

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As you all know, Friday was supposed to be my last work day in the office. Earlier this month, Neal told Sheriff-Elect Hilbrecht he would appoint him to be your next Sheriff. Command staff took Neal at his word and began preparing for the natural transition.

During the day this past Friday, I began to obtain information that Neal was not going to appoint Matt, and that Trent Weaver had secretly been contacted to come take the oath. As you all know, this brings several hardships upon you all and the taxpayers of Marshall County.

First, you have now saddled taxpayers with paying for a tax audit from October through Dec 31. Then, the state auditor's office will have to close the books and do an audit of funds in January. This period could last up to a week and the community will be unable to pay their taxes during this time. Then, the taxpayers will have to pay for an additional audit from the time Sheriff Hilbrecht takes office, until the end of the tax season.

Second, when you have a Sheriff transition, it is custom to have an inventory audit of the evidence room. Sheriff Byars conducted such an audit which cost the taxpayers over \$3,000. Since both, Hilbrecht and I were familiar with our evidence room, this was set to be a savings to the county. Instead, we now have to conduct, not one, but TWO evidence audits in a matter of 4 months. This is another \$6,000 minimum we are costing the taxpayers.

Last, but certainly not least, this puts you all in a very unknown situation. I believe Weaver would come in and do an adequate job, however, you have to wonder why someone would want the position for such a temporary period of time. Especially, given the way, he was appointed, and by whom appointed him. It's like the fruit of a very poisonous tree.

With all this being said, I canceled my retirement this morning and will stay until at least August 31, 2022. This will give us all time to reassess the situation and hopefully avoid Neal's backhanded attempt to damage the Sheriff's Office one last time before he is stripped from office. I will take a day or so to reflect and seek counsel on what would be the right course of action in which to bring this travesty to the public attention.

I love you all and I am very sorry you've had to endure so much from this man that was supposed to be a leader.

p.s. Do not respond to this thread as there are several people copied and an emotional response would certainly become public.

Thanks,

Eddie McGuire
Marshall Co. Sheriff
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