



Luther, Lori <lori.luther@opkansas.org>

Heated exchange

1 message

Sheila Albers <sheila@albershcs.org>

Mon, Sep 11, 2023 at 10:53 PM

To: "Luther, Lori" <lori.luther@opkansas.org>, "Skoog, Curt" <curt.skoog@opkansas.org>

Curt and Lori

I attended a portion of the city council meeting this evening. My intent was just to sit in the back and listen. Chief Donchez approached me attempting to engage in a dialogue about the email I sent regarding the 30x30 initiative. He shook my hand and he started by telling me he was trying. I told him he needed to try harder. He replied by taking about how badly police have been bashed over the last few years and how difficult it is to recruit. I told the same goes for teaching and nursing. He repeated again that he wanted to have a dialogue. I responded that I could not have a dialogue with someone who I do not believe in and do not trust. I told him that he was a liar and I specifically brought up the CPOST form and the interview he did with Fox in February 2019. I specifically described the interview he did one full year after John was killed. The reporter asked Donchez if Jenison had been reprimanded or encouraged to leave. Donchez told the reporter, "no". The reporter asked why. Donchez replied, "He left too soon before those discussions could occur. The reporter asked, "How soon did Jenison leave?" Donchez replied, "Within a week or two". When I discovered the severance payment in 2020, we then realized that Jenison signed the severance agreement February 16th and his last day with the department was March 4th. Jenison did not leave within a week or two. I pushed Donchez hard on the lies he told in that interview and his response was asking me if I have ever lied before. I told him I have not lied in a professional setting like that. He then said, "I am sure you and Steve tell everyone you were the best parents. I read the OISIT report." I replied with, "John struggled with his mental health". Donchez replied, "And you left him at his time of need."

There was also conversation about the DOJ investigation. Donchez thinks that the reason the DOJ wrote the 2 page document correcting the narrative was because I called them incessantly to make it happen. Not true, but it must make him feel better to think that.

The conversation ended with Chief Donchez stating that he will keep being the Chief until he retires and I can keep hoping he is not. I said, "okay". He walked away.

Ultimately, I called him out on the two occasions he lied in his role as Chief. I told him that it was his integrity on the line. He did not like it and lashed back. Whether Steve and I are the world's worst parents or model parents is irrelevant to the changes that need to be made. It is clear Donchez justifies the use of force because in his mind we failed as parents. Victim blaming at its best. Since CPOST did nothing and the DOJ did not charge Jenison, in Donchez's mind he is in the clear.

This is obviously not the full conversation, but it gives you the gist. I do not need you to do anything. I said what needed to be said and he did not like it. He showed his true colors and I am glad I stood my ground.

Sheila