

## MARK PIERCE INTERVIEW #2, 9/1/09

MP: It was prepared by Jennifer Sorrell.

DT: And she is an office clerk?

MP: She is clerical staff in our business office. The Sheriff had requested that she be utilized to prepare the document.

DT: And he requested her specifically.

MP: He requested it through me.

(September 1, 2009, Transcript: Interview of Mark Pierce, p. 392)

MP: The information was - the Sheriff wanted the information, and I suspected it was good enough to just have it in a file and he was the one that wanted it compiled into a document that was a usable document. And I start thinking it was for his personal use.

(September 1, 2009, Transcript: Interview of Mark Pierce, p. 392)

DT: Other than giving it to yourself, and the Sheriff, the document at some point is emailed to Electra Alessio, is that correct?

MP: That's correct. That was by the Sheriff's instruction.

DT: Does the Sheriff give those instructions directly to Jennifer?

MP: That - the email that you're speaking of - I believe that was given the instructions, he told me to tell Jennifer to email the document to Electra Alessio. So I went and said the Sheriff would like you to send that document to Electra Alessio.

DT: And Electra Alessio is?

MP: She was the editor of the Carriage Town News and to my recollection, you know, I think the Sheriff had had contact with her in advance.

(September 1, 2009, Transcript: Interview of Mark Pierce, p. 394)

JY: But if you look down here, it looks like the original was Jennifer Sorrell sends to Electra Alessio per Major Mark Pierce, please see the attached document. Major Pierce also asks that I supply you with the following email address. And there's an email address of Kdandarant@Seacoast -

MP: SeacoastNewsOnLine.com

JY: So if you look at it, it looks like Ms. Sorrell sent that to Electra Alessio but it also looks like you were copied on it.

MP: I may have been, I just don't recall that but I, you know, recall this going out to Electra at the Sheriff's instruction.

DT: Well how do you know it went out, Mark?

MP: Because the Sheriff told me at some point to send Electra, have Jennifer send Electra Alessio a copy of the document.

(September 1, 2009, Transcript: Interview of Mark Pierce, p. 394)

JY: Who gave the Jennifer, 'Jennifer, send this'?

MP: I believe I did. I believe -

JY: And why did you do that?

MP: Because the Sheriff instructed me to tell Jennifer, in his words, 'tell Jennifer to send Electra Alessio the document and Karen Dandarant's email address'.

(September 1, 2009, Transcript: Interview of Mark Pierce, p. 395)

JY: Do you know where you would have been when you had that conversation with the Sheriff?

MP: In his office.

JY: Which is where?

MP: At the Rockingham County Sheriff's Department.

(September 1, 2009, Transcript: Interview of Mark Pierce, p. 395)

MP: He, I think we covered this in the earlier interview. He wanted to use Electra Alessio to send the document out to other members of the press to insulate the office from that going out.

JY: And that doesn't raise any red flags in your mind?

MP: He was, I mean he's good friends with Electra Alessio. You know, and frankly, after this was prepared, my position was 'I'm done with this unless he tells me to do anything else with it'. You know, his job is politics, my job is running the Sheriff's Department, at this point.

(September 1, 2009, Transcript: Interview of Mark Pierce, p. 396)

MP: After he spoke to Lt. Salega, the comments that I already told you that the Sheriff said through, Steve Shultzes said I'm gonna have the Sheriff, we're going to crawl into a hole and stay here.

JY: And they'll have to smoke us out?

MP: That's right. Well, the Sheriff made similar comments to Lt. Salega on the very day, or within a short period of time after, after Rick Valenti called our office.

(September 1, 2009, Transcript: Interview of Mark Pierce, p. 404)

MP: And he told the, according to the Lieutenant Salega, Sheriff told Lt. Salega, we're going to make this tough for them. We're going to make this hard for them. He's made obviously disparaging comments about your office, and this is all they got on me, and if that's all they got, let them come on, what's the big deal. More alarming to me than anything this, Christine Croto has told me plainly that he's going to frame you, meaning me. He's going to tell them this is all your idea, that you did this whole thing, and that he wasn't involved.

(September 1, 2009, Transcript: Interview of Mark Pierce, p. 404)