasn't sought by IDJC until about 2005. There are some records of incidents causing damage before that.
- E. He recalls that IDJC incurred five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) worth of damage the first year the Solutions, the mental health unit, opened. This amount was strictly in structural damage, not to mention damages with bedding and clothing.
- F. He only deals with the aftermath and has never witnessed an actual incident. His brother, Phillip Gregston, works directly with the juveniles in IDJC as a rehabilitative technician and sees incidents daily. So far as he knows, juveniles and staff have to decide for themselves if they are going to press charges for being assaulted. However, the administration wants to keep any incidents on the down low. In Sabrina Paine's incident, where she was severely injured by a kick to the head, he feels there should have been some consequence and accountability for the juvenile that injured her. The juveniles appear to him to be becoming more dangerous and he harbors personal concems for brother's safety.
- G. He has no direct knowledge of sexual behavior between juveniles and staff or juvenile on juvenile. He only knows of rumors and hearsay. He has heard of former IDJC employee getting involved with a juvenile. He has heard of juveniles sneaking in to a restroom for some "he-ing and she-ing" meaning having sex or kissing. He has only heard of a few instances of juveniles sneaking off for sex while he has been employed at the IDJC.
- H. IDJC has improved their camera system to prevent juveniles sneaking off for sex or determining the instigator of a fight. The IDJC probably had twenty to thirty cameras before the most current upgrade. In approximately 2004, the cameras were updated. Until then, IDJC only

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had screen multiplexers that were not recorded. Until the upgrade, there were no cameras in the classroom. IDJC Information Technology (IT) now builds their own Digital Video Recorders (DVR) which can hold approximately a month worth of recording, even with all the cameras in the building; after 30 days, the video records over itself. He thinks they have six to eight DVRs in operation. IT does not back up recordings from the DVRs unless there is an incident and the video to be pulled and saved by request only. They are currently updating to Internet Protocol (IP) cameras to improve the system.

- I. The juveniles have been known to plan escapes and use distraction techniques on the staff to facilitate escape. He knows of five juvenile escapes. Some juveniles ran out the front door while they were working in the front as a cleaning crew. Three or four juveniles slammed and broke the hinge on a man-door that has access to the outside and escaped. Two juveniles used a table that had been set out for repair to gain access to the roof of a shed, then access to the roof of the main facility, and jumped off of the roof. During a garbage detail, two juveniles waited until the staffer had her back turned and ran out of the open gate. All escaping juveniles were captured soon after their escape. Many juveniles have threatened escape, but have been physically unable to do so. As weaknesses in security are revealed, they are repaired with the exception of his suggestion that concertina wire be installed on the roof. IDJC Administration has refused to allow the concertina wire because they do not want to look like an institution.
- J. Reintegration juveniles, juveniles that are close to release, do simple cleaning work with his staff; this program started about four years ago. Some receive compensation for their work in the form of gift cards donated by staff. These working reintegration juveniles have not caused any problems and do not fight or escape. They will play harmless jokes on the new workers with the equipment but nothing malicious. The senior maintenance craftsman will take two to three juveniles under wing and coordinate projects with them; primarily gardening or building projects.
- K. He has heard Superintendent Betty Grimm complain while going through a hiring process for Safety and Security Officers (SSO) that most applicants had backgrounds in either former military, law enforcement, or adult corrections and this was not the type of individual that she wanted in those positions. He took this statement personally as his brother worked for idaho Department of Corrections (IDOC) before working at IDJC. The administration appears to hire people without apparent qualifications. They also are ambiguous about juvenile policy and application of juvenile discipline and seem to promote individuals without apparent merit.
- L. He has a good relationship with Canyon County and IDJC. Former IDJC Investigator and SSO Tom Knoff has developed a great relationship with Steve Jett of Canyon County and together they have made arrangements for housing the juveniles in the case of catastrophic damage to IDJC or other unforeseen circumstances.
- M. He recommends interviewing Tom Knoff about IDJC. Knoff is changing jobs to Probation and Parole soon, but is very qualified to comment about IDJC. He feels Knoff was unfairly terminated. Knoff was dismissed due to his opinion that there is a severe lack of discipline for the juveniles and this is a big reason for internal turmoil of present.
- N. Tom Knoff was IDJC's former investigator and he thinks the current PREA investigator is Joe Bloom.

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- O. He thinks Performance Based Standards (PBS) is a good way of maintaining standards but must be fully incorporated in all three institutions if it is going to be effective. Currently, this is not the case.
- 3. The interview was concluded at approximately 4:35 p.m.