

RECEIVED NOV 23 1987
Maureen E. Obert
P.O. Box 313
Hoonah, Alaska 99829

City of Hoonah
P.O. Box 360
Hoonah, Alaska 99829

RE: Hoonah Police Department

Mayor, Liv Gray;

My congratulations to you on becoming our new Mayor. I want you to know that I voted for you at both the city elections, and the run off election, hoping for a better city government.

I know you are new to the city ways just becoming our new Mayor. I would like to bring to your attention our very own Hoonah Police Department. I would like to point out the very unprofessional way in which they handled the questioning that they had with my oldest son David J. White Jr.

You know, I know, the whole town of Hoonah knows that Officer Purcell, and Officer Rusculp came up to the Hoonah Public Schools to question David. This was during the halftime break at the Hoonah Braves and Skaway Panthers basketball game. Officers Purcell, and Rusculp came up to the school and went about questioning David as if he were an escaped fugitive and was going to skip town right after the game.

Officers Purcell, and Rusculp questioned David about an incident which Officer Purcell claims to have happened sixty-nine days before. I mean why wait sixty-nine days before questioning David. Officer Purcell knew that David is a local boy who is going to school, not planning to go anywhere until after graduation in May 1988. Officer Purcell thought so little of the incident he waited sixty-nine to question David. But why did Officer Purcell question David in the manner that he did? Going up to the school to do it, and at a public game. Acting as if David were a fugitive, asking where he was, going to get him (David) leading David to Mr. Budd's office by his arm, keeping David in the office through the whole halftime break and first six minutes of the third quarter. For what? This incident had happened sixty-nine days before. Before the school even opened for the fall term. At any time during these sixty-nine days before, Officer Purcell could have walked across the street to question David, for Officer Purcell lives right across the street from us on Garteeni Road. Instead Officer Purcell goes up to the Hoonah Public Schools and puts a label on David that is unfair, unjust, unprofessional, and very discriminating.

Officer Purcell, questioned, talked and threatened David with and incident that happened sixty-nine days before. I say Officer Purcell threatened because he told David to tell me, his mother that "they knew that I was selling and if I didn't quit selling immediately that they would arrest me and take his brother Clifford away from us." Officer Purcell stated that "they knew when I had it, and when I didn't, that they knew when I went to Juneau to get it. "They had me followed the last time I went to Juneau and brought some back with me on the ferry."

Now here is what I replied to my son David. "For selling? Selling what? Pizzas? Every time I go to Juneau I buy pizza stuff. Every body always comes by the house for some. Your baby brother Richard says "Every body in the whole wide world likes my moms pizzas." As for taking your brother Clifford away, what about Richard? Richard is younger than Clifford. They can't take Clifford and leave Richard. No one takes kids away from Natives any more they are to hard to place. As far as bringing back my stuff with me on the ferry. Me? I haven't been on the ferry since September 3rd, 1987."

Officer Purcell told David they would give him a summons to go to court on November 13, 1987 at 11a.m. Yet, during this whole questioning Officer Purcell or Rusculp did not read to David any of his rights. The summons the Hoonah Police Department gave to David on November 10, 1987 was delivered by Officer Mayeda. This summons was just written up that day, seventy-two days later. Written up on a traffic summons report, you could not even read it the carbons. This summons was not typed, handwriting was unclear, the court usually supplies a court summons sheet. What has happened to police procedures? Why are Officer (s) Purcell and Rusculp harassing us? We are citizens of Hoonah, wasn't Officers Purcell and rusculp hired by the city of Hoonah to protect and serve? Why Purcell and Rusculp have been in Hoonah for less than six months and already they have all the answers and drawn their own conclusions on every good citizen of Hoonah. I, myself have been in Hoonah for thirty-seven years now, and still I do not know whats going on in Hoonah.

Because of Officers Purcell and Rusculp actions on this matter, I ask the city Mayor and council for disciplinary action on this matter with Purcell and Rusculp. If Mayor and council cannot straighten out this mess, some citizens and myself will start a petition asking for a complete turn around of all Hoonah Police Department personnel, and this letter will be copied and sent to different places throughout Alaska.

Respectfully;

Maureen E. Obert

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cc: Hoonah City Council Members
Tlingit & Haida Central Council
Ombusmans Office
Department of Human Rights
Alaska Empire