

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**The Glades Law Firm Secures Dismissal of Criminal Case Filed Against Former City of Carthage Parks Director Mark Peterson**

**Joplin, MO— 2/16/2026** —The Glades Law Firm is proud to announce a significant victory for client rights, announcing that all criminal charges against Mark Peterson will be dismissed on Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, when Courts reopen after the President's Day Holiday in Jasper County]. The dismissal, filed by the Missouri Attorney's Office, was achieved after legal counsel obtained bank records for the City of Carthage on January 26<sup>th</sup> of this year.

The case involved charges for Three counts of Stealing and Two counts of Money Laundering, originally filed by the Jasper County Prosecutor's office, where the prosecution's case relied heavily on a forensic audit requested by the City of Carthage. The Glades Law firm was able to find irrefutable evidence of Thirty-Five deposits Mark Peterson made into the City of Carthage's bank account that were not reported to the forensic auditor, which allowed the defense team to identify these inconsistencies that were overlooked by the Carthage Police Department.

"This case highlights the dangerous circumstances when data may be manipulated to arrive at the conclusion desired," said [Brian Glades at The Glades Law Firm "My team here at the office along with Mark's never-ending quest to prove his innocence allowed us to sift through terabytes of data to find the precise 'needle in the haystack' that demonstrated our client's innocence."

This victory emphasizes the importance of evolving legal strategies to incorporate new technologies to protect client rights.

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