

To all whom it may concern:

The following is an apology from myself Gary Studenic for any inadvertent hardships that I may have caused anyone, no matter how small. On August 21, 2019. The enormity of what has happened is not lost on me! What was a very innocent and simple accident, became a very large problem for so many. On that morning, while rushing to the courtroom, I inadvertently grabbed a private prank that had been put on my car the previous evening. While picking up a notification that I was parking my car on private property with the permission of one of the owners as I had done frequently in the past. Unknowing I had set off a set of events that quickly became a sequence of responses that were unintended and unknown by me!

Please read the following:

This situation all started the evening before in which a close friend had played a prank on me as we have done for years, only this time it accidentally became public and unknown to me the following morning. The entire sequence of events came from a very simple, accidental, and unintentional action committed by me. As mentioned earlier, my friend was working late and had noticed my car parked in the lot. So he thought he would place a note on my car and then watch for me to come by and see it. Well I did, but not until my wife had seen it first. As I was opening the car she said not to because of a paper on our windshield. As soon as she started reading it out loud to me I grabbed it and started looking for my friend because it didn't fool me for a second. As I reached for my phone to call him, while looking for his number, I saw him looking out of his office window, laughing. He opened the window, chatted with me for a while

and told me that he had wondered how long it would take me to know it was from him. I related the instant my wife started reading it to me. With that my wife and I headed home. Once we got home and pulled into the garage my wife got out of the car and laid both papers on the passenger's seat with mine on top. So, when I pulled into their parking lot the following morning while running late from heavy traffic I reached over and grabbed what I thought was only my notice of parking and ended up throwing it and the one below on the dashboard in front of the steering wheel as I was hurriedly exiting the car. Not looking back and probably not even locking my car, I started sprinting toward the courthouse.

That is when everything went wrong!

While in the courtroom, my phone was off so, no one could reach me. As soon as I was ready to leave the courthouse, I turned on my phone to a plethora of messages and calls and many from the Marietta police department, to which I immediately responded to see why they were calling me. My first thought was something terrible involving my family. I quickly learned what had been taking place for the past couple of hours. As soon I heard that there was potentially an explosive device in my car, I stated that everyone could stand down as it had to be from a prank from the other night. But, how they knew it was confusing to me. I rushed over to speak with them and was shocked by all the activity. When I approached the scene the first officer I came to stopped me and then escorted me to the command

center. What I ran into was a ramped-up, agitated group of officers doing their job. At that time I still did not know why things were on such a high alert until they told about the note from last evening that was in the windshield of my car. The enormity of what was taking place was unnerving and upsetting to say the very least. I was being accused of committing the action and of a note that I had never completely read myself at that time. I still have not read or seen the note in its entirety. The conversation was very heated as to why I had done such a thoughtless thing, and I was very upset to have such allegations levied at me of which I would never have knowingly done. Following a conversation at the scene, I was taken to the police department, where after a brief discussion, I waived the assistance of an attorney, as I did not need one to tell the truth. As all concerned had some time to relax and cooler heads could prevail, the police though understanding, felt that some charges had to be given. After that, I was, then taken to the county jail, processed and later that evening released.

Once again I am sorry sorry sorry, to all who had been affected. Also, my son was a fireman and EMT for almost ten years, and I would not have appreciated his going through such needless stress, and being concerned that he may be injured, as all the policemen on the scene realize the very real risk their jobs ask of them.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gary Studenic

PS. Anyone who reports the news has an obligation to report it accurately. The following statement was never in my windshield!!

It is hard for me to understand how a personal text that was made public where I was joking with my friend and texted the following statement just before entering the courthouse. "Thanks to you, I have a new notice in my windshield. It goes quote, this car will explode if towed. LOL

An Apology and Barbecue is being offered at mt residence sometime this fall for all the area police officers.