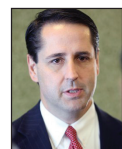


WHO'S WHO IN THE TANGLED KERN HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT CLETS SCANDAL?

Allegations of district employees misusing a law enforcement database, the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System, have dogged KHSD for months. At least one administrator blamed Police Chief Joseph Lopeteguy, while other investigations suggest it's a systemic problem going back years. Here are all the players:



DAVID ZULFA
Kern Judge, Former Deputy D.A.
Mike Zulfa's brother, David, was a supervisor in the D.A.'s office until 2014. The D.A. says that could pose a conflict of interest in its investigation.



MIKE ZULFA
KHSD Asst. Supt., H.R.
Zulfa filed a police report against Lopeteguy in August alleging misuse of CLETS. Lopeteguy's lawyer says it's whistleblower retaliation.



BRENDA LEWIS
KHSD Asst. Supt., Instruction
Lewis learned of CLETS abuse from Lopeteguy. She emailed Greene and Jennings to say CLETS misuse would not be tolerated.



COURTNEY LEWIS
Kern Deputy DA
Lewis' mother is a high-ranking admin at KHSD, something the D.A.'s office said creates no conflict of interest in its review of one of the CLETS cases.



DONNY YOUNGBLOOD
Kern County Sheriff
Youngblood was once Lopeteguy's boss when he worked for KCSO. Youngblood's office asked that it not investigate Lopeteguy because of that.



OTIS JENNINGS *
KHSD Director of Pupil Personnel
Jennings received CLETS information and furnished it to people not authorized to receive it, the Sheriff's Office alleged in a report filed in July.



STAN GREENE
KHSD Athletics Director
A sheriff's report said Greene requested CLETS checks on student athletes to ensure they lived in their designated high school boundaries.



JOSEPH LOPETEGUY
KHSD Police Chief
He blew the whistle on district officials for alleged CLETS misuse, then filed a \$2.2M claim against district alleging retaliation.



MIKE COLLIER *
Former KHSD Police Chief
Lopeteguy says that in Aug. 2015, after he had become chief, Collier told him that illegal CLETS checks for administrators were routine.

246

Number of CLETS checks Collier ran in 2014-2015, according to a sheriff's investigative report.

*Kern County sheriff's officials recommended the Kern D.A. press charges against Jennings and Collier.

INVESTIGATIONS BOUNCED AMONG AGENCIES

The investigation into the Kern High School District's alleged misuse of CLETS has been bounced among at least four separate law enforcement agencies.



KERN HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICE DEPARTMENT

- Lopeteguy launched an internal investigation and asked two of his officers, Gilbert Valdez and Jerald Wyatt, to look into the possibility that CLETS was being misused. When they found wrongdoing, they brought it to Lopeteguy's former employer — the Kern County Sheriff's Office.



KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

- Sheriff's officials investigated the initial CLETS misuse case, when Lopeteguy blew the whistle on former Police Chief Mike Collier and two district administrators, Stan Greene and Otis Jennings. The office recommended charges against Collier and Jennings.



KERN COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

- The Kern County District Attorney's office declined to press charges against Collier and Jennings, citing a lapsed statute of limitations and lack of evidence. Then when Lopeteguy was accused of CLETS misuse, the office asked the Tulare County DA's office to investigate.



TULARE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

- Tulare County prosecutors took over the investigation when Kern County DA Lisa Green said her office had too close a relationship with those involved in the matter. Tulare prosecutors declined to press charges against Lopeteguy, the original whistleblower.

DID YOU KNOW?

There are two separate investigations into CLETS misuse. The first one was reported by Lopeteguy, who alleged district administrators were running background checks on student athletes and employees. The second was reported by district administrator Mike Zulfa in August, who alleged that Lopeteguy ran an illegal background check on his stepson, who worked for the district. Lopeteguy's lawyer said that was retaliatory.

TRACKING THE SCANDAL

AUG. 4, 2015
Dispatcher Carol Stonecipher asks Lopeteguy to run CLETS checks on two student license plates for Athletics Director Stan Greene. She said it was routine with Collier. Lopeteguy refused.



AUG. 4, 2015
Later, Lopeteguy's boss, Otis Jennings, emailed him saying, "This is something we've done in the past through the chief for purposes of the district."

AUGUST 2015
Lopeteguy ordered an internal investigation into CLETS use. Months later, when officers found wrongdoing, they reported it to the Kern County Sheriff's Office, the subscription holder of CLETS.

APRIL 6, 2015

Sheriff's officials investigate. They recommended charges against Jennings and Collier of furnishing CLETS information to unauthorized individuals.

MAY 13, 2016

KHSD officials place Lopeteguy on administrative leave, but would not publicly discuss the reasons why, citing it as a personnel matter. He returned to his post at the beginning of August.

AUG 10, 2016

CLETS misuse becomes public. KHSD responds by signing contracts with a police consultant and a Sacramento law firm to investigate the concerns raised.

AUG. 16, 2016

KHSD Assistant Superintendent Mike Zulfa files a sheriff's report against Lopeteguy, alleging he ran an improper CLETS check on his stepson, a heroin addict employed by the district.

AUG. 22, 2016

Lopeteguy files a \$2.2M government claim against KHSD alleging whistleblower retaliation. He went on personal stress leave a few days earlier.

Source: Kern County Sheriff's Office investigation reports