

# Sheriff



Sheriff Michael A. Lewis  
Wicomico County Maryland

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October 4, 2024

Julie M. Giordano  
County Executive  
P.O. Box 870  
Salisbury, Maryland 21803-0870

County Executive Giordano-

On September 30, 2024, I received an email copy of a letter from your office, authored by you in which you formally requested an investigation into the alleged sharing of pornographic images of you by one of my deputies. Since we last discussed your sharing of "nude selfies" to one of my deputies, neither you nor anyone else requested an investigation be initiated into the possible dissemination of these "pornographic" photos. Photos, of course, that any viewer could quickly discern were self-generated, self-created, and ultimately self-distributed.

You stated in paragraph four of your letter that *"no member of the Wicomico County Sheriff's Office or any other law enforcement agency has permission to possess any visual representation of myself with my intimate parts exposed or whole (I think you meant while) engaged in an act of sexual activity."* You further go on to state *"I have never consented to the creation of any visual representation of myself with my intimate parts exposed or while engaged in an act of sexual activity. I have never provided anyone consent to distribute any visual representation of me with my intimate parts exposed or while engaged in an act of sexual activity."* Perhaps, you should have thought about that before you sent those selfies from your phone.

In your words, this matter is straightforward: You have a choice to make, Madam County Executive. As a key witness to the nude selfies, I stand fully prepared to testify as to how a deputy requested permission to enter my office and shut my door. While standing next to my desk, the deputy proceeded to scroll through multiple nude selfies of you, clearly taken by you, now being shockingly displayed on my deputy's cellphone.

These nude selfies were never forwarded to my cellphone, and I've never been in possession of these self-created pornographic images. But, one can only wonder how many others have seen or been forwarded (perhaps by you) these same photos. As for visual representation of you engaged in sexual activity, I have never claimed to see that video.

As you mentioned in paragraph six of your letter of request, I am conflicted and my agency is unable to conduct an investigation into this matter. I am more than willing to request an official investigation into where these pornographic images (nude selfies) originated. I will make the request through the Maryland State Police or the Office of the State Prosecutor.

Once the investigation commences, it will likely result in the issuance of a search and seizure warrant of your cellphone (personal and government) by investigators to conduct a complete forensic examination to confirm that the same photos shown to me did in fact originate from one of your cellphones, or a previous cellphone owned by you. All deleted messages, photos, and emails are fully-recoverable despite one's best attempts to destroy them.

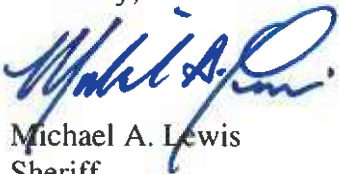
Of course, once the investigation is concluded, you will no longer be able to deny to your own administration or to the citizens of Wicomico County that these photos not only exists, but so do your text messages, phone logs, and other video evidence detailing your activities and life as Wicomico County Executive.

As the Sheriff of Wicomico County, I'm deeply hurt and embarrassed that a fellow elected official would bring such disrepute onto a county where I was born and raised. Our citizens deserve better.

My personal attorney and I look forward to a written response from you outlining what investigative measures you would like for me to take to secure an outside agency to fully-investigate these serious allegations. Please respond within 14 days (two weeks). I eagerly await your response.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael A. Lewis".

Michael A. Lewis  
Sheriff  
Wicomico County (MD)