

MARK PIERCE INTERVIEW #1, 6/23/09

- JY: So when you get the information, what do you remember doing with that piece of paper with the information on it?
- MP: I undoubtedly just – you know – kept it in a file in my office until we confirmed that Jennifer would correlate the information and then I gave it to her.
- JY: Okay.
- MP: And she started to compile a document. And other people checked other areas. I think there was another deputy, and I'm not certain which one it was, check superior court, got all the documents from superior court. I think there's something from Portsmouth. I think somebody made an inquiry; obviously, somebody made an inquiry at Portsmouth. I don't know that if, I can't recall if I made a follow up call to Portsmouth, but someone contacted Portsmouth. So I think pretty much everything here is recollection. There's something in Exeter that would have been covered, I believe, at the same time the Rockingham Superior Court information is gathered.

(June 23, 2009, Transcript: Interview of Mark Pierce, p. 83)

- JK: So Sorrell has all this information from different people, different sources in the department and then creates this document. What happens next?
- MP: I was given a copy of the document and the Sheriff was given a copy of the document.
- JK: Only you two?
- MP: As far as I know.
- JK: And what happened after that?
- MP: And then in the fall, at some point in time, Karen Dandurant spoke with the Sheriff and had an interview with him.

(June 23, 2009, Transcript: Interview of Mark Pierce, p. 87)

- MP: I was not going to have this go out in any form from our office unless it was by the authority of the Sheriff. So the – at some point in time – I checked with him and he said 'yes' and it was sent over to Jim Kimball. And then Jim Kimball subsequently – but you know – something struck a chord in me, and I think it was my relationship with Jim, and after the document was sent to him I called him and I said 'you know, Jim' – cause after I read the article in the Portsmouth herald, it was obvious that there was an [REDACTED] and I told Jim, I don't think it would be prudent for

you to use any of that information in your article, about the [REDACTED] And he said 'I have no intention on doing that'.

(June 23, 2009, Transcript: Interview of Mark Pierce, p. 90)

MP: Of course, I thought 'what am I going to the - this is ridiculous ... why am I going to the gas pumps to talk to you, just come into the office and sit down' and let's discuss this, obviously, what's this surreptitious meet at the gas pumps. That's what I assumed it was and sure enough, it was. So I go over there and park my car and he rolls in, 'get in the car'. Okay. Sit in the car. First thing he does is
RR: For the record he's putting his finger -
MP: putting my finger to my lips to indicate that I should not talk. I looked at him, he hands me the statute regarding [REDACTED]

(June 23, 2009, Transcript: Interview of Mark Pierce, p. 92)

MP: 51 - I ought to know that by now. And I looked at him, put my hand up, and said 'I have it' and he's like - just thinking - I thought what is going on here. And then he hands me tampering with witness statute and I said I'm familiar with that.

(June 23, 2009, Transcript: Interview of Mark Pierce, p. 92)

MP: I am He said 'do you think Jennifer still got that discussion on her computer'. That's where this occurred.
JY: Right.
MP: And I said, 'I have no idea'.
JK: And when he says 'Jennifer', he's talking about Jennifer?
JY: Sorrell.
MP: Sorrell.
JK: Sorrell.
MP: Right. And I should back up too. Where we were at the gas pumps, when he showed me the document in his file, he also made the comment 'I need to shred these'. And I was pretty uncomfortable at that point. My take on this was that we both get attorneys and call you, and say may we come up and sit down and have an interview please and do the right thing. And it was clear that that was not his thought. And what disturbed me the most was the next comment, and that's when I was all done talking with him.
JY: Is this at the pumps.

- MP: I apologize for going backwards – I jumped back because I thought it was important.
- JY: Okay. So now we're going back to the – 'do you think Jennifer still has this on the computer'.
- MP: I apologize, you're absolutely correct. We're sitting in his office and he said 'do you think Jennifer still has this in her computer' and I said, I don't know, no idea. He said, 'Well, after work today, if they left, why don't you go in and erase that from her computer.' And I said 'I don't think that's wise'. I said 'I don't think that's something we should do'....

(June 23, 2009, Transcript: Interview of Mark Pierce, p. 95)