

Press Release

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DETECTIVE FILES SUIT FOR RETALIATION BY PUBLIC DEFENDERS INCLUDING ONE MARRIED TO CRIMINAL WHO WAS SUBJECT TO INVESTIGATION

Fayette County, KY– Attorneys, Chris Wiest, Tom Bruns, Zach Gottesman and Rob Thumann, filed a lawsuit in federal court on behalf of Detective Jefferey Farmer alleging he was maliciously targeted with numerous false statements by attorneys from the Frankfort, Kentucky public defender’s office; Kristin Gonzalez, Valerie Church, Cheyla Bush, Partick Brennan, and Nathan Goodrich.

The complaint included Facebook posts, text messages, and letters from the attorneys attacking Detective Jefferey Farmer for attending the Trump rally on January 6, 2021 even though he was no where near any violent or criminal activity. Farmer made public statements within hours after the rally denouncing the violence and criminal activity that took place in a different location from where he was gathered with friends.

This did not stop Gonzalez, Church, Bush, Brennan, and Goodrich from writing a letter to Farmers superiors, and then releasing to the media to defame him, numerous false allegations about his involvement in rioting, treason, and consorting with white supremacist to name a few of their malicious allegations.

Gonzalez even admitted in text messages, “I have only made it my mission to screw with 3 [officers] in all the time I have been there,” then she named Farmer as one of the three officers she was targeting.

Wiest alleges in his complaint that Gonzalez targeted Farmer, because as one of the top narcotics detectives in the state he busted her now husband, William Bradley McGuaghey, on possession charges in 2014 while McGuaghey and Gonzalez were dating. This obviously cast suspicion within the Franklin County Sheriff’s Department about whether Gonzalez had any involvement in McGughey’s drug activity.

For the sake of impartiality, Farmer’s superiors hired an outside investigator to look into the allegations against Farmer. The investigation found no wrongdoing on the Farmer’s part. In fact, he was acting in accordance with his First and Fourteenth federal constitutional amendment rights.

Detective Farmer’s work with the Franklin County Sheriff’s Office has been exemplary. Twice he was named Deputy of the Year by the Department. His case work has substantially reduced drug trafficking activity in Franklin County, Kentucky. He has been the recipient of numerous letters of commendation in his time with the Sheriff’s office. In a citizens’ poll with the Kentucky State Journal, Farmer was voted Frankfort’s Favorite Law Enforcement Officer, in part due to his extensive community involvement.

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