



METROPOLITAN CRIME COMMISSION, INC.

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August 8, 2016

Sheriff Michael Tregre
St. John Parish Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 1600
LaPlace, LA 70069

Delivered By Hand

**Re: St. John the Baptist Parish Sheriff's Office
Reserve Deputy Tanyia S. Tregre
Reserve Deputy Jared M. Tregre
Reserve Deputy Jasmine Tregre**

Dear Sheriff Tregre:

The Metropolitan Crime Commission (MCC) has verified that you bestowed St. John Parish Sheriff's Office Reserve Deputy status and commissions to your wife, son, and daughter which has been interpreted by the Louisiana Board of Ethics as prohibited pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statutes 42:1112, 1113, and 1119 of the Code of Governmental Ethics (Exhibit 1). The MCC respectfully urges you to comply with Louisiana law and rescind the St. John Parish Sheriff's Office reserve deputy commissions and badges of your immediate family members.

Employee records supplied to the MCC by your office pursuant to public records requests confirm that Tanyia (wife), Jared (son), and Jasmine (daughter) Tregre are designated as Reserve Deputies (Exhibit 2). The Louisiana nepotism statute (LA R.S. 42:1119) states, "No member of the immediate family of an agency head shall be employed in his agency." The Louisiana Board of Ethics opinion for Docket No. 98-820 concluded that Section 1119 prohibited the son of a sheriff from joining the reserve force of a Sheriff's Office "on a compensated or non-compensated basis" (Exhibit 3). We believe the applicable law and ethics opinion require that you rescind the reserve deputy commissions you issued to your wife, son, and daughter.

The MCC has confirmed with the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement that Reserve Deputies Tanyia, Jared, and Jasmine Tregre have never been POST Certified nor have they completed statutorily (LA R.S. 40:2405) required firearms training (Exhibits 4 & 5). Records obtained by the MCC pursuant to a public records request have verified that your son's St. John Parish Sheriff's Office file is devoid of basic documents normally contained in a deputy's personnel file such as a completed application form, background check, drug screening, police/firearms training records, or work records (Exhibit 6). The lack of the above referenced documents in Reserve Deputy Tregre's file creates the appearance that internal rules and policies were disregarded for your son. Issuing reserve deputy commissions to your family without proper training and documentation is a liability to the St. John Parish Sheriff's Office and the tax paying public. Furthermore, the privileges you have provided your family adversely affect the morale of your deputies and tarnishes your agency's image with the public.

The only document contained in your son's personnel file was his Oath of Office, which indicates he was sworn in on January 18, 2013 as a Deputy in the Reserve Division (Exhibit 7). Jared was 18 years old and a senior in high school at the time he was sworn in with the Sheriff's Office. Since your son graduated four months after taking his oath of office, he did not meet the minimum requirement for deputies to have a GED or high school diploma. This further demonstrates that existing policies were not followed with respect to your family.

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