



Please review carefully my "Attorney-client Privileged" narrative (copy provided to you), which I stand by as a true and accurate account of what I was told. It contains no opinions or draws any conclusions, and I have none today, as I do not investigate nor accuse - that is not a part of my role as County Attorney - and have no personal interest in doing so.

Also, please recognize who the potential victim is in all of this – not Davis, but the EDC and Horry County Government.

These are some of the things I would ask as a trial attorney if I were responsible for exploring the matter. I offer these not to tell you how to do your job, which I would not dare to do, but because both my and Chris Eldridge's integrity have been attacked, and there are reputations and careers at stake. No doubt that both Chris and I wish we had not been told anything about any of this, but once we were, we felt we had a duty to report, and that's all we did.

In a My Horry News article, it is reported that: "Davis said a story on a popular political blog – and the memo on which that story is based – do not accurately describe her meeting Gardner, ..." "I never felt threatened or felt like I was told to hire anybody," she said. "I guess everybody interprets things differently." "Davis said she wanted to speak with the EDC board's executive committee before offering any specifics about what she believes is inaccurate in the memo, though she stressed the extortion narrative about the meeting is false and the tape reflects that." "A lot if it's fabricated," she said." In a Myrtle Beach online article, it is reported that, "Davis told the Sun News she felt a lot of stuff written in the FITSNews post wasn't true and was fabricated, though she didn't offer specifics."

What exactly does Ms. Davis say is not accurate or truthful in my narrative? What specifically does she say was fabricated? If she has indicated anything in my narrative, then she is not telling the truth, and that is a fact, and all you have to do is uncover the lie.

Has she equivocated in her responses to you?

Have you analyzed the entire recording, having the technical people distill out the background noise, and transcribe the conversation that took place?

Have you inquired about prior communications between Ms. Davis and Luke Barefoot and/or Mr. Gardner? According to the blogger who is implicated in this: "According to Barefoot, EDC officials first reached out to Gardner requesting a meeting within days of his winning the June 12th Republican Primary replacing incumbent chairman Mark Lazarus."

Have you asked for hard evidence such as computers, laptops, iPads, tablets, cell phones, emails, text messages, financial records, correspondence, notes, memoranda, diaries, calendars, cell phone data, instant messaging and other electronic communications, telephone logs, voice recordings, network access information?

Have you interviewed Mark Lazarus?

Have you interviewed the fellow who called me from Texas, who appeared to be saying that he was a victim of the same circumstances? And the fellow he mentioned who would have similar information?

Have you interviewed Gardner, Barefoot, Gable? Are their stories consistent with one another after pointed and probing questions? You recall, I invited you to ask me as many challenging questions as you could.

It was reported in the media that, "The memo reported that Richardson was 'very mad, and said he was going to call Luke Barefoot and give him a piece of his mind,' when Davis told him about the meeting. Reached by phone Friday afternoon, Richardson disputed that report, saying, 'I don't recall a conversation with Sandy that went that way.' Have you interviewed Richardson? Have you investigated the relationship I have been told exists/existed between Richardson and Barefoot?

Have you investigated the relationship I have been told exists between Gardner and Barefoot?

Have you investigated the relationship I have been told exists between Donald Smith and Paul Gable? Gable said in an email to County Council: "The problem with that statement is I never talked to Luke Barefoot, or anyone else, about doing an article about Sandy Davis' education. I never had in my mind at any time doing such an article. I have certainly written many articles criticizing the EDC and Partners before it about the organization's many missteps in including businesses such as AvCraft and Project Blue, to name two, in its economic development efforts." He also says: "Gentlemen of council, I have never been paid by Donald Smith to either write a story or not write a story."

Have you investigated dealings between Johnny Gardner and/or Luke Barefoot and/or Donald Smith?

Have you investigated the relationship I have been told exists between Donald Smith and the Beach Ball Classic? I recall hearing "Beach Ball Classic" mentioned on the recording we were provided to hear (in my narrative) and at the time had no clue as to its significance.

I am willing to take a Lie Detector test. Are they?

I heard that in the Watergate era, Deep Throat told Woodward and Bernstein to just follow the money.

It is ludicrous to believe that either Chris Eldridge or I had any motive whatsoever in all of this other than reporting what we had been told to his bosses and my client.

Your report should not come back as undetermined, inconclusive, or unfounded. The least it should say is that the matter warrants further investigation.

Barkdoll, Jared T

From: Carotti, Arrigo <CarottiA@HorryCounty.org>
Sent: Tuesday, January 08, 2019 7:48 AM
To: Abraham, Johnnie; Barkdoll, Jared T
Subject: follow up from yesterday
Attachments: For law enforcement.pdf

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Thank you for taking the time to meet with me yesterday, and being patient with me. As I indicated, when Cpt. Abraham called advising that you were on your way over, I began typing up an outline of questions I thought of asking you. Towards the end of my interview, when Cpt. Abraham asked me if there was anything else I would like to add, I referred to that outline. I forgot to mention the Beach Ball Classic. Attached is a draft of that outline for your file and use if you choose.

Thanks again for your work in this matter.

Kind regards,

Arrigo

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