

To Whom It May Concern

I have received information about the Port Arthur Police Department. The focus centers around the administration of the department. In fear of retaliation these officers have come to me to tell there story.

One person involved is Frank Ramirez, one of the Deputy Chiefs at Port Arthur Police Department. It is my understanding, that Ramirez at the time of his appointment was still the subject of a lawsuit and EEOC complaint that was generated by an officer at the department. The complaint detailed discrimination and a hostile work environment, created by Ramirez. The Chief Patrick Melvin was aware of this lawsuit prior to promoting Ramirez, but did so anyway. Why would you promote someone, under circumstances like that? The city entrusted Chief Melvin to make positive decision for the officers. and all the citizens of Port Arthur. Ramirez will also be named in two other lawsuits. That will detail his continued inconsistent treatment of certain officers, and his violation of the civil service law that governs the police department. Ramirez just recently, moved a officer from her position, saying when she takes off from her position its not anybody that fills it. Hold on, correct me if I am wrong it is the responsible of the department or the business to find a replacement for you when you are on vacation, I thought? Not at Port Arthur PD. The move was made that she be moved back on the streets, and her off days be changed. She is one of the senior officers at the department, and already doing a job that has two off days when most in the devision she is in are on a three day, off day, work schedule. She was told this move was made not because of work performance, but because when she takes off on vacation her spot is not filled. Not because she is a bad officer, but because when she takes off on comp time her spot is not filled. When other officers in her devision take off on there department given vacation, and comp time overtime is hired to fill the spot. In some cases overtime is not needed because there are enough officers on the street to fill the spot. It is not a secret that the officer in question and Ramirez do not get along from years passed when both were young officers.

The other issue surrounding Ramirez is the selling of city property. The city radios, ticket writers, and the third row seats from the

Chevrolet Tahoes, have all been sold fro his profit. The tahoes the city orders for the police department do not use the third row seats, because of the duties of the police officers, but the seats come with the tahoes. Ramirez, has taken it upon himself, to take the seats and sell them. In April of 2016, the city received tahoes for the police department. Ramirez took the seats from that order, and other orders. He sold them for his own profit. Ramirez, has also sold radios, ticket writers, printers, and other equipment for years. Why is this any different from the city workers that are charged, some convicted with theft? Those men and women are marched around on the news as criminals. Their crimes look the same to me. They took items that belonged to the city and sold them for there own profit. Ramirez took items that belonged to the city and sold them for his own profit, but yet they are promoted? The cars and trucks that are bought for the city are approved by the city council. The radios and ticket writers are approved by the city council. Did the city council approve Ramirez to sell radios, ticket writers, printers, and other equipment for his own profit? The city council did not approve the sells of the property, but there is no case filed, there is no arrest made, Why? The things are the same. It is a running joke about how Ramirez ran his ebay store and other sale wed sites while on duty. Collecting boxes to package items for sale. Using the department computer, and duty time to package items for shipping. Often times the boxes collected were filled with items from the department. Ramirez wife runs the online business now, but that was not always the case. There should be history of the sales on his accounts, and there are cameras inside of the department. Ask the countless officers that have saw Ramirez at the computer while on duty working his ebay store, collecting boxes, and packaging items for shipping. Ask the fellow sergeants, and Lieutenant that had to be in the office with him at times. Terry Chance, Jeff Smith, Chris Segler, Kirk Nesbitt (retired), and John Corona (retired), just to name a few. It is a tragedy that nothing was done about this, it has went on for years. I hope action will be taken in this matter.

The next item also involves Ramirez, and the suspension of Officer Ricky Antoine. The original complaint by Darwin Moore who said he did not no if Officer Antoine took anything, but feels like he did. Moore said the store owner could just be asking for money for himself, but

you would have to ask the store owner. The store owner was asked and he said the things that Moore are talking about never happened. There is no additional information, no video, no tapes, no witnesses. If Moore said he didn't know, you have to ask the store owner. You ask the store owner, and he said Officer Antoine has never asked he for any thing in over 20 years as a customer. Why is Officer Antoine suspended? Why is Chief Melvin allowing it to happen? Ramirez started the investigation. Lt. Martin Blitch was involved in the investigation. They were two of the people on Officer Antoine review board. That people understand, this is like the police officer that arrest you, and the detective that investigated you case both sitting on your jury to see if you are innocent or guilty. In this case the jury is only made up of 5 people. Blitch owes Ramirez his vote because Ramirez has made him his stand in, when he his out, so Blitch can act in his place over patrol. Understand Blitch was passed over for the chief spot, and three deputy chief spots. The next person that owed Ramirez there vote is Sgt. Reid Rowe. Rowe was put on the review board because Ramirez covered up the fact his wife was in rehab for 16 days for perception pills. Reid Rowe's wife is Sgt. Heather Rowe at the Port Arthur Police Department. She was in rehab, about two months ago and it was a off the books deal. The type of deal that one would expect pay back for, lets say with your vote. The other two people of the 5 member review board voted to no bill Officer Antoine. Ramirez, Blitch, and Rowe first vote was termination for something the store owner said never happened. You don't need evidence if you already have the votes, before you walk into the room. Keep in mind, this was brought before Jefferson County D.A. office that refused the case for lack of evidence. I talked to one investigator in the D.A office that said the case was a joke, and laughed. A waste of time and said it appears they are out to get Antoine. This Ramirez lead investigation that appears to be a witch hunt allowed two officers to perform immoral some believe a illegal act. Officer Terry Cater, and Officer Jerry Dawes both wrote fake tickets in hopes of setting up Officer Antoine. The investigation was a flop and when it did Ramirez fixed the review board votes. If Ramirez has it in for you, it appears he will not stop until you are gone, on the other hand if you are a friend are someone he likes you can do anything.

Case and point just last week a officer came to work drunk, and it just so happened that same officer was already due to take a drug test. The first test is a alcohol test. You blow into a portable breath test machine. This officer blew two times the legal limit, after blowing two times the legal limit he is allowed to go back into his office. He is allowed to walk around the police department. He is allowed to do whatever he wants until about 3 or 4 hours later when internal affairs Sgt. Reagan Sweat tracks him down. Drug testing is the responsible of Sweat where was he for 3 or 4 hours as a intoxicated officer walked around the police department? Why didn't Sweat take the officer for a more formal drug text, meaning why didn't he take him to the hospital and have his blood drawn. That is what the policy of the police department say that you should do. You should take them to a hospital, testing center, or to someone that is certified to draw blood. Why didn't this happen? Where is Ramirez when you need him? Why is Chief Melvin allowing this to happen . The policy of the police department is, you should have no detachable amount of alcohol on you when you report for your duty. Two times the legal limit most definitely blows up that standard. There are officers in the recent history that have had there blood drawn at the hospital or a testing center, Why not this time? This officer had his review board four days later not six weeks later like Antoine. This officer is starting back to work this Monday June 26, 2017 only 10 days after the drug test with no punishment. He also lie when asked if he had drank anything, and caused a scene at the department. He came back later and told the truth, but only after being intoxicated at work, lying, and causing a scene. I almost forgot he drove to work two times over the legal limit. There is no punishment, no drug rehab, no counseling, its just like it never happened. Why didn't Sgt. Sweat get wrote up for not doing his job? This is the difference when you are apart of Ramirez inner circle.

The next item Major Cory Cole, and Sgt. Sweat should not be promoted. Major Cole was promoted to major from Sgt. by Chief Melvin under the advice of his assist Chief Frank Ramirez. Cole was a four month Sgt. before being moved passed all longer tenured Sergeants and all of the Lieutenants in the department. If you ask Chief Melvin he will say there was a review board, and he went on there advice. The truth is Melvin does what he wants. Some are by

review board, some are by appointment. It's amazing that the appointments also fall inline with the people that are in Ramirez's inner circle. Did you know that then Officer Cole and Officer Sweat cheated on the Sgt. exam. How did they do it? After you take the Sgt. test you have a week to review the test and the questions you missed. The thought is some questions can be challenged for a more equal test for everyone. When you go to review the test they put you in a room with no supervision. Cole and Sweat took that as a opportunity to take pictures of the test on there phones. Both of them took the test several times before making Sergeant. There were also other officers involved with taking pictures as well. How does this help? At the time the test was made from the same pool of questions. Lets say there is a pool of 300 questions to make a 100 question test. If you take the test enough, and go threw the process of taking pictures of the test later, eventually you will have most of the questions. If you pair that with studying you are almost unbeatable. This is what Cole and Sweat did they took the test only to take picture of it later. Then they would use that with there studying to finish high on the test. Officer George Clarke and Officer Doug Klinkhammer (retired) have knowledge of this, although they were not involved in it. The administration at the time was made aware of this, but nothing was done to change it.

Major Michael Fratus a married man is also a part of the dysfunction. He was making advances toward a female I.D. tech at the department. I understand he is not the first person to have an affair or try to have an affair. The I.D tech became involved with a officer at the department. Fratus then the graveyard lieutenant would follow the ID tech around while they were both on duty. He began to question her, and went so far as to approach the officer. Fratus and the officer became involved in a verbal disturbance. The department decided to move the I.D. tech to a day/evening shift to get her away from Fratus. All subjects involved still work for the department.

I ask go deeper than Chief Melvin and the other top administration, they are involved. Melvin is biding his time, Port Arthur is not his dream job I thing everyone knows that. He is still looking for a job now. He will say and do whatever that will allow for him to transition to a bigger and better job. That is not a problem, that is only a problem

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when it effects the city I love. Ask the Sergeants and officers at the depârtment to get a understanding of whats going on. Ask them about the work place environment, and how you have to be on the team. If you are not on the team, and what that means. Offer them some type of protection. I encourage you to fine retired officers, and ask them. The officers I talked to are afraid of retaliation the upper administration, and from the officers that are in the inner circle. When the city was looking for a chief they employed a company to come interview people at the department. I ask that at the least bring the people back, to check the conditions. Follow up and file cases where they apply.

I am afraid of the way this is going. Port Arthur PD has lost over 500 years of officer experience, some would like to make you believe they needed to go. All 500 years needed to go? There are more issues theses are not the only ones. I hope this information proves helpful. The citizens deserve better. The officers deserve better. The City of Port Arthur deserves better.