

Sheriff Carlton Speed

Banks County Sheriff's Office 160 Windmill Farm Road • Homer, Georgia 30547

DATE: June 18, 2020

TO: IA File #2001 (External Agency Investigation – Rabun Co.)

FROM: Major Matt Allen

SUBJECT: Scott Harvey, former Sergeant Rabun County Sheriff's Office

Wednesday, June 17, 2020

This interview was conducted on June 17, 2020, by Matt Allen and Carissa McFaddin of the Banks County Sheriff's Office. Harvey was requested to give his account of the incident that occurred on Thursday, June 4, 2020, involving his supervisor, Captain Richard Hunter. Harvey stated he contacted Hunter to offer personal equipment(ATV) for upcoming weekend events. Harvey advised the conversation immediately changed when he asks Hunter if there was anything he needed to speak with him about(referencing a previous work-related incident that he believed Hunter disapproved of). Hunter reportedly said, "Don't worry about it. I've already talked to your wife." Harvey said he didn't know what Hunter meant by that statement. Hunter, for purposes unknown to Harvey, asks Harvey where his wife was because he wanted to speak with her. Hunter states to Harvey that he is going to call Harvey's wife. Harvey discourages the call.

Harvey immediately calls his wife, Autumn, after the call with Hunter to let her know that Hunter would be calling. Autumn is in her car, receiving calls over the hands-free system. Harvey advises Autumn to be prepared for a call from Hunter because "he seemed intoxicated and was slurring his words" and told Autumn he didn't know why he was calling. Harvey states Hunter calls Autumn while he is advising her of the incoming call, and she merges the calls into a conference call, all three are on the line together. Autumn says she does not recognize the number, Harvey confirms the number as Hunter's county assigned phone. Harvey states he immediately asked his wife if the kids were in the car as the conference call began out of concern of what Hunter might say, "cuss words or anything because my kids were in the car." Harvey states he tries to redirect the conversation because his kids were in the car. Harvey speaks directly to the children asking them about their day. According to Harvey, Hunter asks Autumn her location and tells her she needs to get the kids out of the car after she states she is in her driveway. Hunter is persistent and tells her repeatedly to get the kids out of the vehicle. Harvey advised he was becoming concerned about what Hunter was going to say to Autumn.

The kids leave the car, and Hunter asks, "what are ya'll doing tonight." According to Harvey, Hunter states, "ya'll need to take a break tonight, and Scott needs to give you a massage, You need to give her a full body massage." Harvey states he was attempting to laugh it off but couldn't understand why Hunter was telling him to give his wife a full body massage. Autumn says no to Hunter, explaining they are too busy. According to Harvey, the conversation went to Hunter, saying that Harvey should stay and work on the porch and send Autumn over to his house, and he would give her a massage. Harvey said at this point in the conversation; he was outraged that Hunter was telling his wife to come over to his house. Harvey said Hunter repeated the invitation multiple times, Hunter telling Harvey that Autumn should come over to Hunter's house, and he would give Autumn a full body massage. Harvey asks Hunter what Hunter's wife would think of it, and Hunter states his wife is not home. Harvey said to Hunter this is my wife, and the conversation ended.

Harvey arrives at his home shortly after the phone call ends. Harvey states he says to his wife, "What just happened." Harvey describes it as a drunken conversation that would have never happened if Hunter was sober. Harvey says he respects Hunter, and they have been friends for a long time. Harvey said he was confused and upset that Hunter would do this to him and his wife. Harvey stated, "never once did he say anything about coming down and doing anything sexual, it was just strongly implied in my eyes."

The next day Harvey reports his concerns to Chief Jones and tells him he doesn't want anything done, but he is quitting his job. Harvey says to Jones he can't face Hunter because of what happened. Harvey states he doesn't want a man to lose his job over a drunken mistake. Harvey describes the incident to Jones and is advised by Jones not to resign. Harvey agrees and returns to work, requesting that someone talk to Hunter and that something gets done. Harvey asks for time off after working the weekend and states the Sheriff advises him that something will be done.

Harvey stated when he returned from vacation; he attempted to get updates from the Chief and Sheriff. Harvey said ten days had passed, and he was scared to face Hunter the next day. Harvey states that he tells his wife he cant do it. Harvey said he made the decision to resign and took his equipment and vehicle to the Sheriff's Office, turned his stuff, and quit on Sunday.

Harvey was requested by Matt Allen to tell him what the best outcome of this incident would be since Harvey did not want Hunter to get into trouble. Harvey stated he wanted someone to talk to Hunter and for Hunter to call him and say he was intoxicated and apologize to his wife. Harvey said when he returned from leave, he felt like nothing was being done, and it was not his place to call Hunter and ask for an apology. Harvey stated he does not have a problem with people from work calling his wife, but he does have a problem with "someone calling my wife and trying to get them to go to his house so he can give them a massage, or implying that he wants to have sex with her." I have an issue with that as him being my Captain and as a man. "

^{**} See folder - Audio Recordings - Scott Harvey - for additional information. **