

MEMORANDUM

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF STATE POLICE
SPECIAL LICENSE AND FIREARMS UNIT

RECEIVED

OCT 16 2007

Office Of
Administrative Service

TO: Major Gene Labonte

FROM: Detectives Mattson and Karanda

DATE: 10/05/07

SUBJECT: Kuck Complaint

This memo is concerning incidents that have occurred with a member of the Board of Firearm Permit Examiners. These incidents document a continual pattern of egregious conduct that has occurred with before us as members of the Connecticut State Police-Special Licensing and Firearms Unit. These incidents are of personal recollection and by no means encompass all of the suspect behavior of Mr. M. Peter Kuck.

Det Mattson has worked in her capacity as the revocation authority for the State of Connecticut since December of 2000. She is the Commissioner's designee concerning permit related matters and for case involvement with the Board of Firearm Permit Examiners of which Mr. Kuck is a member thereof.

Det. Karanda has worked in his capacity as the revocation authority for the State of Connecticut permit revocation office. He has been assigned to the Firearms Unit since June of 2003. He is also a Commissioner's designee concerning permit related matters and for case involvement with the Board of Firearm Permit Examiners.

Det. Mattson was assigned as a hearings participant due to the nature of the firearms revocation and appeals process. She initially had no problems or complaints with any board members while assigned to this duty. She has worked with Major Chris Arciero when he was a sergeant assigned to Labor Relations. Lt. Alaric Fox was next when he was assigned as the Labor Relation sergeant. Capt. Robert Tolomeo when assigned to Labor Relations, then became the representative of the issuing authority. Sgt. David Rosado and Tpr Seth Mancini have acted as the representative to date.

Det Mattson believed she had a gradual personality conflict with Mr. Kuck. She believed that his demeanor and behavior were unprofessional. Mr. Kuck made off hand comments to her as well as other participants in the hearing process. He intentionally demeaned her and her job performance in the presence of appellants and officers alike. It escalated to

the point that Capt Tolomeo told Chairman Philip Dukes that Mr. Kuck was to have no other conversations with Det. Mattson without being sworn in for testimony.

Mr. Kuck would make it a point to make snide remarks when leaving the building at the conclusion of the hearings. He would tell both Det. Mattson and Karanda how unprepared the "locals" were when presenting their cases. He questioned their capacity on a number of occasions.

On 01/15/04, Mr. Kuck came into the SLFU offices without approval or escort. This is a secure area where the public is not allowed due to the sensitivity of our confidential information. He came up behind Det. Mattson when she was seated at her workstation unannounced. She asked him who had let him into the office. He told her that he did not have to tell her who had allowed him in. She asked if he had signed in required by office protocol. He said he had not and she escorted him to the front of the office where he signed in and then out of the office. This entry was a violation of existing office policy. He then told her that she "did not know who she was messing with". He was then told to leave, which he did. This occurred after the permit hearings after he had attempted to embarrass Det. Mattson on examination.

On January 29, 2004, when Lt. Kasacek was the Commanding Officer of SLFU, myself, Det. Mattson and Sgt Fox met with Mr. Arthur Carr and Mr. Kuck to address their concerns of the backlog of cases they had at the Board of Firearm Permit Examiners. We assured them that we were being reasonably prompt in the preparation of their cases. At the time the backlog of cases was 15-16 months.

On November 15, 2005, Mr. Kuck called the SLFU office. Det Karanda answered the phone and Mr. Kuck asked for Det. Mattson. Mr. Kuck asked for Det. Mattson while knowing of past differences between them. Mr. Kuck asked questions about one of his friends selling a firearm to another person. Mr. Kuck told the other person that the person receiving the gun must have a valid permit. Mr. Kuck then asked Det. Mattson if she could tell him if he had a permit. Det. Mattson told him, "absolutely not" would she relay that information to him as it violated Connecticut General statute 29-28 concerning the confidentiality of permit holder's information. Det. Mattson believed that Mr. Kuck was trying to gain information, which he knew he was not privileged to have.

The permit hearings have continued on a monthly basis with Mr. Kuck making unprofessional and improper comments to both appellants and police officers that have appeared before the Board. His comments have included, "You screwed up!" "Are you going to buy your wife flowers after this incident." and "Are you going to take you wife out to dinner after this?" There is a general consensus among officers that he makes these comments for the "shock" value. Past Board Chairmen have chastised Mr. Kuck on numerous occasions where he would not appear the following month. He has now failed to heed any warnings and continues to make improper remarks.

Officers in the field have told us that Mr. Kuck has telephoned them to try to set up training for their officers that he would conduct. This would be about paperwork and case preparation for appeals cases. This is far outside the scope of his authority as a board member to offer training to law enforcement of any kind.

The adversarial nature of our interpersonal relations has increased over the past year. Mr. Kuck has filed an internal affairs complaint against Det. Karanda dated November 11, 2006, in an effort to have him removed from his duties. Mr. Kuck has expressed his disenchantment with Dets. Mattson and Karanda to Capt. Masek. Mr. Kuck told Capt. Masek to speak to TFC Claudia Tomasetti about the permitting issues as she had worked in the permitting revocation capacity years earlier. Capt. Masek did not wish to pursue interpretational issues concerning revocation issues from then and now. Mr. Kuck has given transcripts of Det. Karanda's testimony on appeal cases to Capt. Masek for review. Det. Karanda believes this a retaliatory strike in an effort to discredit him before the board. Mr. Kuck also did not have board authority or approval to obtain these transcripts after the board had rendered its decision.

We have been given information concerning board issues with DPS from Susan Mazzoccoli who is the executive assistant to the Board of Firearm Permit Examiners. She has told us of serious personnel matters that have occurred within their office which have been forwarded to the State of Connecticut, Boards and Commissions. Mr. Kuck requested transcripts of a Board case after Det. Karanda had his interaction with him during a recess at the November 11, 2006 hearings. At this time Det. Karanda had tried to act as an intermediary between Mr. Kuck and Det. Mattson. Det. Karanda observed first hand, how volatile Mr. Kuck truly had become when he began an angry tirade directed toward Det. Karanda.

The week of March 12, 2007, Det. Karanda received a phone call from Lt. Spagnola of the Waterbury Police Department. He was inquiring of an individual who had identified himself as "Commissioner Kuck", and how he had interrupted a meeting he was attending. He told Lt. Spagnola that he was "trying to nip a problem in the bud." He told Lt. Spagnola that there had been complaints about gun shows. He told him that he knew he was "trying to be diligent in his duties." Lt. Spagnola took offense to Mr. Kuck contacting him concerning these issues and the way he purported himself to be a state commissioner.

On March 19, 2007, Mr. Kuck was told that he could not renew his permit without providing certain documentation, i.e. birth certificate, passport or voter registration card. Mr. Kuck told others that this was not a requirement of the law. He was told that this was a one time only situation. Mr. Kuck was sent secondary letters to encourage him to produce these documents. At no time was his permit revoked or denied. His current permit status is of his own accord for failing to provide these documents.

On March 20, 2007, Mr. Kuck told Susan Mazzoccoli that he met with Senator Tony Guglielmo to speak with him concerning the backlog of cases. He also spoke about his

own issues concerning the denial of his permit. DPS responded to Senator Guglielmo by letter addressing Mr. Kuck's concerns.

On March 23, 2007, Mr. Kuck contacted the previous Board Chairman, Philip Dukes, concerning the identification issue.

On March 27, 2007, Senator Guglielmo called the Board office as he had been receiving frequent calls from "Commissioner Kuck."

On April 17, 2007, Mr. Kuck emailed Capt. Masek asking for an explanation of the denial of his permit.

On May 10, 2007, Mr. Kuck slapped the hand of Mr. Cornelius during a board hearing. Mr. Cornelius was reaching for his lawyer's notebook. Mr. Kuck told him that anything on the table was his. Mr. Kuck had also said to the Chairman, "Go ahead, slap my hand" when he has been admonished by the Chairman.

On May 10, 2007, Mr. Kuck questioned an officer during a hearing. Mr. Kuck referred to the New York State Police investigation of DPS and questioned the officer if he was aware of the DWI investigation aspect of the complaint and his knowledge of the "100 Club." There was an audible groan from the hearing room and subsequent objection from the issuing authority. The officer asked for a transcript of the hearing due to Mr. Kuck's comments and the inappropriateness of those comments. Mr. Kuck had on several occasions stated to all present, "Why are we here?" and "I know how I'll vote." This is prior to the State presenting any evidence as to the facts of the case.

May 16, 2007, Mr. Kuck asked that Susan Mazzoccoli send a copy of the Erisoty case to Capt. Masek after he had met with him prior to the May 2007 meeting. Mr. Kuck asked Capt. Masek to reopen the case because of lies by police. This matter was heard before the board and a decision had been rendered to the objection of Mr. Kuck. Mr. Kuck is friendly with the owner of the store where this appellant has purchased many of the 508 guns he currently owns.

On June 14, 2007, Mr. Kuck asked Captain Masek to come and meet with the Board after the hearings. This was an introductory meeting between the Capt and the members of the board.

On June 25, 2007, Mr. Kuck, as secretary of the board, asked Susan Mazzoccoli to contact DPS and ask why they were stalling in answering the board letter that was sent on May 14, 2007.

On July 2, 2007, Mr. Kuck called Susan Mazzoccoli and asked her if she has received a response from the Commissioner of DPS. He tells her that he has hired Atty Rachel Baird and he plans on "stirring up dirt at DPS."

July 11, 2007, Mr. Kuck asked Susan Mazzoccoli to call the Commissioner of DPS to send a representative to attend the next board meeting to discuss the backlog of cases. Mr. Kuck asked her to contact the Commissioner to set up a meeting to talk about various board issues.

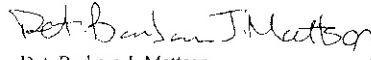
August 23, 2007, Mr. Kuck's meeting with the Commissioner is cancelled.


In the spring of 2007, at the end of the hearings, Mr. Kuck was talking about some matter concerning the board. He then said, with Det. Mattson seated directly across the table, "There are no other women in the room except for Sue." Other members of the board, as well as officers present, immediately took umbrage at his unprofessional and ill-advised comment. Mr. Kuck repeatedly speaks to Det. Mattson as "Mrs. Mattson" or "Barbara." This is done to reduce her standing at the board and appears sexist and gender biased.

We have been made aware of other issues that have been presented to the office staff of the Board of Firearms Permit Examiners but they have been unwilling to come forward for fear of reprisal of Mr. Kuck.

This is just a brief synopsis of events that we have dealt with concerning Mr. Kuck and his conduct while a member of the Board of Firearm Permit Examiners. We believe that Mr. Kuck wants both of us removed from our positions in the licensing and firearms unit. We have raised these concerns on numerous occasions to members of the Connecticut State Police command staff over the past 4 years as his conduct has become more than unprofessional and demeaning to law enforcement. We feel that Mr. Kuck is no longer able to give a fair and unbiased decision with any appeals case that is presented by the Department of Public Safety.

Respectfully submitted,


Det. Barbara J. Mattson


Det. Thomas M. Karanda