POLICE DEPT. VILLAGE OF MALONE

2 Park Place • Malone, New York 12953 • (518) 483-2424 • FAX (518) 483-2426

James E. Phillips
Chief of Police

Vernon N. Marlow Jr.

Assistant Chief

Memo To:

James Feeley - Mayor

Village of Malone

From:

James E. Phillips - Chief Malone Police Department

Date:

August 5, 1993

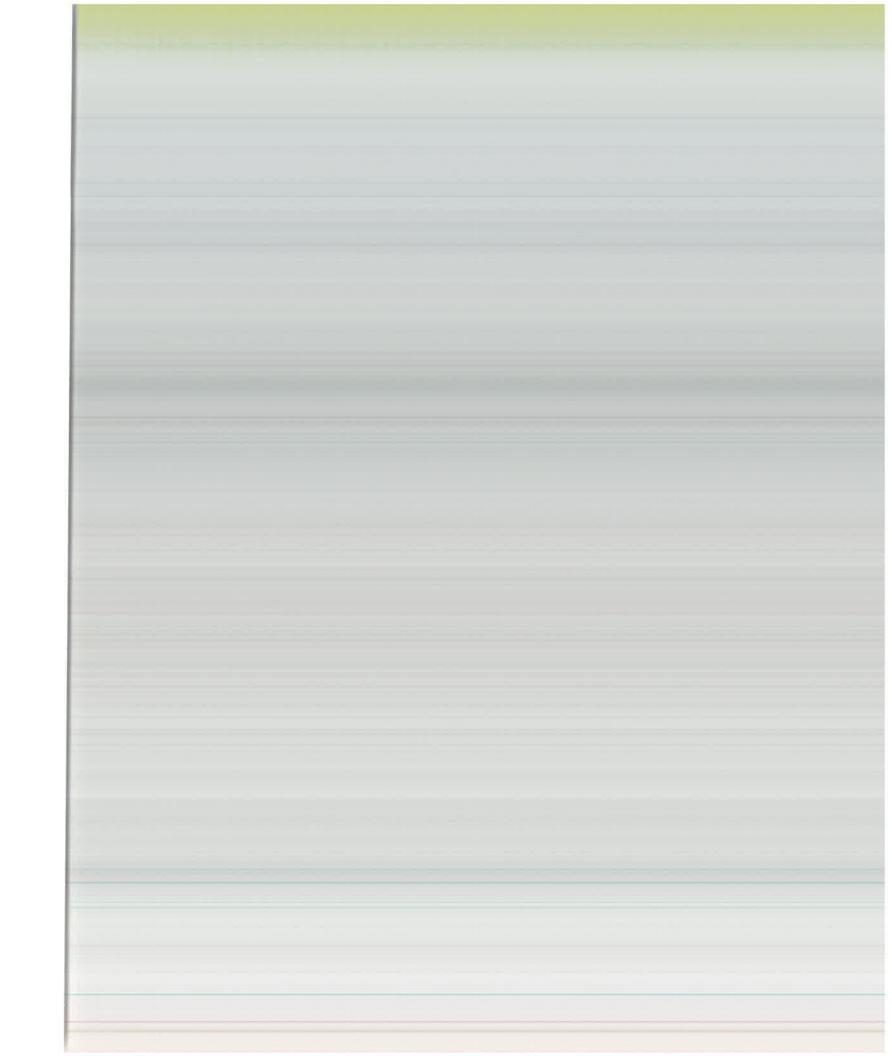
Ref:

Disciplinary Charges against Ptlm.

Patrick Nichols

The following disciplinary charges are preferred against Officer Patrick Nichols. (see attached pages.) In accordance with the provisions of Section 75 of the Civil Service Law of the State of New York.

I recommend that Officer Nichols be suspended immediately.



HUGHES & STEWART, P. C.

Attorneys and Counselors at Law

31 Elm Street P.O. Box #788 Malone, New York 12953

BRYAN J. HUGHES BRIAN S, STEWART August 26, 1993

Telephone: (518) 483-4330 Fax: (518) 483-4005

Thomas P. Halley, Esq. 297 Mill Street Poughkeepsie, New York 12601

Re: Village of Malone v. Patrick Nichols

Dear Tom:

Enclosed please find a statement of charges against Pat. They are relatively simple and should be relatively easy to prove.

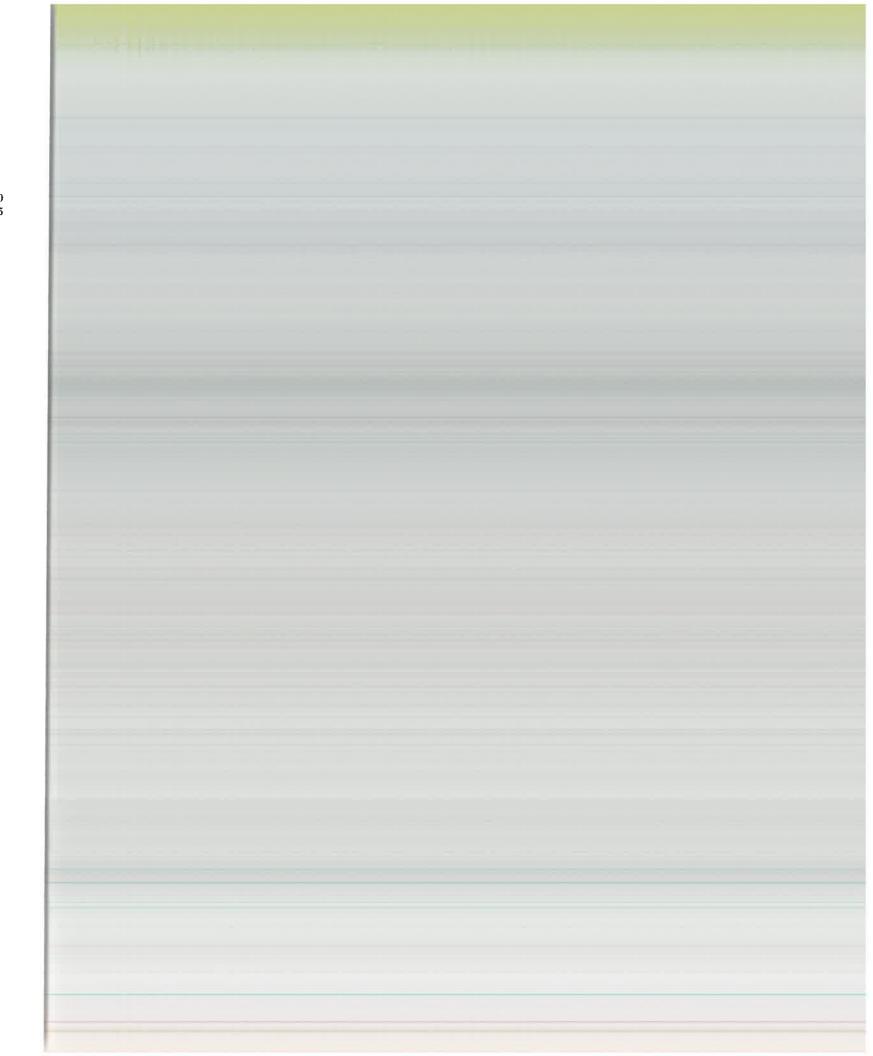
The Village would still be willing to settle this matter by dropping the charges and repaying Pat for his thirty days lost wages in exchange for his resignation from the force and his agreement not to reapply. I have not made the written charges public in the hopes that Pat will change his mind. If Pat doesn't change his mind, then I will probably have to release the charges to the press in light of Pat's written request that the entire proceeding be disclosed to the press.

Very truly yours,

HUGHES & STEWART, P.C. by Brian S. Stewart

BSS/tlw enclosure

cc: Mayor James Feeley
Chief Phillips



State of New York Village of Malone Civil Service Law §75

Village of Malone,

Complainant,

CHARGES

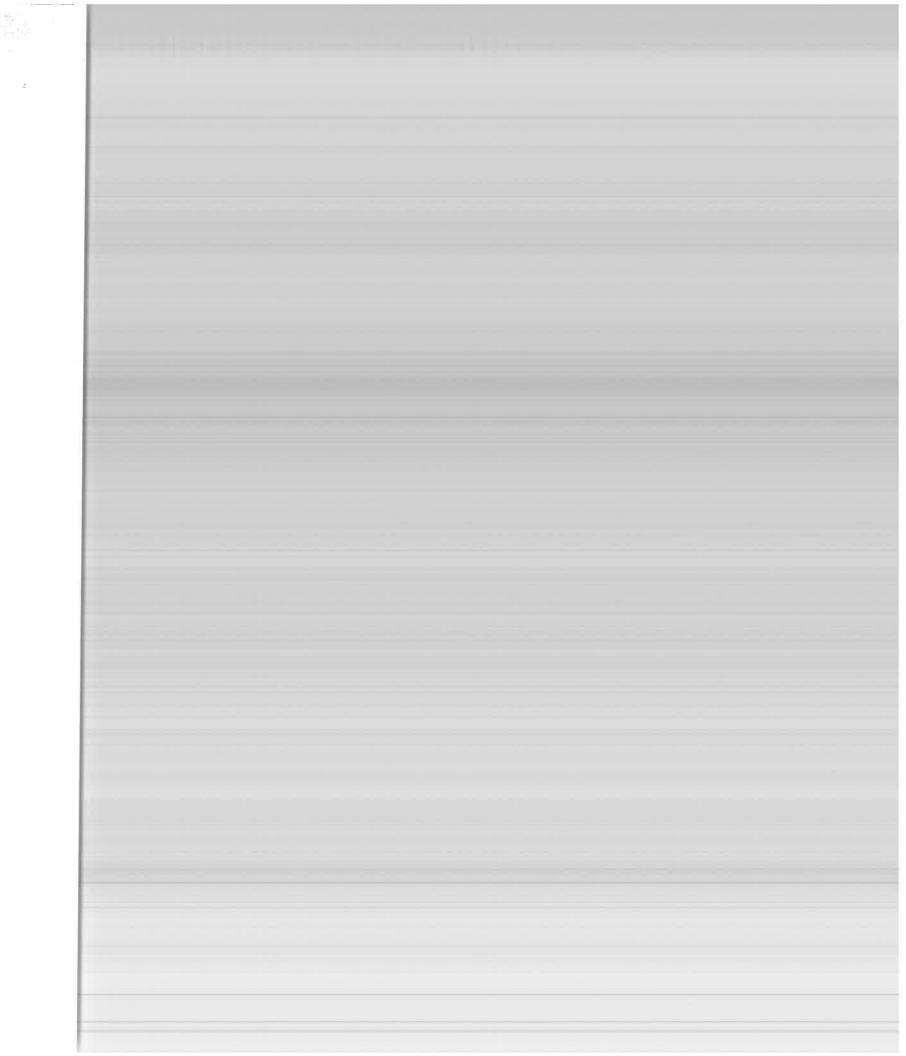
v.

Patrick Nichols,

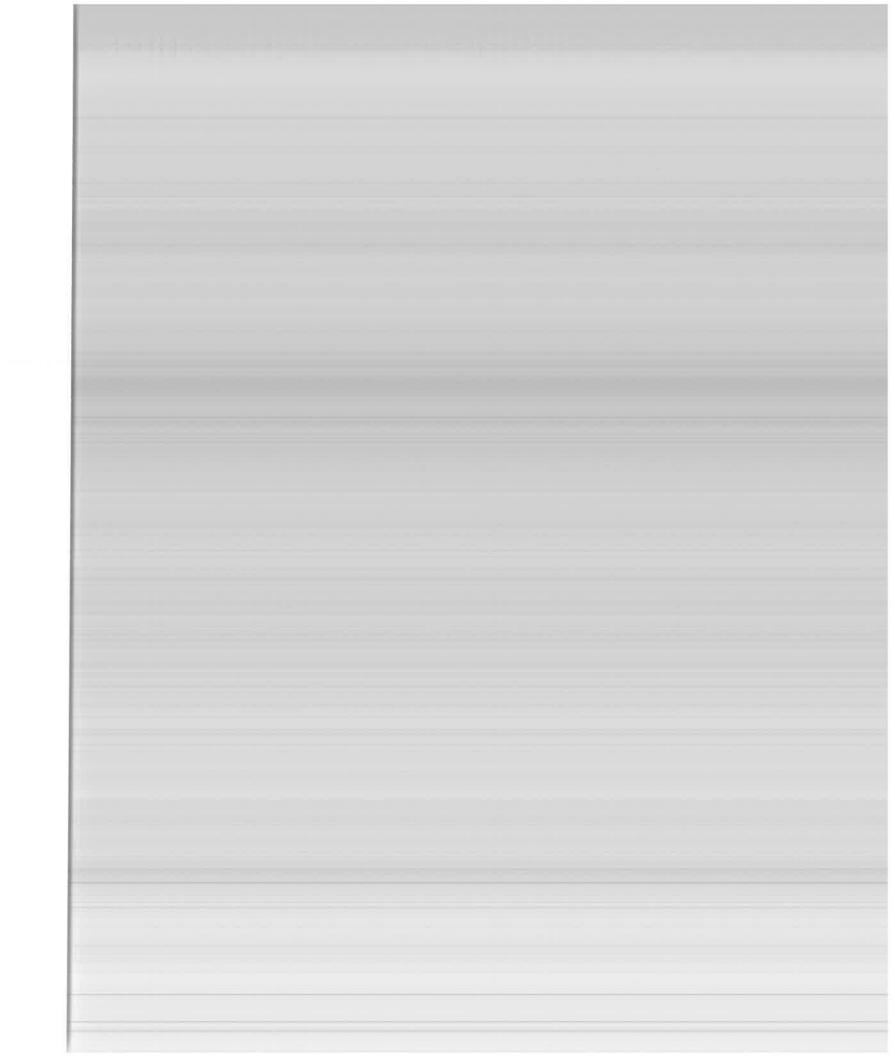
Respondent.

The Village of Malone hereby charges Police Officer Patrick Nichols pursuant to Civil Service Law §75 as follows:

- On or about July 13, 1993, Patrick Nichols filed with the Chief of Police a written complaint against a fellow officer regarding an incident on April 2, 1993 which was lacking in grounds sufficient to result to result in discipline and which was filed purely as a retaliatory act in reaction to a letter of reprimand placed in respondent's personnel file on July 13, 1993. This action violated the following departmental rules and regulations:
 - 6.2.33 Requirement to <u>immediately</u> notify Desk Officer of an unusual occurance.
 - 10.1.1 Discredit upon Department.
 - 10.1.4 Insubordination or disrespect to a superior officer.
- On or about July 16, 1993, respondent met with a nonmember of the Department, the Franklin County District Attorney, to discuss the charges relating to the April 2, 1993 incident, without the permission of a superior officer. This action violated the following departmental rules and regulations:
 - 10.1.1 Discredit to Department.
 - 10.1.4 Insubordination or disrespect to a superior officer.
 - 10.1.27 Public criticism of a member of the Department.
 - 10.1.28 Releasing departmental information without permission.



- 10.1.40 Communicating with other police agencies concerning police matters except as provided by departmental procedures.
- 10.1.77 Seeking the influence or intervention of a person outside the Department for purpose of advantage.
- 11.5 Disclosing official business of the Department without permission.
- On or about July 27, 1993, the respondent called Police Chief Phillips "stupid" in the presence of Detective Michael Fleury. This action violated the following departmental rules and regulations.
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 - 10.1.4 Insubordination or disrespect to a superior officer.
 - 10.1.17 Failure to treat any person civilly.
- on or about July 27, 1993, without reasonable grounds, respondent accused Police Chief Phillips of engaging in a "cover-up" in front of Patrolman Clyde LaChance. This action violated the following departmental rules and regulations:
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 - 10.1.4 Insubordination or disrespect to a superior officer.
 - 10.1.17 Failure to treat any person civilly.
- Once, between July 13, 1993 and August 5, 1993, the respondent met with a civilian, former Police Chief Richard Brown, to discuss the alleged incident on April 2, 1993. This meeting occurred in the presence of Patrolman Scott Mulverhill. This action violated the following departmental rules and regulations:
 - 10.1.1 Discredit to Department.
 - 10.1.4 Insubordination or disrespect to a superior officer.
 - 10.1.27 Public criticism of a member of the Department.



- 10.1.28 Releasing departmental information without permission.
- 10.1.77 Seeking the influence or intervention of a person outside the Department for purpose of advantage.
- 11.5 Disclosing official business of Department without permission.
- Between July 13, 1993 and August 5, 1993, respondent met with a civilian, Scott Mattimore, to discuss the April 2, 1993 incident for the purpose of conducting an unauthorized investigation. This action violated the following departmental rules and regulations:
 - 8.1 Patrol officers shall be under the direction and control of...[the] commanding officer...
 - 10.1.1 Discredit to the Department
 - 10.1.4 Insubordination or disrespect to a superior officer.
 - 10.1.27 Public criticism of a member of the Department.
 - 10.1.28 Releasing departmental information without permission.
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- 7) On August 2, 1993, the respondent met with Malone Village Mayor James Feeley to discuss the April 2, 1993 incident, without the permission of a superior officer. This action violated the following departmental rules and regulations:
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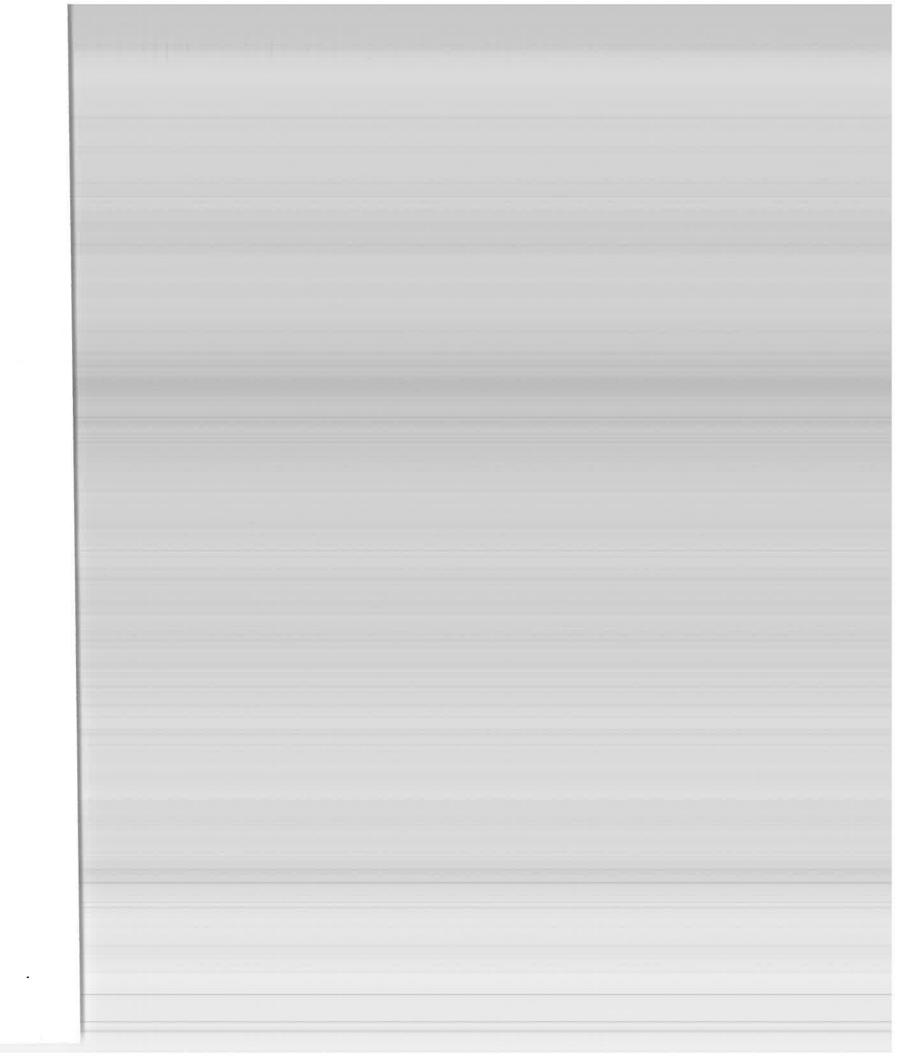
- Disclosing official business of the Police Department without permission.
- 8) On August 4, 1993, the respondent telephoned Malone Village Mayor James Feeley to discuss the April 2, 1993 incident, without the permission of a superior officer. This action violated the following rules and regulations:
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 - 10.1.28 Releasing information without permission.
 - 10.1.77 Seeking the influence or intervention of a person outside the Department for purpose of advantage.
 - Disclosing official business of the Police Department without permission.

WHEREFORE the Village of Malone recommends that the respondent be punished pursuant to the provisions of Civil Service Law §75.

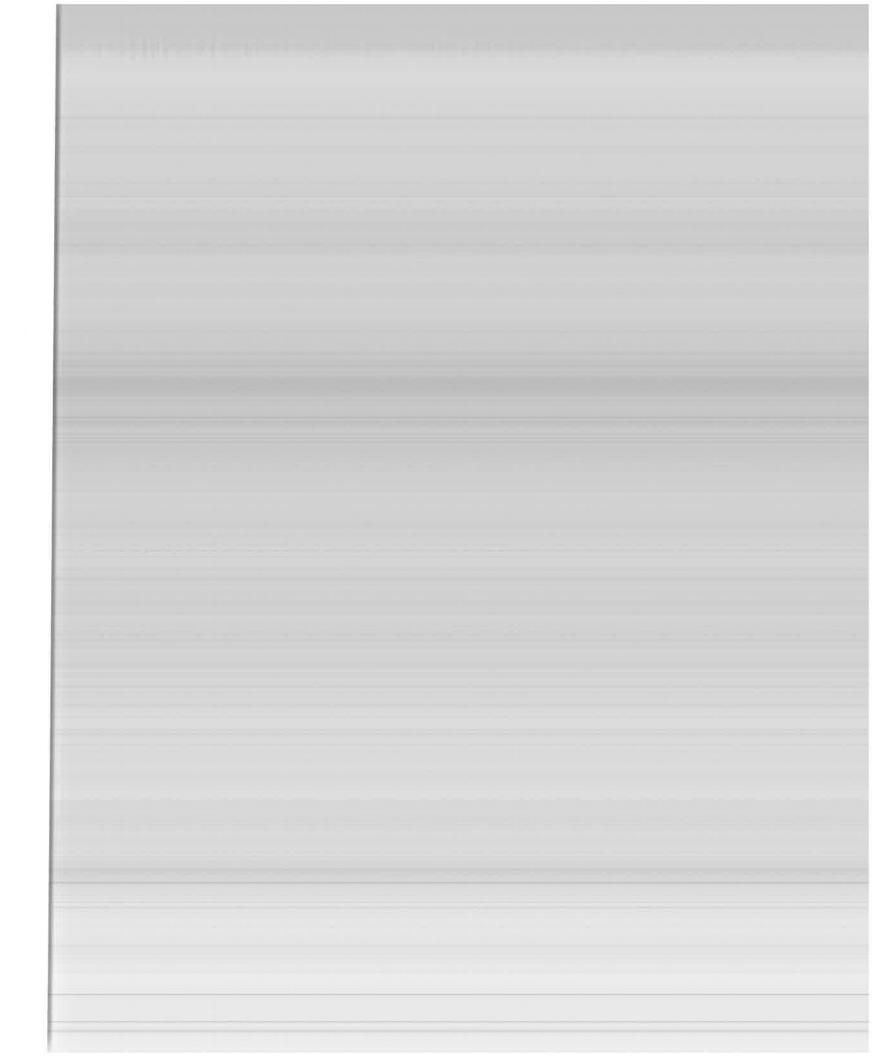
Brian S. Stewart, Esq. HUGHES & STEWART, P.C. Special Village Attorney P.O. Box 788 - 31 Elm Street Malone, New York 12953 (518) 483-4330

TO: Patrolman Patrick Nichols 146 Webster Street Malone, New York 12953

> Thomas P. Halley, Esq. 297 Mill Street Poughkeepsie, New York 12601



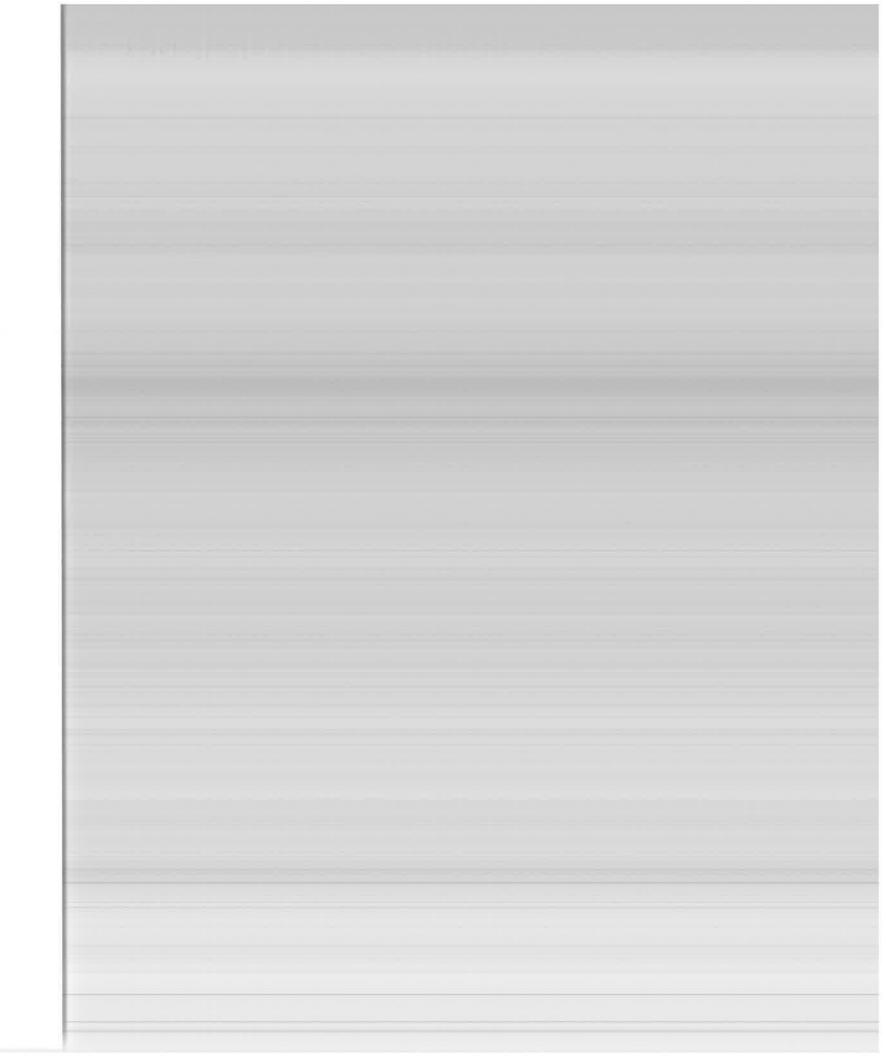
- On August 2, 1993, the respondent met with Malone Village Mayor James Feeley to discuss his termination as the DARE Officer without the permission of a superior officer. This action violated the following department rules and regulations:
 - 10.1.1 Discredit to the department.
 - 10.1.4 Insubordination or disrespect to a superior officer.
 - 10.1.28 Releasing information without permission.
 - 10.1.77 Seeking the influence or intervention of a person outside of the Department for purpose of advantage.
 - 10.1.78 Contacting the Board of Trustees on police problems without permission from the Chief of Police.
- 9) In Malone Telegram publication Vol. 88 No. 216 on August 17, 1993, the respondent did criticize the police department stating "There's somebody else who should be suspended for 30 days"
 - A member of the Force or Department shall treat as confidential the official business of the police department. He shall not talk for publication, nor be interviewed, now make public speeches, nor shall impart information relating to the official business of the department.
 - 10.1.27 Publicly criticizing the official actions of a Department member.



- In Plattsburgh Press Republican publication dated August 17, 1993, the respondent did publicly criticize the actions of the police department stating " In June 1988, I took an oath to serve the public. I did what I did because it was in the best interest of the public, and this attempt to shut me up isn't going to work,".

 "Does it make sense to take a man out of work for 30 days for doing the right thing?".
 - 11.5 A member of the force shall treat as confidential the official business of the department. He shall not talk for publication.
 - 10.1.27 Publicly criticizing the official actions of a department member.
- In the Plattsburgh Press Republican publication dated August 18, 1993, respondent did publicly criticize the official business of the police department stating that he feared retaliation from the Chief of Police and also stated "Retaliation is the number one reason I waited so long", "That's the reason a lot of others are waiting before they say anything. They fear retaliation too. But I made the decision I'd see this through, and I want the public to know what's going on."

 Respondent also confirmed that he also filed a complaint against another officer earlier in the year regarding another unrelated incident.
 - 11.5 A member of the force shall treat as confidential the official business of the police department. He shall not talk for publication.
 - 10.1.27 Publicly criticizing the official actions of a Department member.



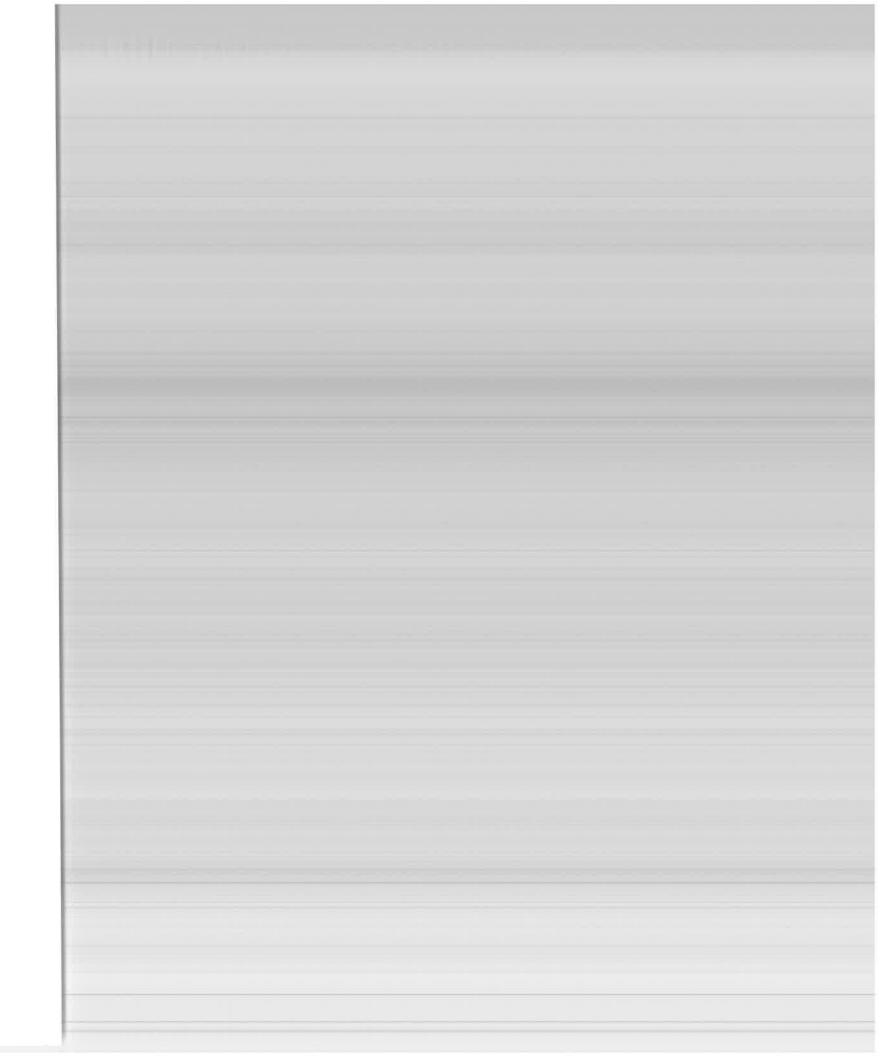
Under section (6) of amended charges.

Section 10.1.66 should be added to the charges listed.

10.1.66 Associating or fraternizing with known criminals or persons of ill repute except in the immediate discharge of official duties or with authorization of the Chief of Police.

Also: Section 10.1.78 should be added to charge #(8) and each charge that Ptl. Nichols made contact with the Mayor.

This is the section that he was reprimanded on during the DARE Program in Feb. 1993.



Village of Malone New York

16 Elm Street MALONE, NEW YORK 12953

Telephone: (518) 483-4570

August 5, 1993

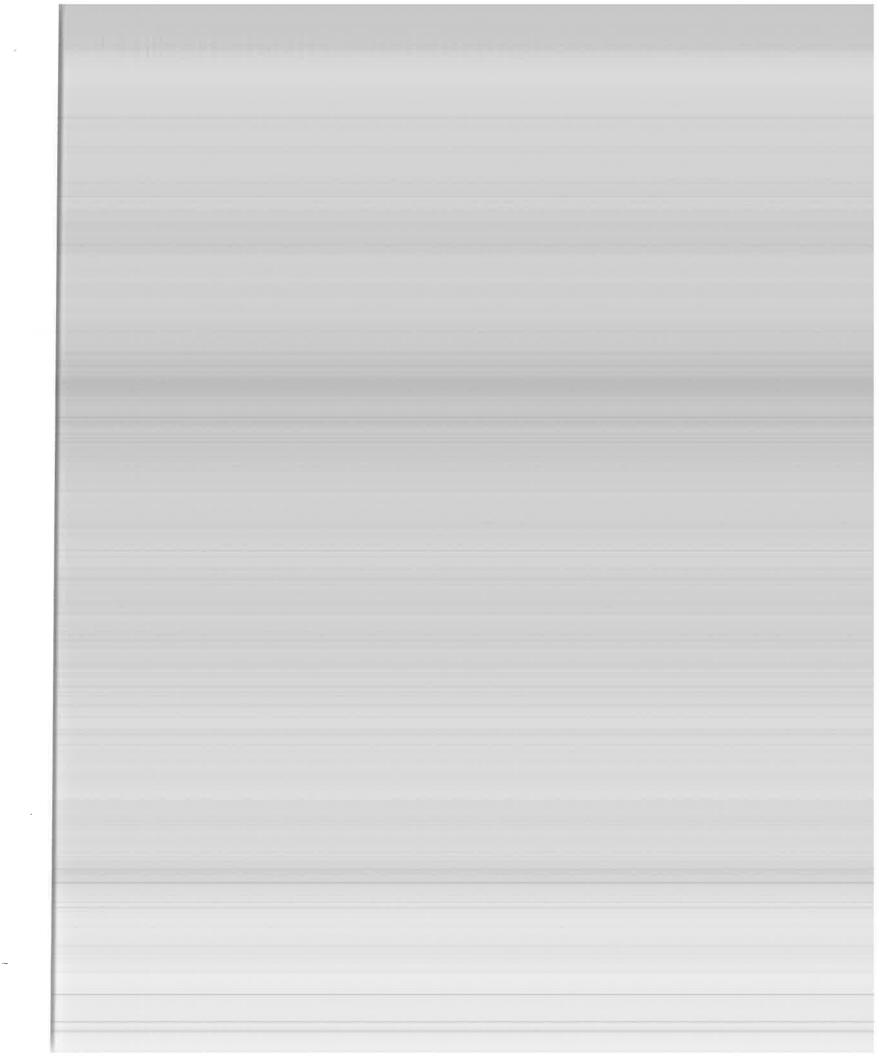
Mr. Patrick Nichols 146 Webster Street Malone, New York 12953

Bear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 75 of the Civil Service Law, and provisions of your collective bargaining agreement, you are hereby notified that the following charges are preferred against you.

CHARGES

Malone Village Police Department Rules & Regulations:									
	10.1.4	Insubordination or disrespect towards superior officer							
	10.1.28	Releasing information contained in a department record							
	10.1.34	Beliberate violation of regulations pertaining to police management and control							
	10.1.57	Removing departmental records except as for in departmental orders							
	11.5	Member of department shall treat as confidential the official business of the police department. He shall not impart information relating to the official business of the department to anyone except under due process of law and as directed, or with the permission of the Chief of Police.							
	10.1.40	Communicating with other police agencies concerning police matters except as provided by departmental procedures							
	10.1.77	Seeking influence or intervention of any person outside the department for the purpose of personal preferment							
	10.1.78	No member or members of the department shall initially contact the Board of Trustees on Police problems except through regular channels or by permission of the Chief of Police							



Civil Rights Law:

50.a Right of privacy, personnel records of police officers

Public Officers Law:

87 Freedom of Information Law, access to agency records

95 Personal Privacy Protection, access to records

New York State Penal Law:

156.10 Computer trespass

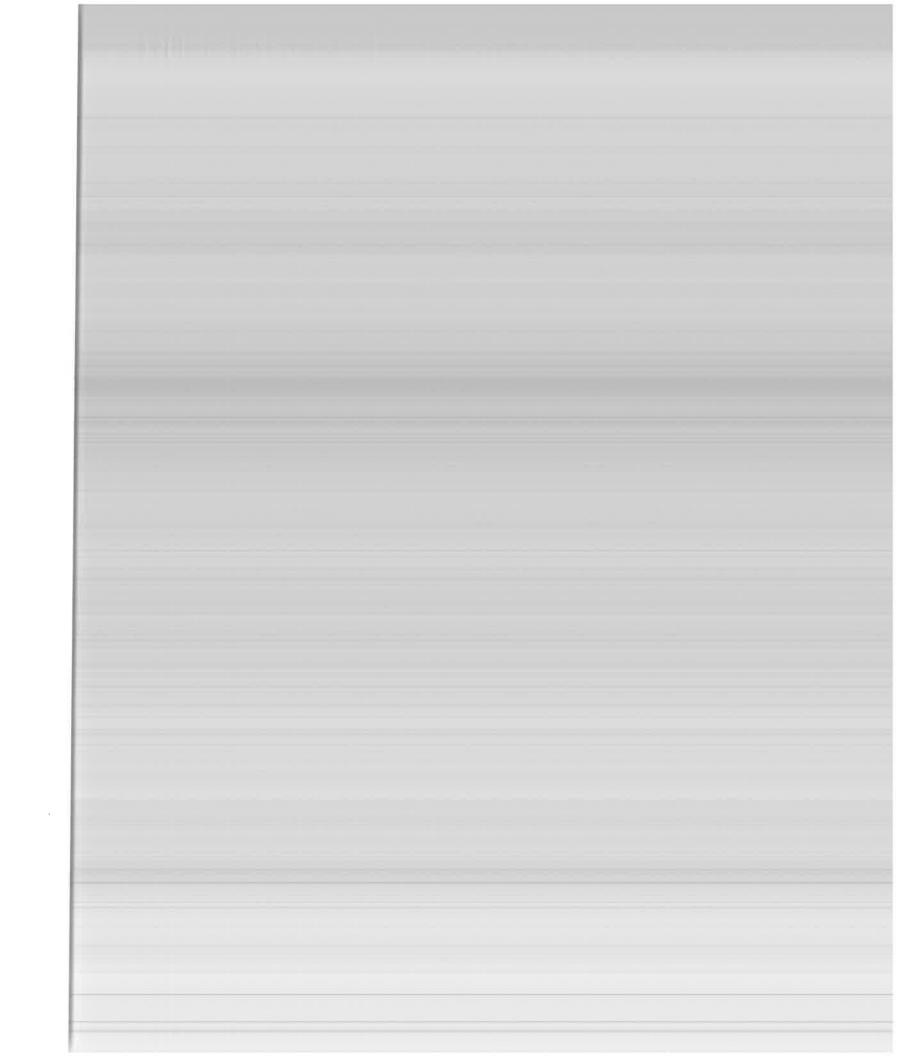
156.30 Unlawful duplication of computer related material

SPECIFICATIONS (Received from Police Chief James Phillips)

Information from Mayor Feeley stating that Patrolman Nichols scheduled a meeting with the Mayor. Mayor Feeley thought that the meeting was to discuss the recent disciplinary action that was brought against Patrolman Nichols. Mayor Feeley stated that it took him off guard with Patrolman Nichols started talking about the Mattimore incident. During this meeting Patrolman Nichols also discussed his feelings that the incident was being covered up by myself. Patrolman Nichols then turned over a copy of a document from our department's new computer. This document was a copy of my personal notes that I made while conducting the personnel investigation on one of my subordinates.

This document was stored in my personal computer that could only be accessed from the other computers by calling up my computer which is computer number six. On screens would have shown CHIEF'S PERSONAL COMPUTER. Next WORD PROCESSING program would have to be entered. Once inside my word processing, the files that I had in memory could be accessed. The file was labeled JIM. Once JIM was entered, the screen would have shown notes for a personnel investigation that I was conducting on another officer. At the top of the screen were the words "PERSONAL COMPLAINT".

Patrolman Nichols let another officer under my command know that he was able to access my personal computer. Patrolman Nichols also made the comment to this officer that he couldn't believe how stupid I was for leaving the notes in my computer.



Patrolman Nichols submitted a memo on July 21, 1993 requesting the results of the personnel complaint that he filed against another officer. I responded to his memo explaining that investigations on personnel were covered under the Privacy Act and he was assured that the investigation was being conducted.

Even after being advised that Personnel Investigations were covered under the Privacy Act, Patrolman Nichols took it upon himself to hand over a document involving the personnel investigation of another officer without permission or authorization. Due to Patrolman Nichols actions and comments, I feel that the above departmental rules and laws may have been violated.

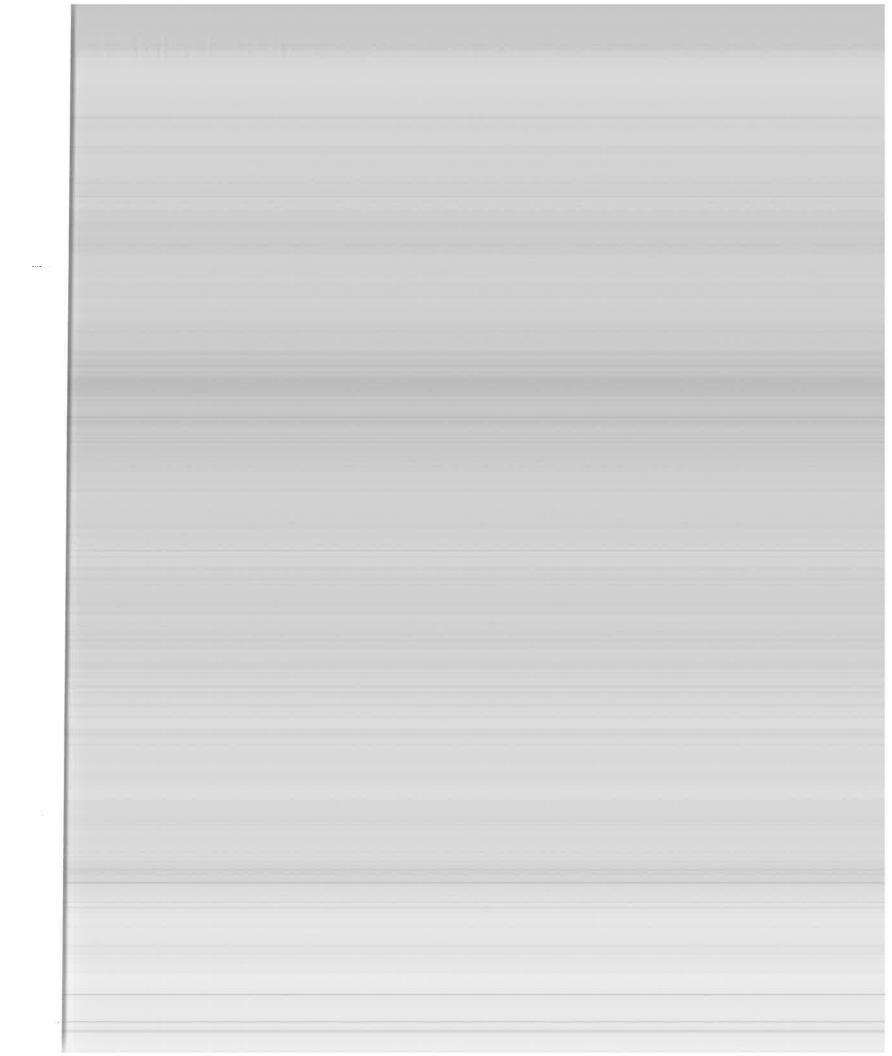
Information from Franklin County District Attorney, Richard Edwards, stating that Patrolman Nichols came to his office about two weeks ago to discuss the Mattimore incident. Patrolman Nichols handed over a copy of the statement that he submitted to me and his accusations against Assistant Chief Gerald Moll. The statement had "whiteout" used to block the name of Assistant Chief Moll. Patrolman Nichols discussed his concerns of a cover-up with my investigation into the incident and what course of action he could take.

Patrolman Nichols took it upon himself to meet with the District Attorney shortly after he submitted his statement to me. His allegations were being investigated. Mayor was advised and statements were being taken. A preliminary interview was conducted over the phone with Assistant Chief Moll and a statement was to be secured when he returned from vacation.

Information from Mayor Feeley stating that Patrolman Nichols had stopped at the Mayor's house on the night of August 2, 1993 while working the night shift. Patrolman Nichols discussed that he was being terminated from the DARE Program and that Patrolman Simonsen was going to take his place.

Patrolman Nichols has made it well known among the department that he no longer wishes to be involved with the DARE Program. Patrolman Nichols also stated this on February 4, 1993 to Assistant Chief Moll and myself.

The night that Patrolman Nichols met with the Mayor, there was no final determination as to the 1993-94 DARE Program. Nothing was confirmed as to Patrolman Simonsen teaching DARE or Patrolman Nichols terminated from DARE. This meeting with the Mayor was not authorized and the information released to the Mayor by Patrolman Nichols was premature and against policy.



Patrolman Nichols did not seek permission from myself to set up these meetings. His comments and actions were an attempt to bring discredit to this police department and myself. The above rules and regulations of the department may have been violated.

You are allowed until the 16th day of August, 1993, within which you may make and file your answer in writing to these charges. Such answer should reach the office of the undersigned at 16 Elm Street, Malone, New York, at or before four o'clock in the afternoon on said 16th day of August, 1993.

You are entitled to a hearing on the above charges and to be represented at such hearing by an attorney, or a representative of your union. You should be prepared at such hearing to present such witnesses and other proof as you may have in your defense against these charges. Such hearing will be held at six o'clock in the evening on August 24, 1993, in the Malone Village Meeting Room located at 14 Elm Street, Malone, New York.

If you are found guilty of any of the above charges, the penalty or punishment imposed on you may consist of either dismissal from the service, demotion in grade and title, suspension without pay for a period not exceeding two months, a fine not exceeding \$100., or a reprimand.

Pending the determination of these charges, you are suspended without pay for an indefinite period (not exceeding 30 days), effective immediately upon service on you of a copy of this notice and statement of charges.

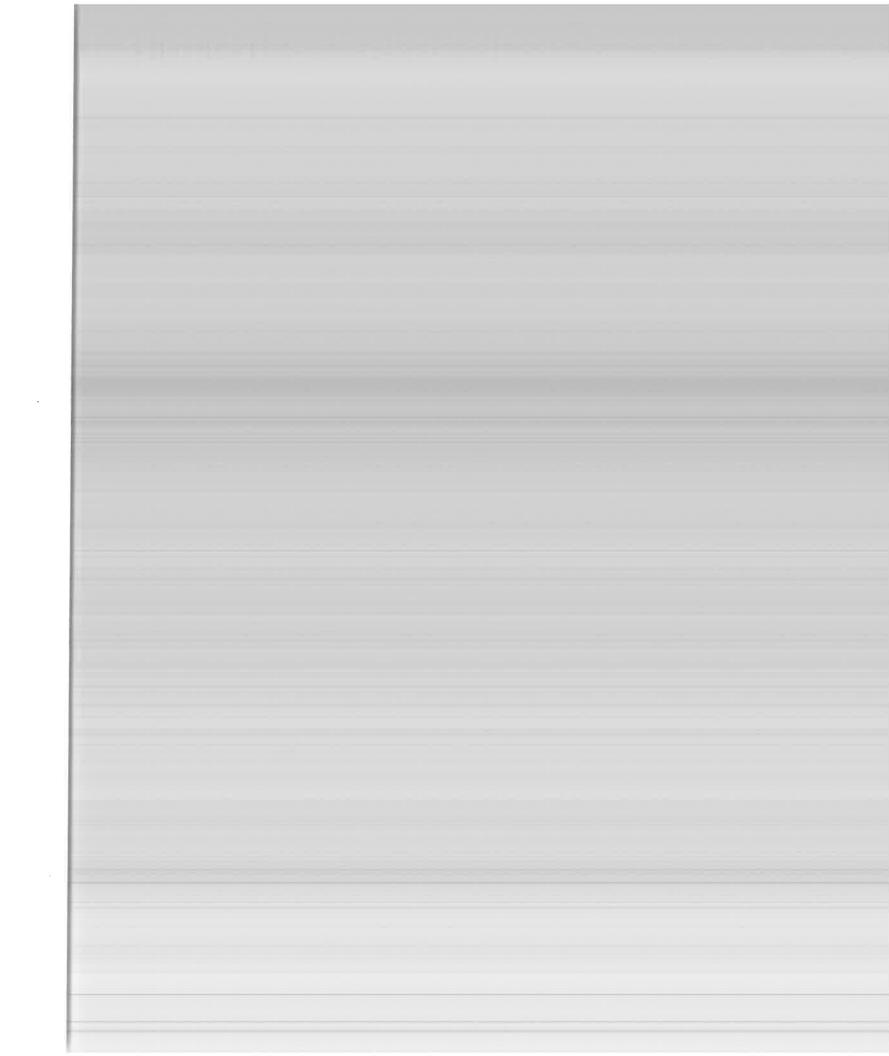
All further notices and communications addressed to you in connection with these charges will be mailed to your latest address on record in the personnel office of the Village of Malone, which is 146 Webster Street, Malone, New York, unless you request in writing that the same be sent to you at a different address.

Very truly yours.

mes N. Feeley

Mayo

JNF:ejb



State of New York Village of Malone Civ

v.

Civil Service Law §75

Village of Malone,

Complainant,

CHARGES

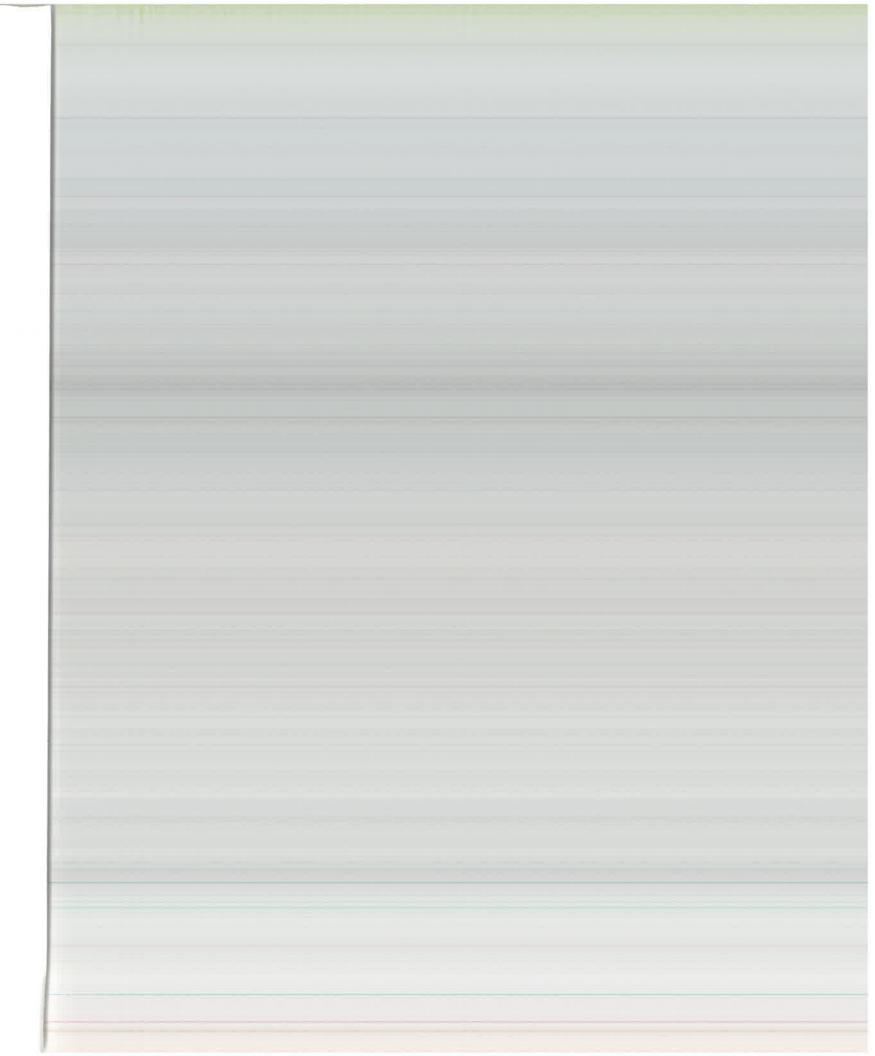
Patrick Nichols,

Respondent.

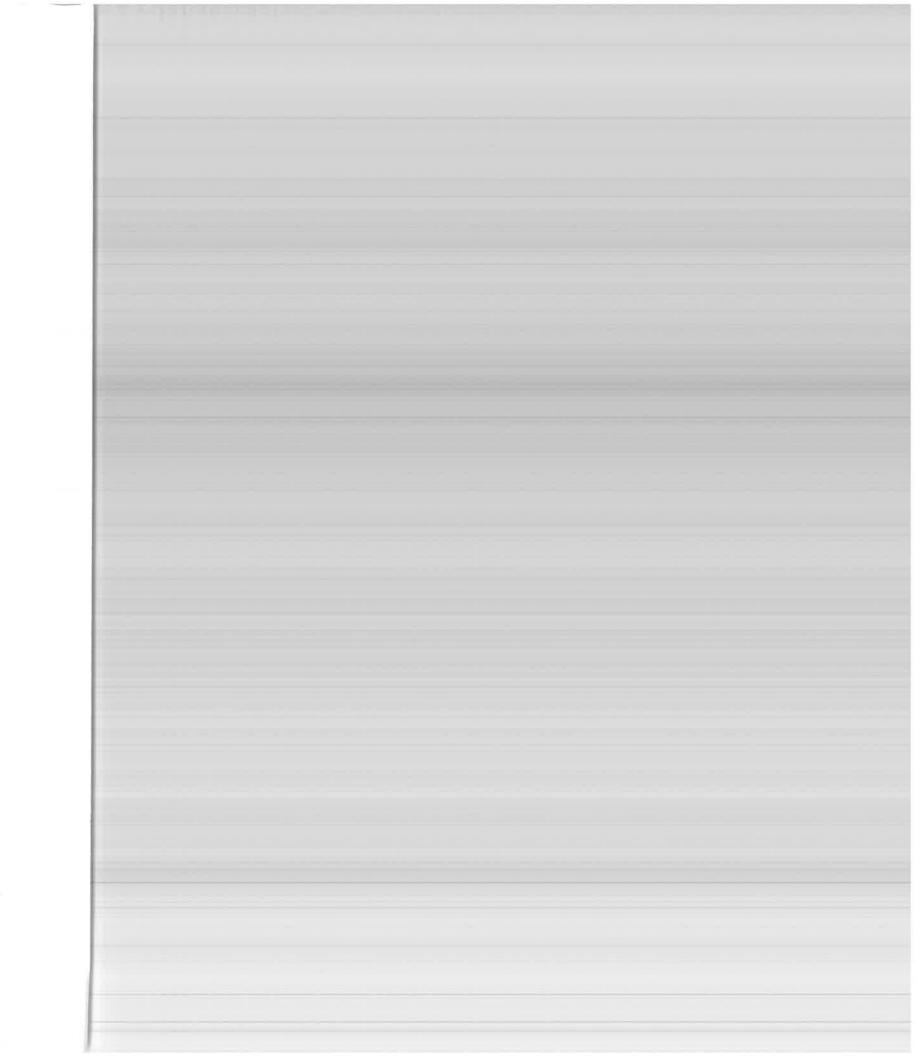
COPY

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- 10.1.78 Contacting the Board of Trustees on police problems without permission from the Chief of Police.
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 - 10.1.78 Contacting the Board of Trustees on police problems without permission from the Chief of Police.
 - Disclosing official business of the Police Department without permission.
 - On August 2, 1993, the respondent met with Malone Village Mayor James Feeley to discuss his termination as the DARE officer without the permission of a superior officer. The respondent had been previously counseled for the identical offense. This section violated the following departmental rules and regulations:
 - 10.1.1 Discredit to the Department.
 - 10.1.4 Insubordination or disrespect to a superior officer.
 - 10.1.28 Releasing information without permission.
 - 10.1.77 Seeking the influence or intervention of a person outside the Department for purpose of advantage.
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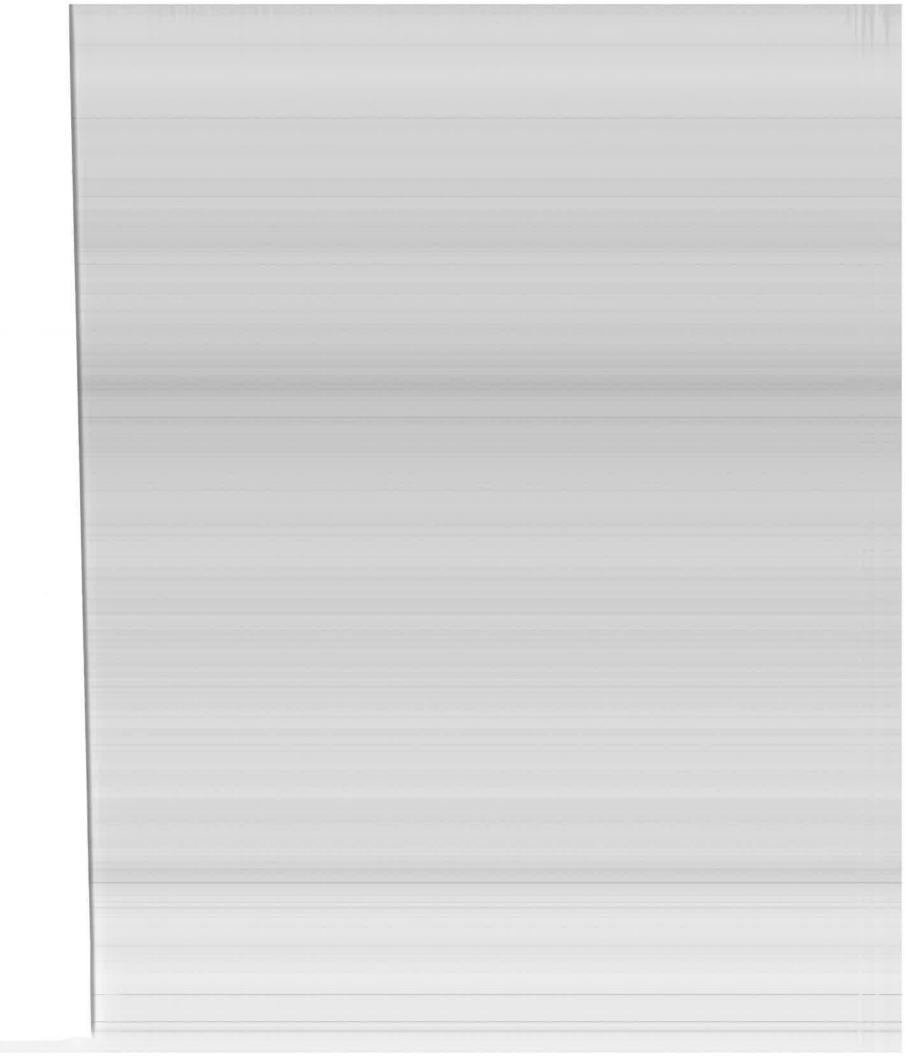


WHEREFORE the Village of Malone recommends that the respondent be punished pursuant to the provisions of Civil Service Law §75.

Brian S. Stewart, Esq.
HUGHES & STEWART, P.C.
Special Village Attorney
P.O. Box 788 - 31 Elm Street
Malone, New York 12953
(518) 483-4330

TO: Patrolman Patrick Nichols 146 Webster Street Malone, New York 12953

> Thomas P. Halley, Esq. 297 Mill Street Poughkeepsie, New York 12601



PATRICK NICHOLS

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE RECEIVED A COPY OF THE SET OF CHARGES PREFERRED AGAINST ME BY THE VILLAGE OF MALONE, NEW YORK AND SET FORTH IN A LETTER TO ME DATED ON THE 1993 fatul Muli 5 DAY OF AUGUST 1993.



McKee and James Investigative and Security Services Incorporated

11 Charles Street Malona, New York 12853

J. Brian McKee Luddrick M. James, Jr.



(518) 483-4998 (518) 483-4200

15 October 1993

Honorable James N. Feeley Mayor, Village of Malone 16 Elm Street Malone, New York 12953

> Re: Village of Malone vs. Patrick Myron Nichols

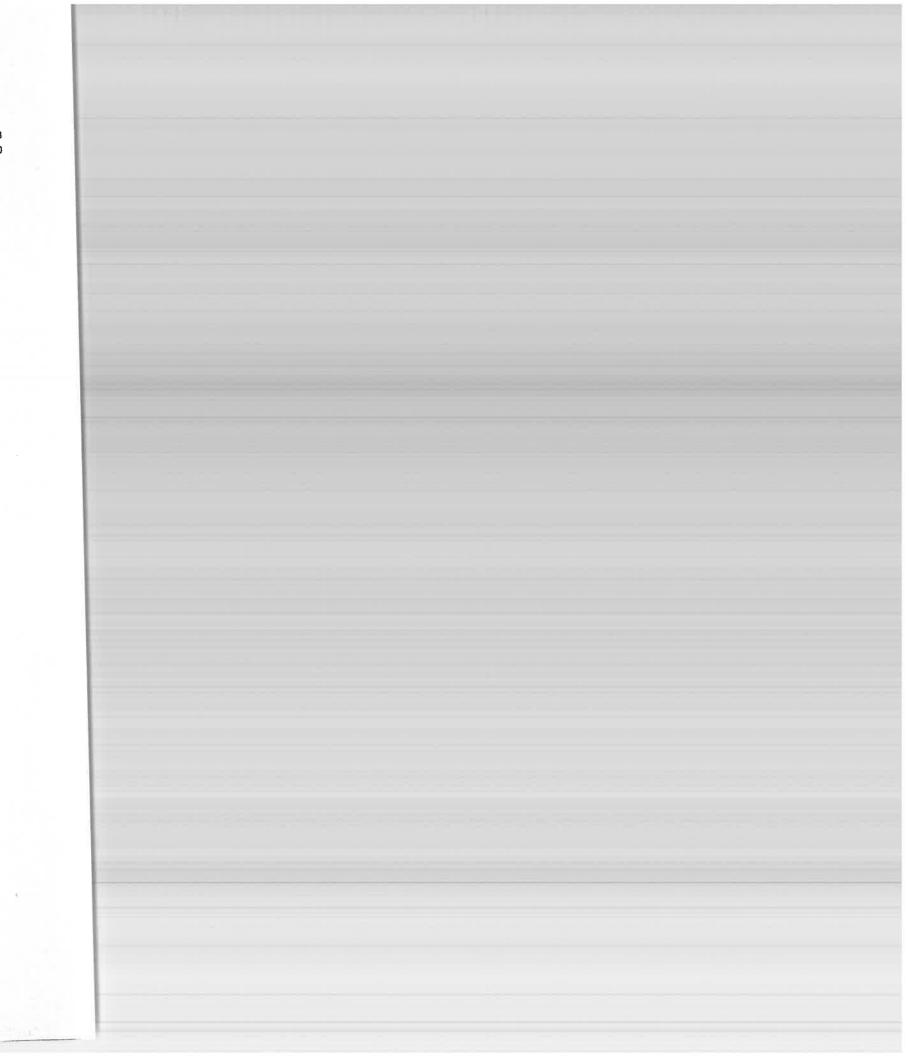
Dear Mayor Feeley:

Reference is made to my letter of 13 October 1993, captioned as above.

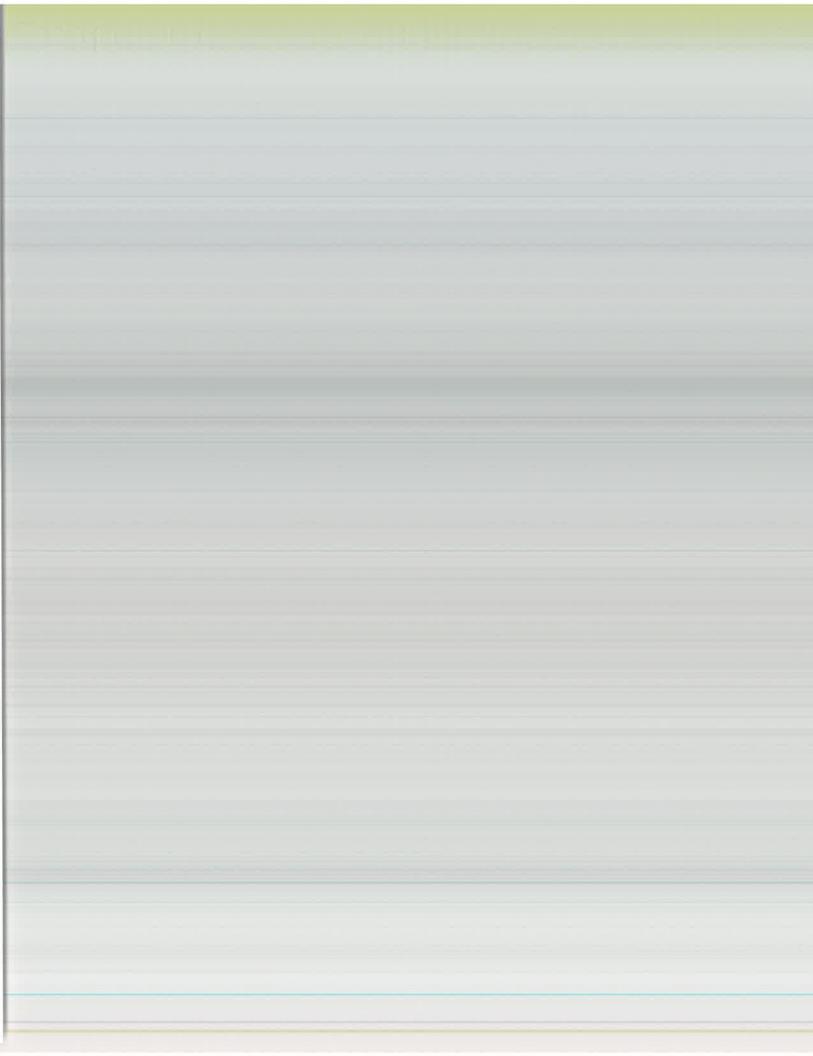
I forward herewith an unsigned brief received by Federal Express this afternoon which is identified as a brief prepared by Mr. Thomas P. Halley, attorney for the Respondent in cited case, in support of his closing arguments in the 16-17 September 1993 hearing.

I have closely reviewed the aforementioned brief and given full consideration to the statements included therein. There is nothing contained therein which was not already raised during the hearing and, accordingly, I am not compelled to make any change to my memorandum report of 13 October 1993.

Respectfully.



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(Confirmed reservation required † Delivery commitment may	"Declared Value Limit \$500.	12 HOLIDAY DELIVERY (If off	fered)		4	4 □ B.S.C.	Release			U.S.A.
T Delivery commitment may be later in some areas.	"Cail for description schedule.	(Extra charge)		2	On-Call Stop	5 🗆 Station	Signature:		- 17	OF THE REAL PROPERTY.



State of New York
Village of Malone Civil Services Law Section 75

Village of Malone,

Complaint,

-against-

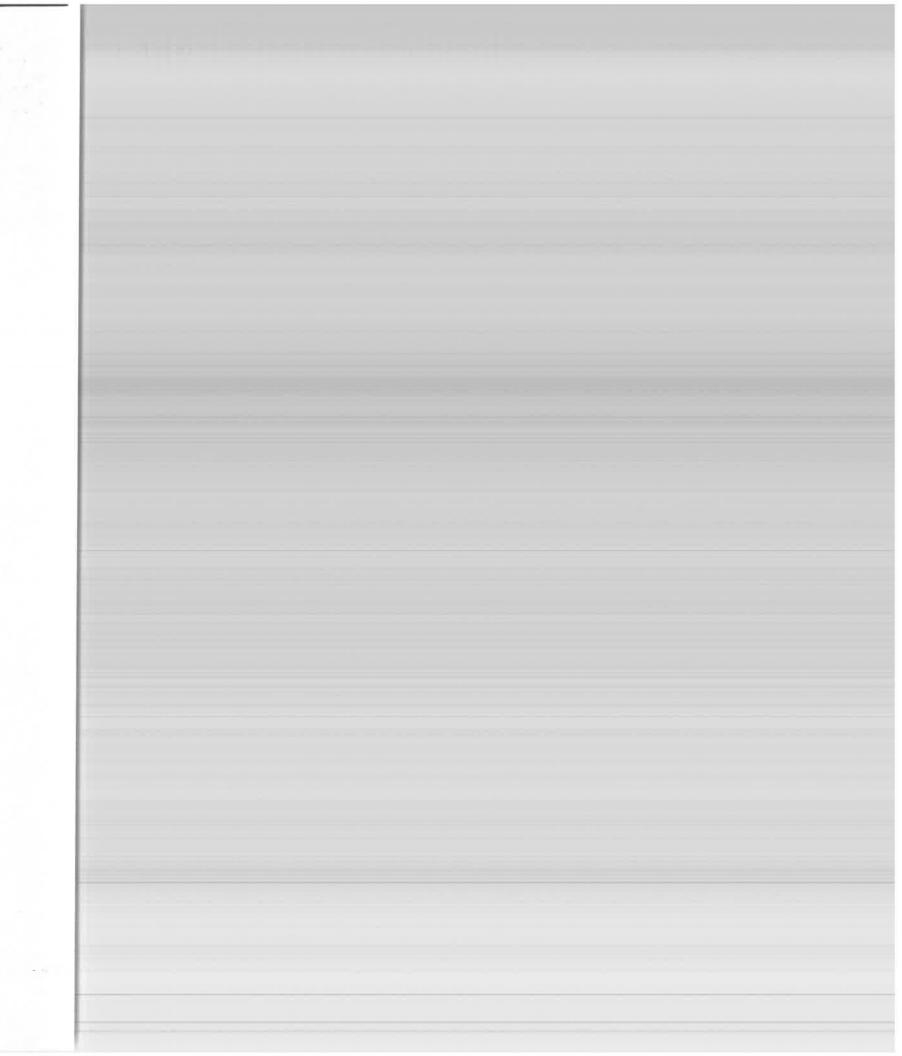
Patrick Nichols,

Respondent.

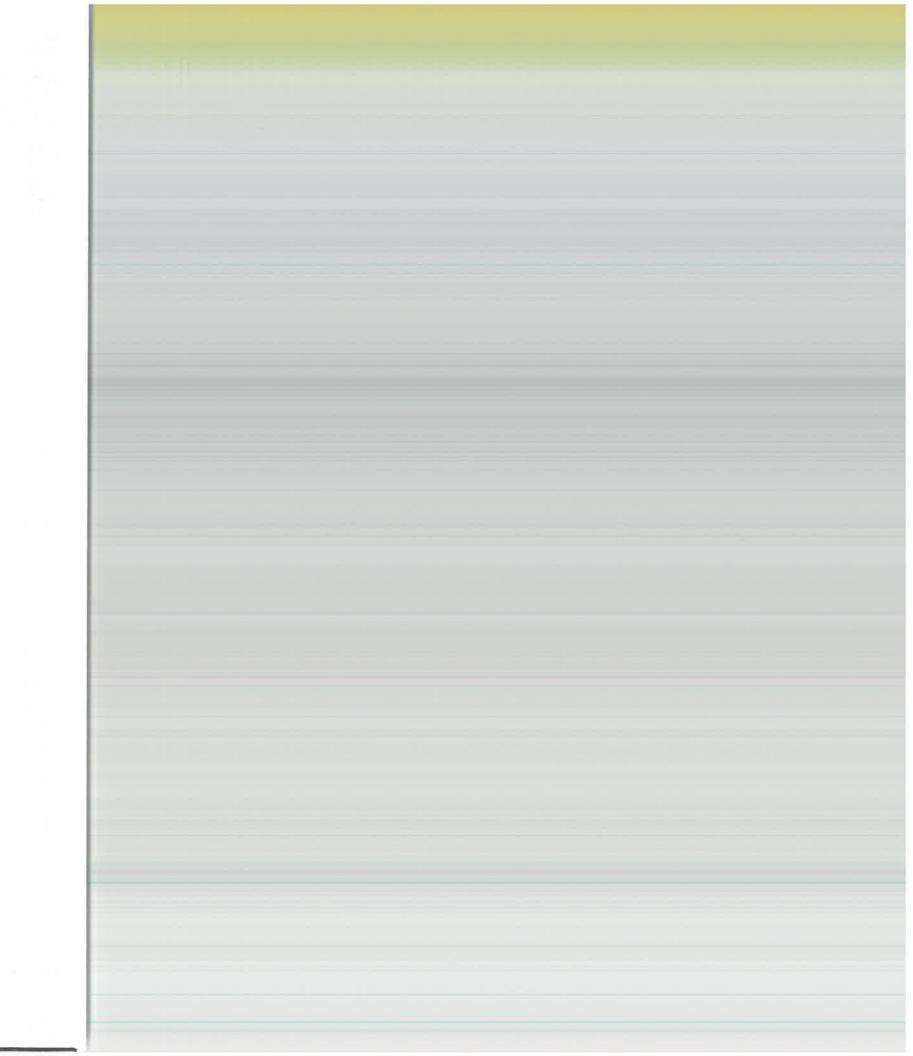
Respondent, by his attorney THOMAS P. HALLEY, submits this brief in support of closing arguments with regard to the charges issued pursuant to the Civil Service Law, and following the hearing conducted on the September 16th, and 17, 1993 in the Village of Malone.

Officer Nichols is charged with various violations of the rules and regulations of the Police Department of the Village of Malone. For the reasons set forth herein, he should not be found guilty of the charges and specifications, or, in the alternative, if he is found guilty, he should be entitled to the defense provided by Section 75-b of the Civil Service Law, also known as the "Whistle Blower Law".

Charge number one alleges that Officer Nichols filed a written complaint against a fellow officer on July 13, 1993 regarding an April 2nd incident " which was lacking in grounds sufficient to result in discipline and which was filed purely as a retaliatory act" in reaction to a letter of reprimand. The testimony and evidence indicates otherwise.



Numerous village police officers agreed that Officer Nichols was investigating the April 2nd incident well before the July 13, 1993 complaint. Indeed, one officer specifically testified that he advised the Chief of Police several days before the letter of reprimand was issued that Officer Nichols was investigating the incident and was going to file a report. Thus, it cannot be said that the filing of the complaint was " purely as a retaliatory act" because the complaint was the product of an investigation which under way and almost complete. As to the claim that the complaint was "lacking in grounds sufficient to result in discipline" this has not been demonstrated. Clearly, an incident occurred which gave rise to some harm to Scott Mattimore. The District Attorney indicated that if the facts shown were proven to be true, he believed that a crime has been committed. Scott Mattimore himself testified that he had been recently questioned by the FBI regarding the incident. The fact that the these two agencies have seen fit to render such opinions or take such action clearly demonstrates that this is not a case which " was lacking in grounds sufficient to result in discipline". Whether or not such a disciplinary proceeding would give rise to a finding of guilt or innocence is not the question before us. Indeed, this officer contends that this Civil Service proceeding should not give rise to a

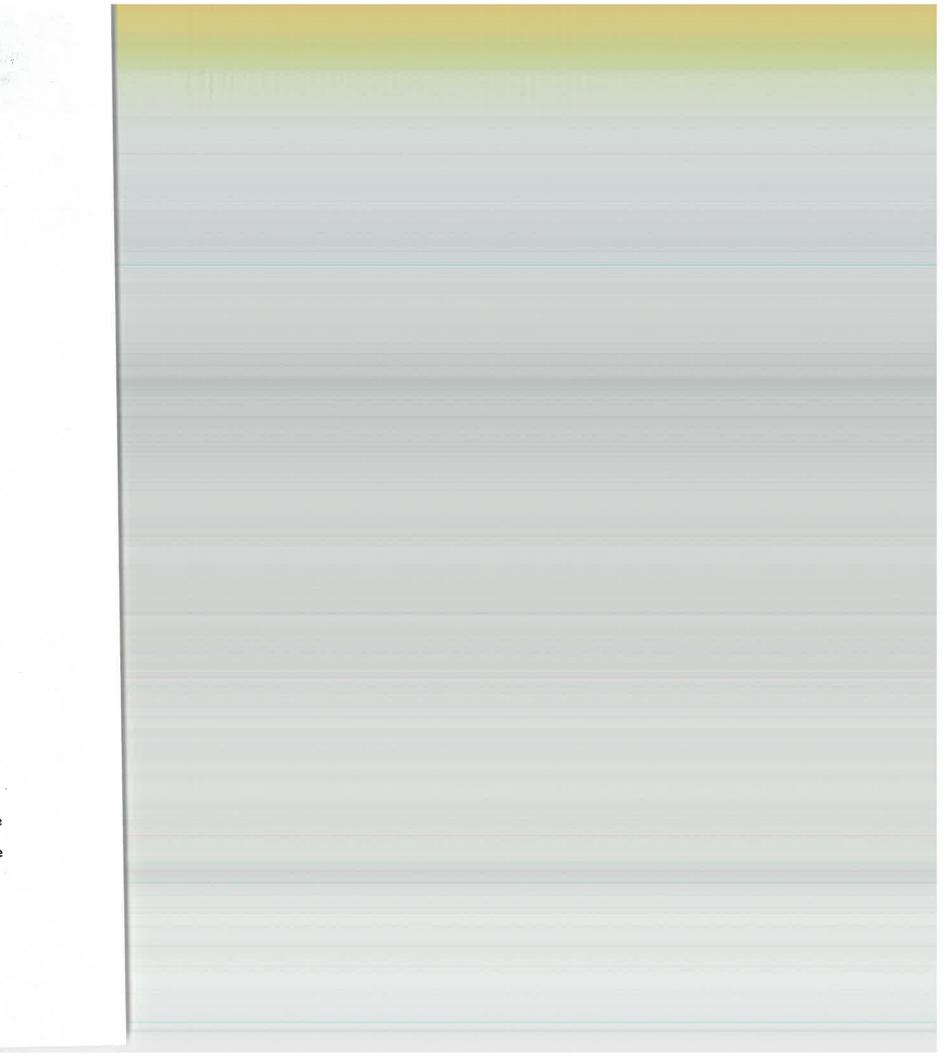


finding of guilt. Nonetheless, the filing of the complaint was not only appropriate, but justified and necessary under the circumstances which were known to Officer Nichols at the time. For these reasons, this charge should be dismissed.

with the Franklin County District Attorney to discuss the bleach incident. This action is clearly protected by the Whistle Blower Law as will be subsequently developed. In any event, the evidence demonstrated that the discussion by Officer Nichols with the District Attorney's office did not name the particular individuals, but rather referred to a report which had names deleted therefrom. Such action can hardly be called a discredit to the department, or a public criticism of members of the department. For the reasons set forth above, this charge should be dismissed.

Charge number three was dismissed on consent by the Village.

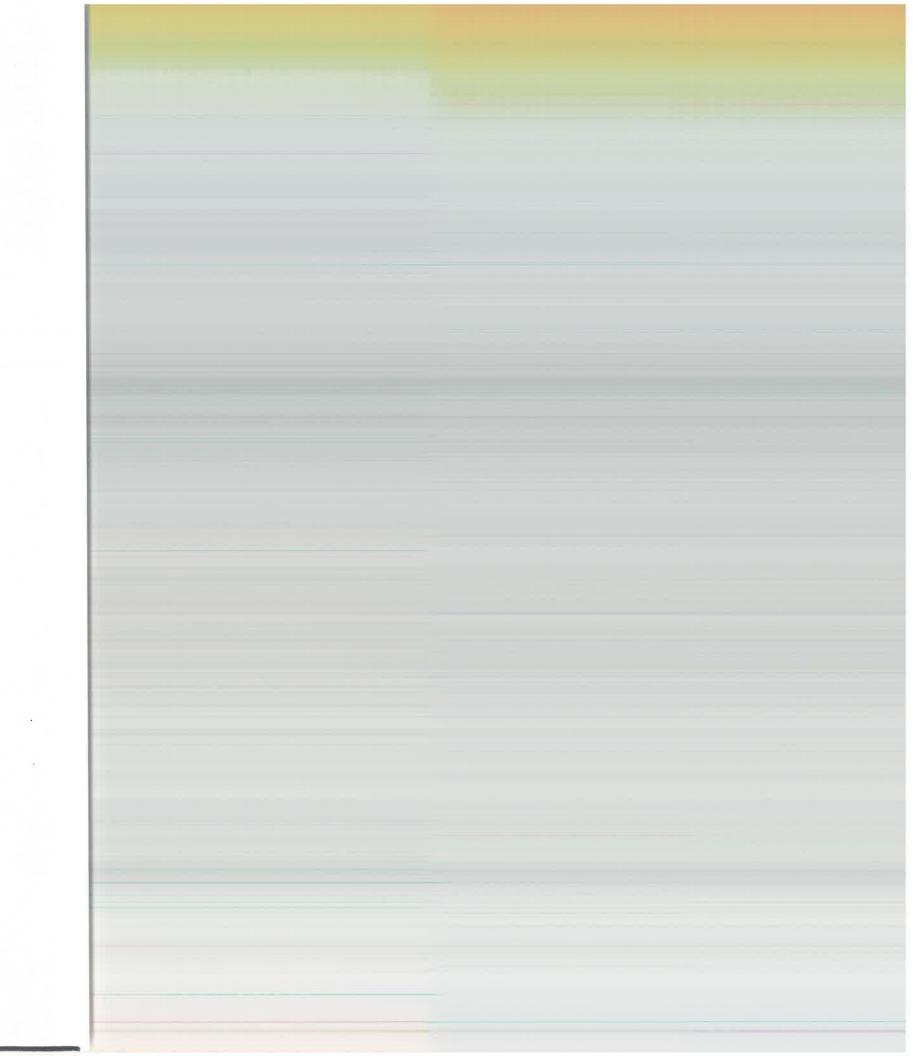
Charge number four alleges that Officer Nichols accused the Chief of Police of a "cover-up" in front of another officer. The accusation was made "without reasonable grounds." It is respectfully submitted that the testimony did not show that such an incident occurred. Even if it were to be shown that such a statement were made, it can hardly be said that such a claim was "without reasonable grounds."



Again, as will be further developed, Officer Nichols had every reason to believe that there was going to be and continues to be a cover-up of the April 2, 1993 incident so as to exonerate the Assistant Chief.

Charge number five alleges that Officer Nichols met with former Chief Richard Brown to discus the April 2, 1993 incident. The evidence is distinctly lacking in regard to this charge. While there is no dispute that Officer Nichols had a conversation with the former Chief at a local diner, there was nothing more than a general discussion regarding police procedures. There was absolutely no showing that the incident of April 2, 1993 was discussed with the former Chief. For the reasons set forth above, this charge should be dismissed.

Charge six alleges that Officer Nichols met with Scott
Mattimore on a unspecified number of occasions "for the
purpose of conducting an unauthorized investigation." The
evidence, however, distinctly shows that the meetings were
chance encounters. The conversations between Officer Nichols
and Scott Mattimore amounted to nothing more than general
statements relating to the incident. Obviously, both
Mattimore and Nichols knew about the incident as they were
both present. There was hardly an unauthorized investigation
being conducted. There was no criticism or discredit



rendered toward the Department in these conversations. There was no information released, or influence sought. For the reasons set forth above, this charge should be dismissed.

Charge number seven relates to a meeting with Mayor

James Feeley during which Officer Nichols and the Mayor

discussed a number of items, including, but not limited to,

the bleach incident. It should be noted that this meeting

took place on August 2, 1993, after the complaint had been

filed with the Chief of Police. The Mayor at no time

discouraged or dissuaded Officer Nichols from discussing the

matter with him. Certainly if any departmental rules were

being violated, the Mayor would have immediately informed

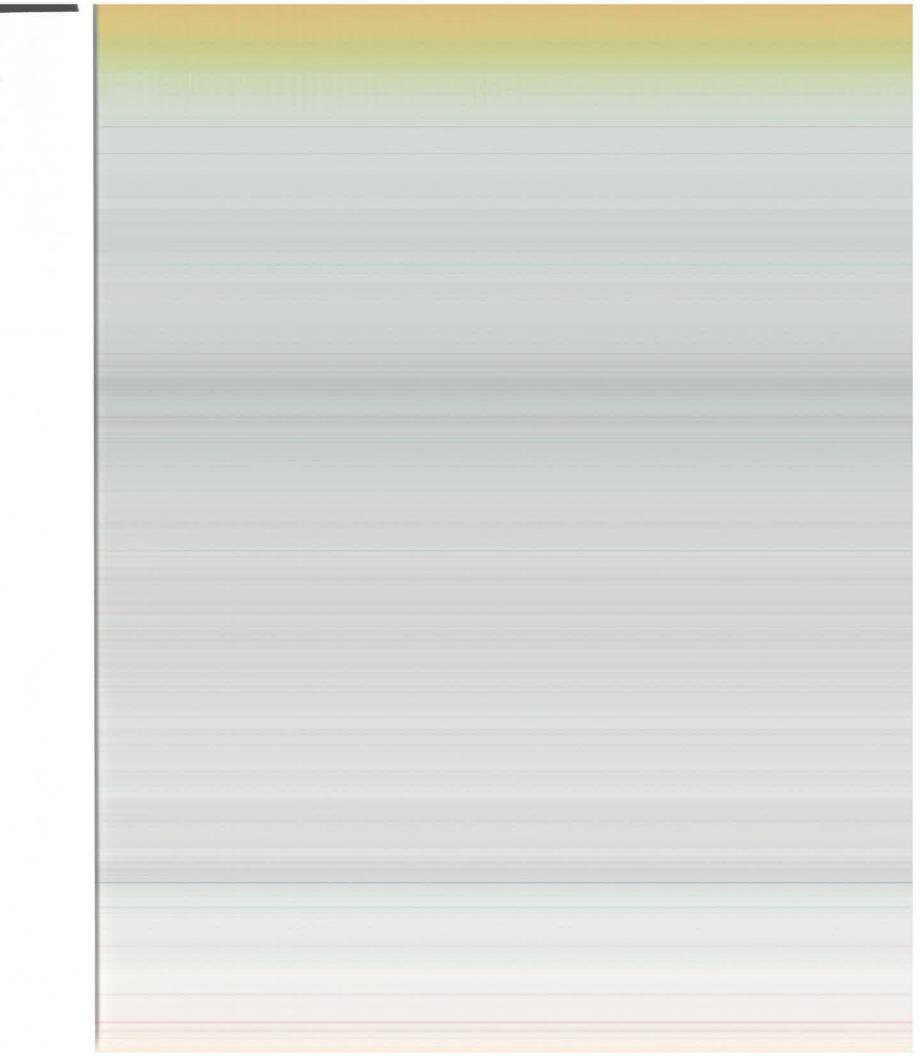
Officer Nichols on this occasion. He did not. It was not

until several days later that he advised Officer Nichols that

he did not wish to discuss the matter any further. For these

reasons, this charge should be dismissed.

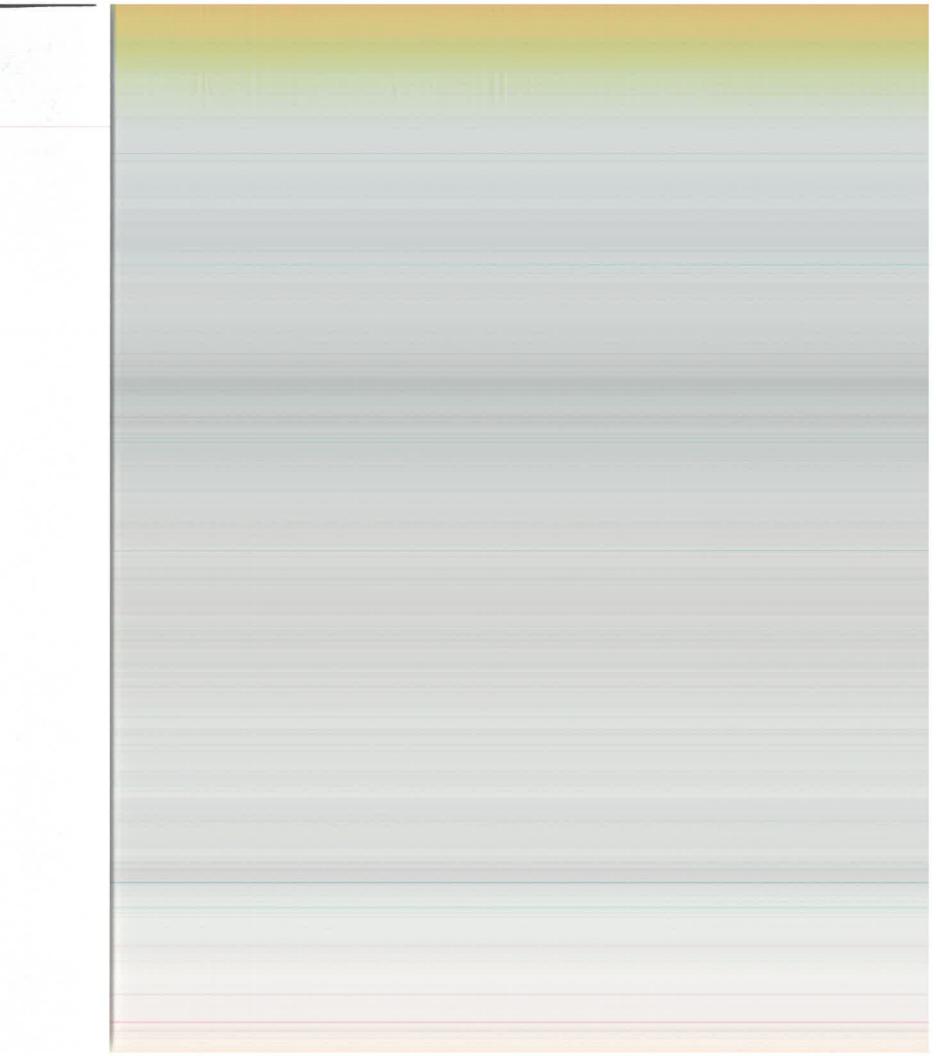
Charge number eight alleges that on August 4, 1993
Officer Nichols discussed the April 2nd incident with Mayor
Feeley. The context of the discussion does not disclose any
discredit to the Department, or seeking of outside influence.
Indeed, Officer Nichols had this second discussion with the
Mayor after advising that he would get back to him with
further information. Again, the Mayor at no time advised
Officer Nichols that such a conversation was in violation of



the rules and regulations. For the reasons set forth, this charge should be dismissed.

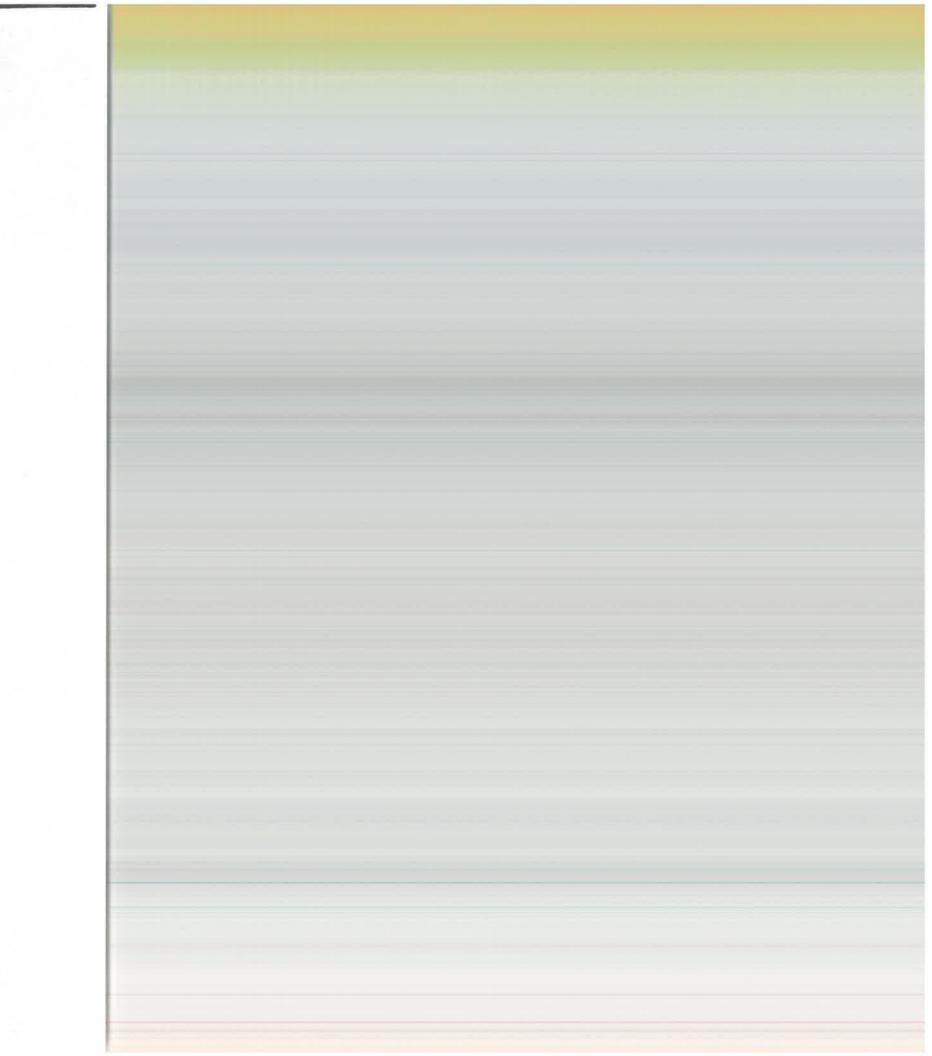
Charge number nine, alleges that on August 2, 1993 Officer Nichols meet with the Mayor to discuss his termination as a DARE officer. As is noted above, if such a conversation were against departmental rules and regulation, the Mayor would have or should have so advised Officer Nichols . The mayor did not. It is alleged that the respondent had previously been counseled for the identical offense. This is incorrect. As was developed during the course of the hearing, it was a Village Board Member who initiated the contact with Officer Nichols regarding the DARE Program. While this may have been embarrassing to the Chief of Police, the fact that a Village Board calls a Police Officer does not constitute a violation of departmental rules and regulations. The same could be said with the regard to the August 2nd meeting with the Mayor. This was hardly an attempt to seek outside influence or intervention. It was a casual conversation which was freely joined in by the Mayor, and was never reported by the Mayor to the Chief of Police as a violation of the rules and regulations. For the reasons set forth above, this charge should be dismissed.

In any event, the Respondent is entitled the protections of the Whistle Blower Law. This law provides that a public



employer shall not dismiss or take other disciplinary action against a public employee because the employee discloses to a "governmental body" matters which the employee "reasonably believes to be true" and "reasonably believes" constitutes improper governmental action. The term "governmental body" is defined as, among other things, an officer of a public employer, a member of the legislative body of a village, a law enforcement agency, or any member or employee of a law enforcement agency. Thus, the disclosures to the District Attorney and/or to Mayor Feeley come within the definition of "governmental body." As was demonstrated at the hearing, Officer Nichols had a reasonable belief that the complaint was true. He observed a number of things first hand, he spoke to Scott Mattimore to confirm them, and he saw statements filed by two other officers which confirmed the account. He further reasonably believed that there was improper governmental action taking place because he had knowledge of a prior claim of a cover up. As he indicated in his report to the Chief, which constituted the formal complaint against Assistant Chief Moll, various rules and regulations of the department had been violated, as well as the Penal Law of the State of New York.

There is no dispute that the employee must make a good faith effort to provide the appointing authority a reasonable



time to take appropriate action. In this case, there is no dispute that the Assistant Chief knew about the incident as soon as it occurred. Further, supervisory personnel testified at the hearing that they were aware of the incident within a matter of days after it occurred. Therefore, the incident was common knowledge throughout the police department as of mid April 1993. It is respectfully submitted that the period of time from April of 1993 through the middle of July 1993, three months, constitutes a more than reasonable time to take appropriate action. The action taken against Officer Nichols, for example, as a result of his activities in July of 1993, gave rise to charges approximately one month later. Why did the Village Chief of Police wait over three months to conclude this investigation of Moll? The information regarding the incident was in the hands of the Village almost instantaneously. The so called "thorough investigation" conducted by the Chief of Police distinctly failed to include interviewing the victim, and failed to include information from Officer Nichols, who initiated and conducted the investigation.

The Whistleblower Law, in Section 75-b, subsection

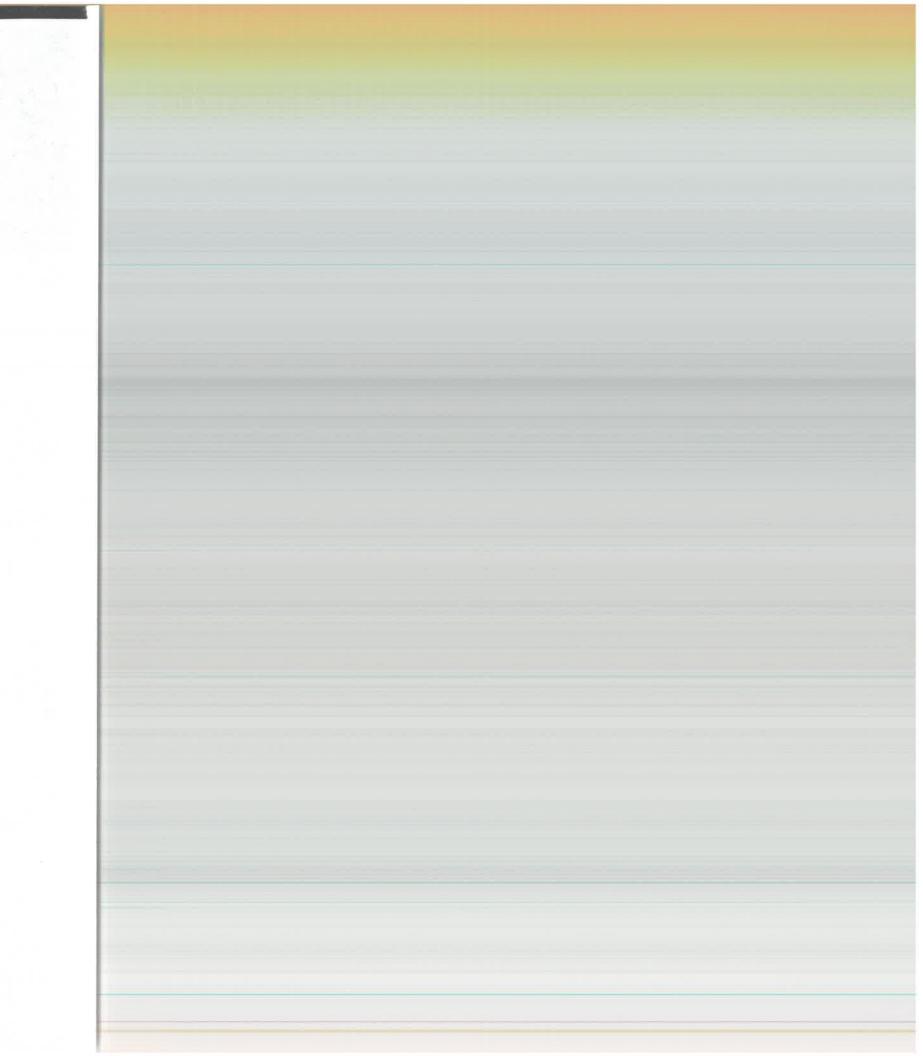
3 (a) specifically provides that an employee may assert the
law as a defense before the hearing officer. It further
provides that the merits of such defense shall be considered



and determined as part of the hearing officer's decision on the matter. It is therefore respectfully requested that in the event that the respondent is found guilty of any of the charges or specifications, that his defense under Section 75-b be discussed and considered and determined.

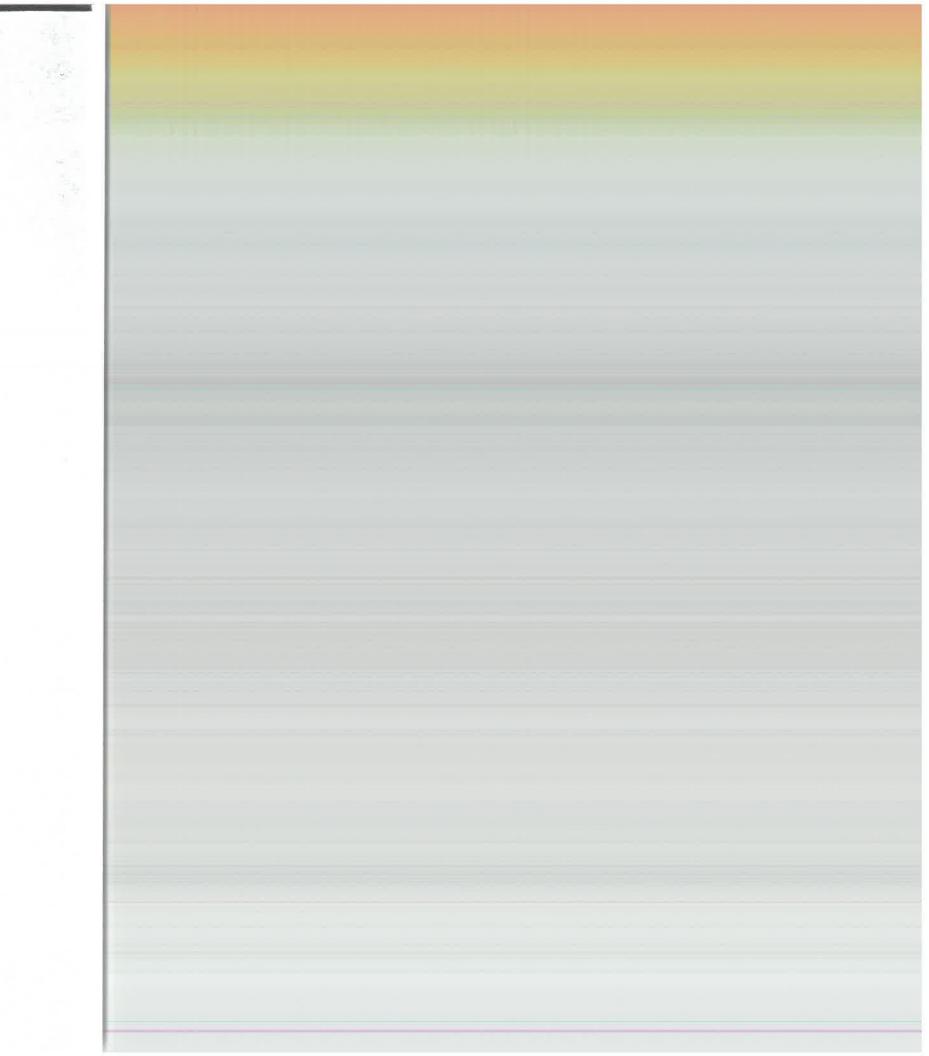
The Village will undoubtedly argue that Officer Nichols cannot return to work because of the disruption that will be caused. However, there was no disruption caused by any of Officer Nichols activities. There is only a bad feeling within the Department because of a belief that the Chief of Police will watch Officer Nichols very closely in the future. However, this should not serve as a reason to deny Officer Nichols his return to the police officer.

If there was any improper activity in this case, it was caused or occasioned by the actions or inactions of the Chief of Police and his Assistant. It is the Assistant Chief who directly participated in the bleach incident. It is the Chief and the Assistant Chief who then did a perfunctory investigation in an effort to clear the Assistant Chief and not bring discredit on the department. Unfortunately, such activities <a href="https://doi.org/10.1001/journal.org/1



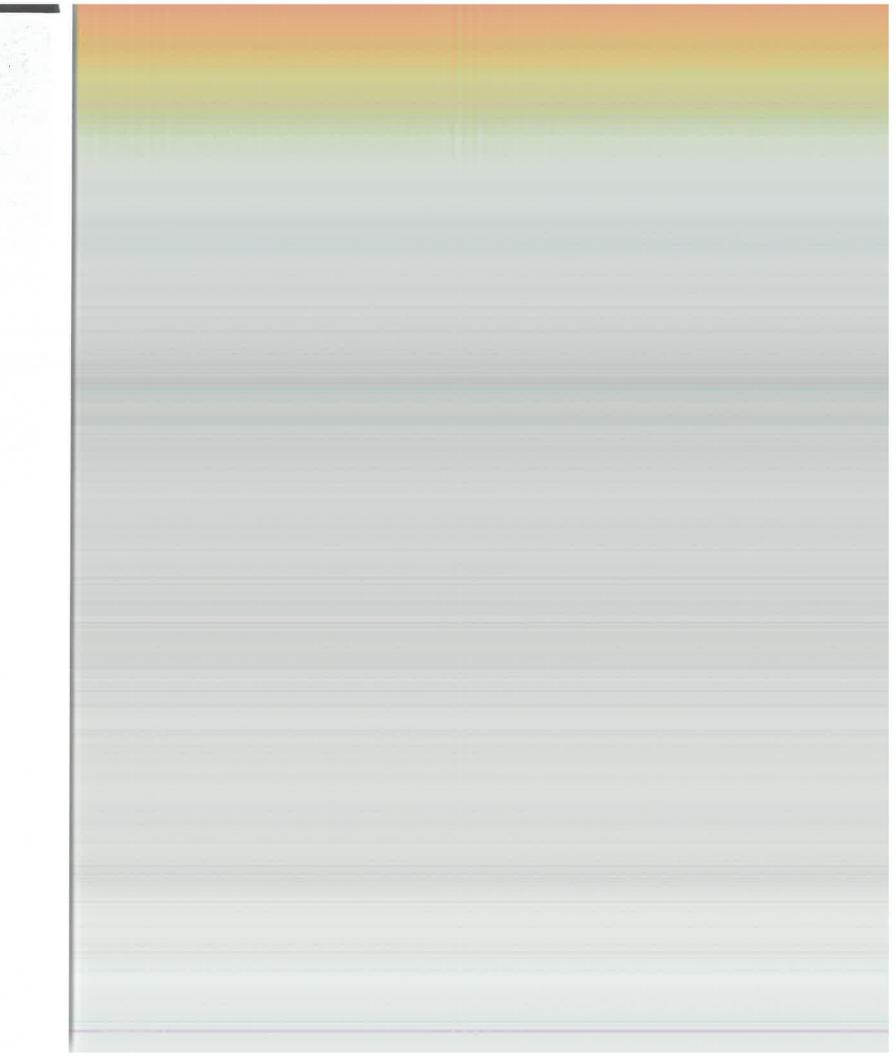
Civil Service Law Section 75 specifically provides that an employee shall not be subjected "to any disciplinary penalty provided in this Section" except after a hearing upon stated charges pursuant to the Section. The disciplinary penalty provided for in that Law ranges from "reprimand" to "dismissal." Thus, the issuance of a reprimand to Officer Nichols, without complying with the requirements of Section 75 of the Civil Service Law, was improper and should have no bearing on this case.

Officer Nichols was shown to be a dedicated and competent police officer. He was shown to be an honest law abiding citizen. While many of the aspects of this entire proceeding are unfortunate, and reflect badly upon the Village Police Department, Officer Nichols should not be terminated, suspended, or otherwise disciplined. He acted in a manner which he believed to correct, and in conformity with the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics which he took upon becoming a police officer. The Village of Malone would be well served in continuing to have Officer Nichols as a member of its Police Department.



DATED: Poughkeepsie, New York October 13, 1993

> THOMAS P. HALLEY ATTORNEY FOR RESPONDENT 297 MILL STREET POUGHKEEPSIE, NY 12601 (914) 452-9120

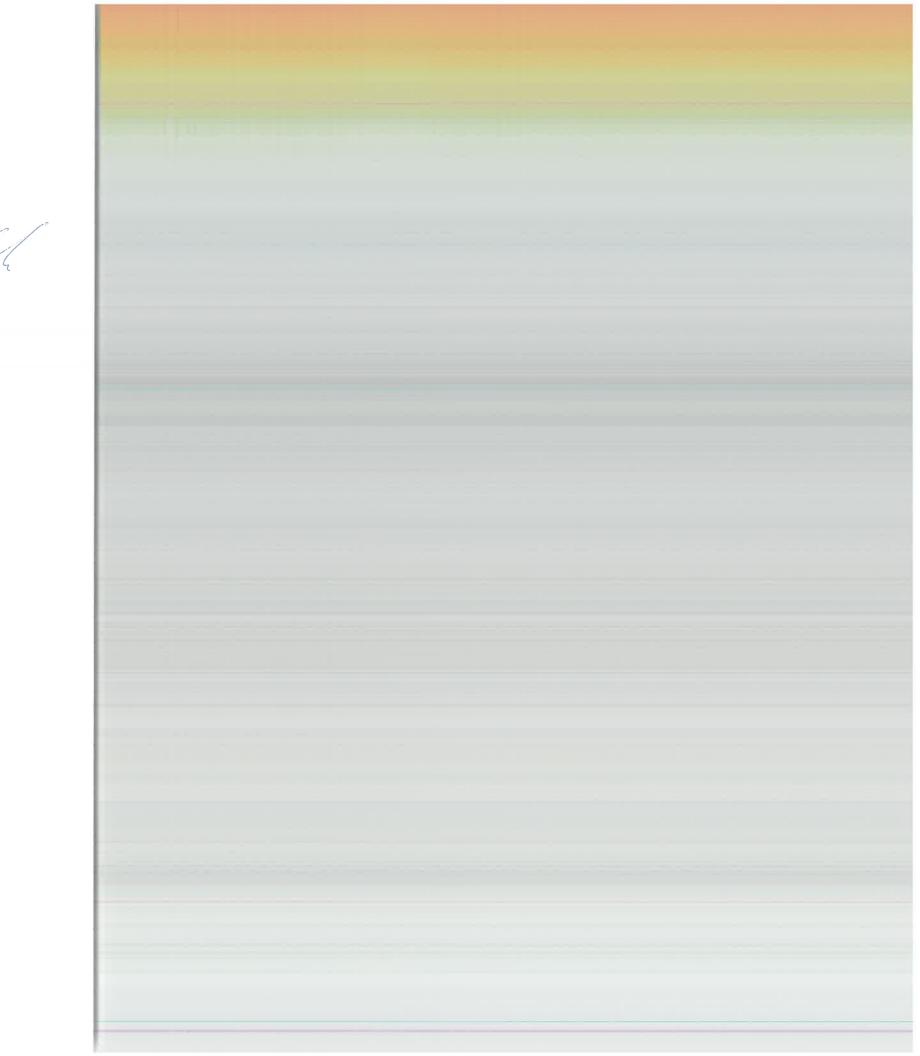


Patrick M Nichols 146 Webster St. Malone, N.Y. 12953

Chief Phillips,
 I would like to use 3 personal days for November 22, 23 and 24th. Please advise. Thank You.

Sincerely,

Patrick M Nichols



POLICE DEPT. VILLAGE OF MALONE

2 Park Place • Malone, New York 12953 • (518) 483-2424 • FAX (518) 483-2426

James E. Phillips
Chief of Police

Vernon N. Marlow Jr.
Assistant Chief

November 9, 1993

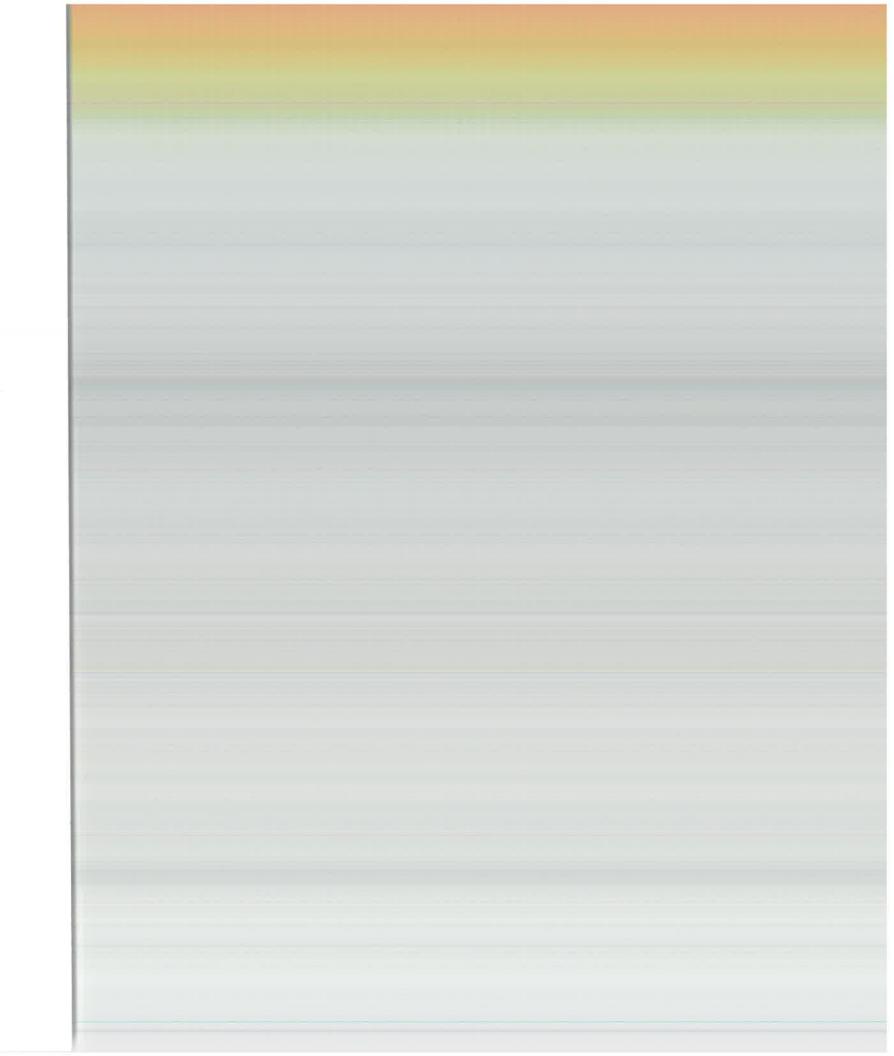
Patrick Nichols 146 Webster Street Malone, NY 12953

Ptlm. Nichols:

In regards to my letter dated November 4, 1993 to you about your vacation. I have been informed by the mayor and budget officer that you were on paid leave during your scheduled vacation in September and as such are not entitled to another one. There were no restrictions as to where you could go and couldn't go.

Enclosed you will find a copy of your schedule. I would like you to report to the station on November 17, 1993 at 9:00AM for a meeting in my office and also to get your uniforms ready for work, and to get issued your leather gear.

James E. Phillips Chief of Police



OH ISUIC ENGINEERING TEL-1 DIO 400 ADDA

November 8, 1993 Patrick M Nichols 146 Webster St. Malone, N.Y. 12953

14.00 NO.000 1.01

Chief Phillips 2 Park Place Malone, N.Y. 12953

Chief,

As of this date I have not received a copy of the schedule as you indicated by phone you would be sending via mail. Could you please forward a copy of same at your earliest convenience. Thank you.

Patrick M Nichols

Chief James E. Phillips

Date: August 3rd 1993

Patrolman Patrick Nichols

Information from Mayor Feeley stating that Ptl. Nichols scheduled a meeting with the Mayor. Mayor Feeley thought that the meeting was to discuss the recent disciplinary action that was brought against Ptl. Nichols. Mayor Feeley stated that it took him off guard when Ptl. Nichols started talking about the Mattimore incident. During this meeting Ptl. Nichols also discussed his feelings that the incident was being covered up by myself. Ptl. Nichols then turned over a copy of a document from our department's new computer. This document was a copy of my personal notes that I made while conducting the personnel investigation on one of my subordinates.

This document was stored in my personal computer that only could be accessed from the other computers by calling up my computer which is computer number six. On screens would have shown CHIEF'S PERSONAL COMPUTER. Next WORD PROCESSING program would have to be entered. Once inside my word processing, the files that I had in memory could be accessed. The file was labeled JIM. Once JIM was entered, the screen would have shown notes for a personnel investigation that I was conducting on another officer. At the top of the screen were the words "PERSONAL COMPLAINT".

Ptl. Nichols let another Officer under my command know that he was able to access my personal computer. Ptl. Nichols also made the comment to this Officer that he couldn't believe how stupid I was for leaving the notes in my computer.

Ptl. Nichols submitted a memo on July 21st 1993 requesting the results of the personnel complaint that he filed against another Officer. I responded to his memo explaining that investigations on personnel were covered under the Privacy Act and he was assured that the investigation was being conducted.

Even after being advised that Personnel Investigations were covered under the Privacy Act, Ptl. Nichols took it upon himself to hand over a document involving the personnel investigation of another Officer without permission or authorization. Due to Ptl. Nichols actions and comments, I feel that the following departmental rules and laws may have been violated.



Malone Village Police Department Rules & Regulations

- 10.1.4 Insubordination or disrespect towards superior Officer
- 10.1.28 Releasing information contained in a department record
- 10.1.34 Deliberate violation of regulations pertaining to police management and control
- 10.1.57 Removing departmental records except as for in departmental orders
- Member of department shall treat as confidential the official business of the police department. He shall not impart information relating to the official business of the department to anyone except under due process of law and as directed, or with the permission of the Chief of Police.

CIVIL RIGHTS LAW

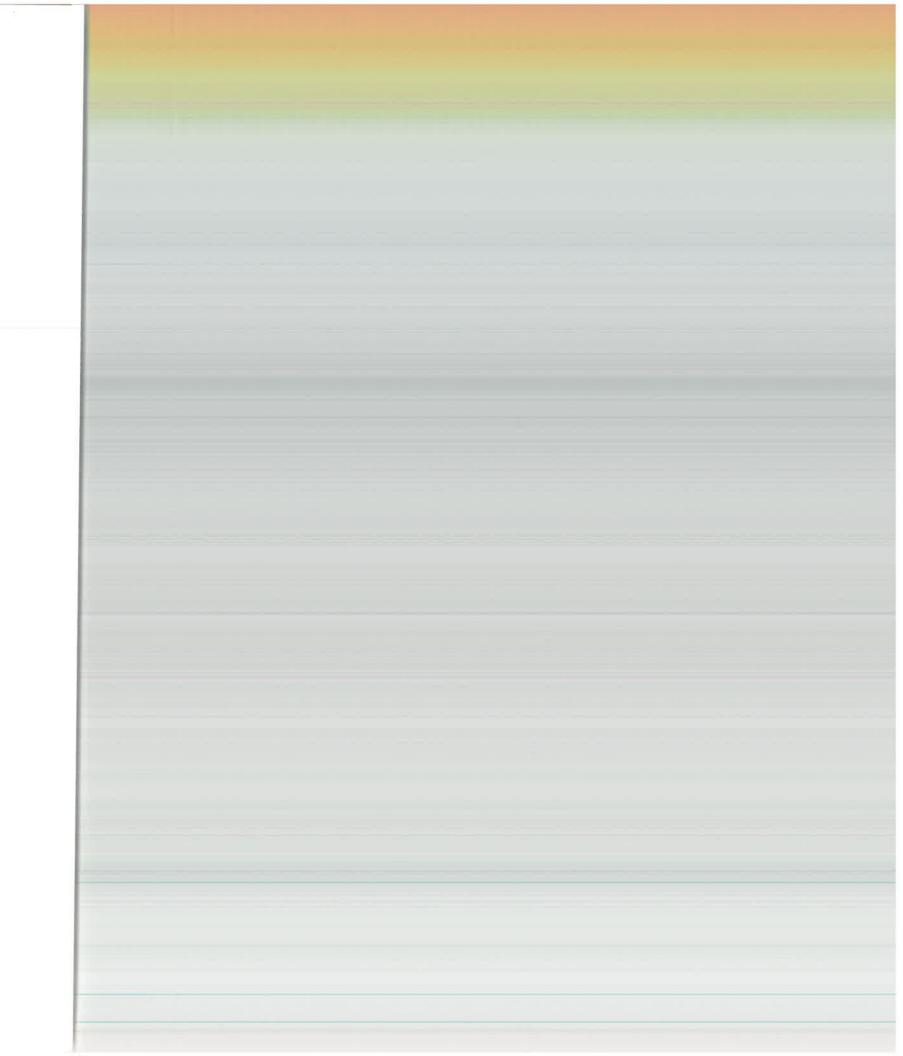
50.a Right of Privacy, Personnel records of police officers

PUBLIC OFFICERS LAW

- Freedom of information law, Access to agency records
- 95 Personal Privacy Protection, Access to records

N.Y. State Penal Law

- 156.10 Computer trespass Class E Felony
- Unlawful duplication of computer related material Class E Felony



Chief James E. Phillips

Date: August 3rd 1993

Patrolman Patrick Nichols

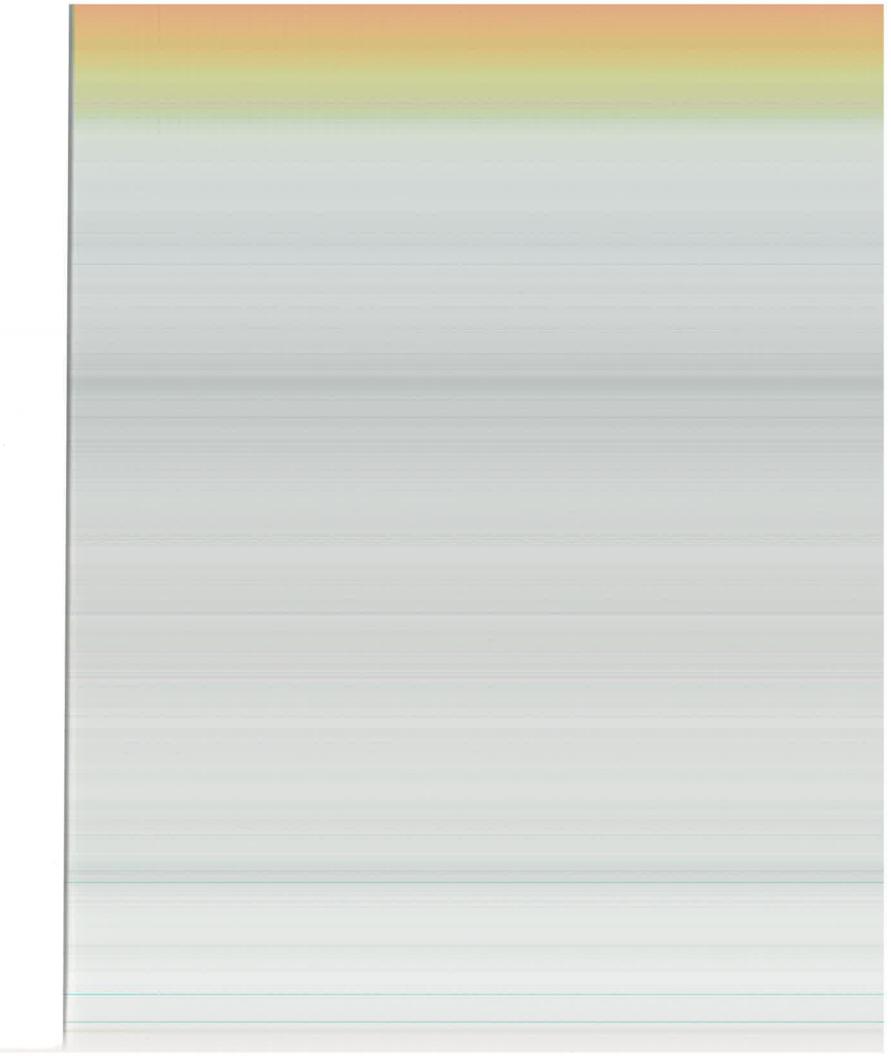
Information from Mayor Feeley stating that Ptl. Nichols had stopped at the Mayor's house on the night of August 2nd 1993 while working the night shift. Ptl. Nichols discussed that he was being terminated from the DARE Program and that Ptl. Simonsen was going to take his place.

Ptl. Nichols has made it well known among the department that he no longer wishes to be involved with the DARE Program. Ptl. Nichols also stated this on February 4th 1993 to Ass't Chief Moll and myself.

The night that Ptl. Nichols met with the Mayor, there was no final determination as to the 1993-94 DARE Program. Nothing was confirmed as to Ptl. Simonsen teaching DARE or Ptl. Nichols terminated from DARE. This meeting with the Mayor was not authorized and the information released to the Mayor by Ptl. Nichols was premature and against policy. The following rules may have been violated.

- 10.1.78 No member or members of the department shall initially contact the Board of Trustees on police problems except through regular channels or by permission of the Chief of Police
- 10.1.77 Seeking influence or intervention of any person outside the department for the purpose of personal preferment.

Ptl. Nichols was counseled by myself on February 4th 1993 and handed a copy of Article X 10.1.78 & 10.1.77 of the department rules. Ptl. Nichols was advised that he violated these sections during the complications that took place during the DARE Program. A verbal warning was given to Ptl. Nichols over this incident.



R Chief James E. Phillips

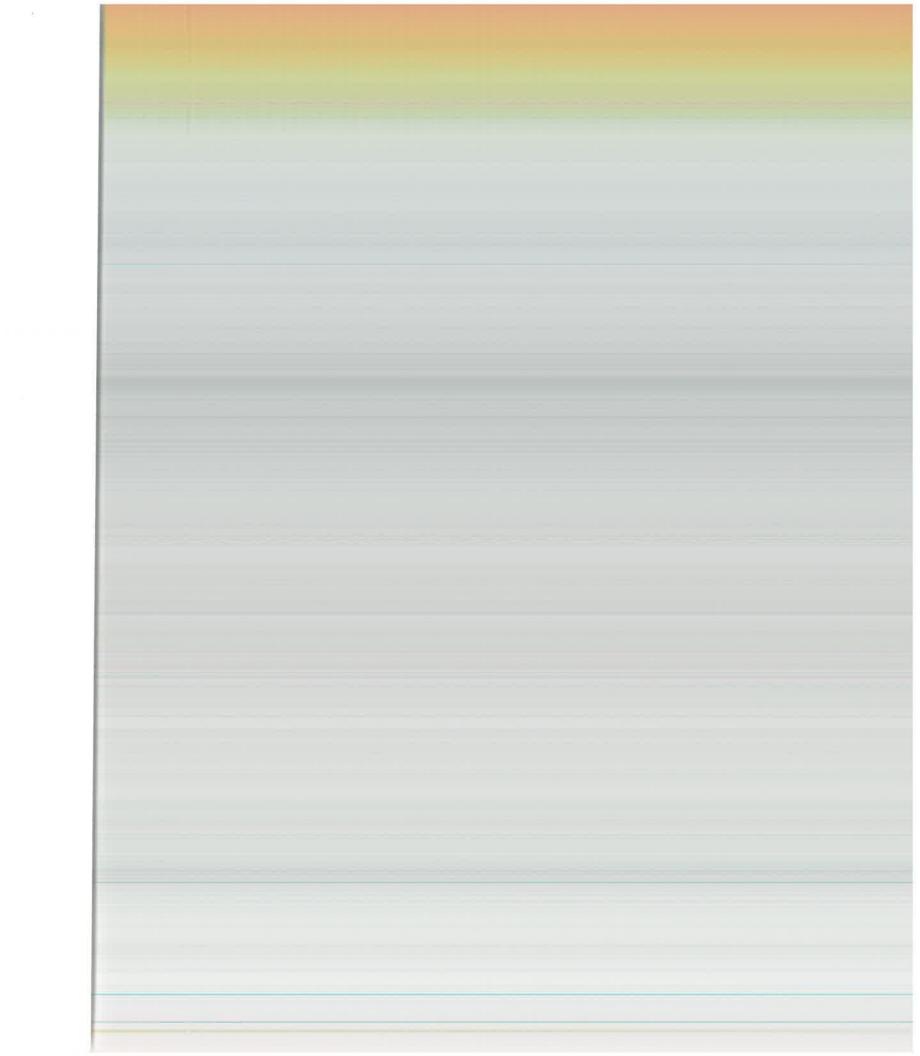
Date: August 3rd 1993

Ref: Patrolman Patrick Nichols

Information from Franklin County District Attorney, Richard Edwards, stating that Ptl. Nichols came to his office about two weeks ago to discuss the Mattimore incident. Ptl. Nichols handed over a copy of the statement that he submitted to me and his accusations against Ass't Chief Gerald Moll. The statement had "white out" used to block the name of Ass't Chief Moll. Ptl. Nichols discussed his concerns of a cover up with my investigation into the incident and what course of action he could take.

Ptl. Nichols took this upon himself to meet with the D.A. shortly after he submitted his statement to me. His allegations were being investigated, Mayor was advised and statements were being taken. A preliminary interview was conducted over the phone with Ass't Chief Moll and a statement was to be secured when he returned from vacation.

- Ptl. Nichols actions and comments brought discredit to this police department and there is cause to believe that the following sections of rules may have been violated.
- 10.1.4 Insubordination or disrespect towards superior officer
- 10.1.28 Releasing information contained in a department record
- 10.1.34 Deliberate violation of regulations pertaining to police management and control
- 10.1.40 Communicating with other police agencies concerning police matters except as provided by departmental procedures
- 10.1.57 Removing, altering or changing any official departmental record except as provided for in department orders
- 10.1.77 Seeking influence or intervention of any person outside the department for the purpose of personal preferment.
- Member of the department shall treat as confidential the official business of the police department. He shall not impart information relating to the official business of the department to anyone except under due process of law and as directed, or with the permission of the Chief of Police.



Chief James E. Phillips

Date: August 3rd 1993

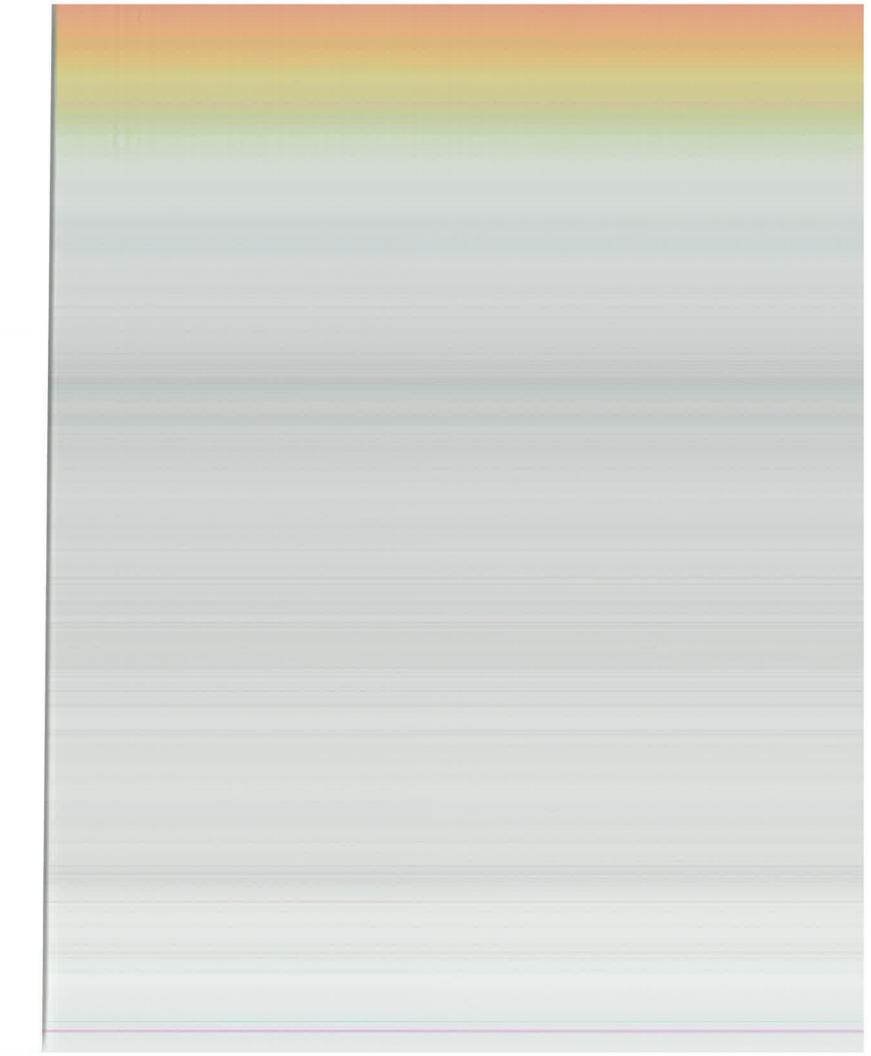
Ref: Patrolman Patrick Nichols

Information from Mayor James Feeley stating that Ptl. Nichols scheduled a meeting with the Mayor. Mayor Feeley thought that Ptl. Nichols wanted to discuss the recent disciplinary action that was brought against Ptl. Nichols. Mayor Feeley stated that it took him off guard when Ptl. Nichols started discussing the Mattimore incident. Ptl. Nichols discussed the incident and further stated that he has been to the District Attorney's office and Mattimore himself.

Pti. Nichols also turned over a copy of a document from our department's new computer. This document was a copy of my personal notes that I made during the personnel investigation on the Mattimore incident. Ptl. Nichols also discussed his feelings that the incident was being covered up by myself and further stated that he was going to the D.A. again and go with Federal charges.

Ptl. Nichols did not seek the permission from myself to set up this meeting. His comments and actions was an attempt to bring discredit to this police department and myself. The following rules and regulations of the department may have been violated.

- 10.1.4 Insubordination or disrespect towards superior officer
- 10.1.28 Releasing information contained in a department record
- 10.1.34 Deliberate violation of regulations pertaining to police management and control
- 10.1.57 Removing departmental records except as for in departmental orders
- Member of department shall treat as confidential the official business of the police department. He shall not impart information relating to the official business of the department to anyone except under due process of law and as directed, or with the permission of the Chief of Police.

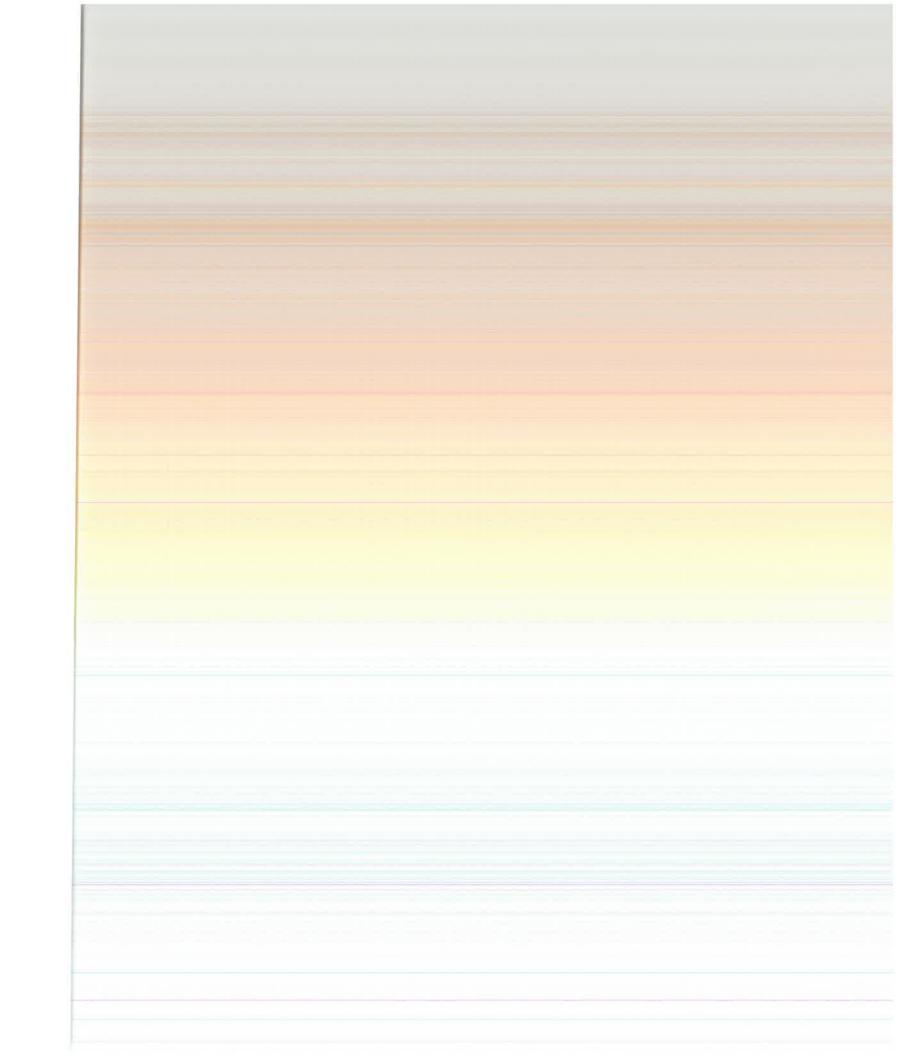


10.1.78 No member or members of the department shall initially contact the Board of Trustees on Police problems except through regular channels or by permission of the Chief of Police.

Ptlm. Nichols was counseled by myself on 02-14-93 and handed a copy of Article X 10.1.78 of the Department rules. Ptlm. Nichols was advised that he violated this section during the complication that took place during the DARE Program. A verbal Warning was given to Ptlm. Nichols over this incident.

Ptlm. Nichols reviewed the rules and regulations on 05-11-93 and he verified that he had by his initials.

Ptlm. Nichols was given a letter of reprimand on 07-10-93 and again he was told to review the rules and regulations he signed a receipt stating that he received such letter.



POLICE DEPT. VILLAGE OF MALONE

2 Park Place • Malone, New York 12953 • (518) 483-2424 • FAX (518) 483-2426

James E. Phillips
Chief of Police

Vernon N. Marlow Jr.
Assistant Chief

November 4, 1993

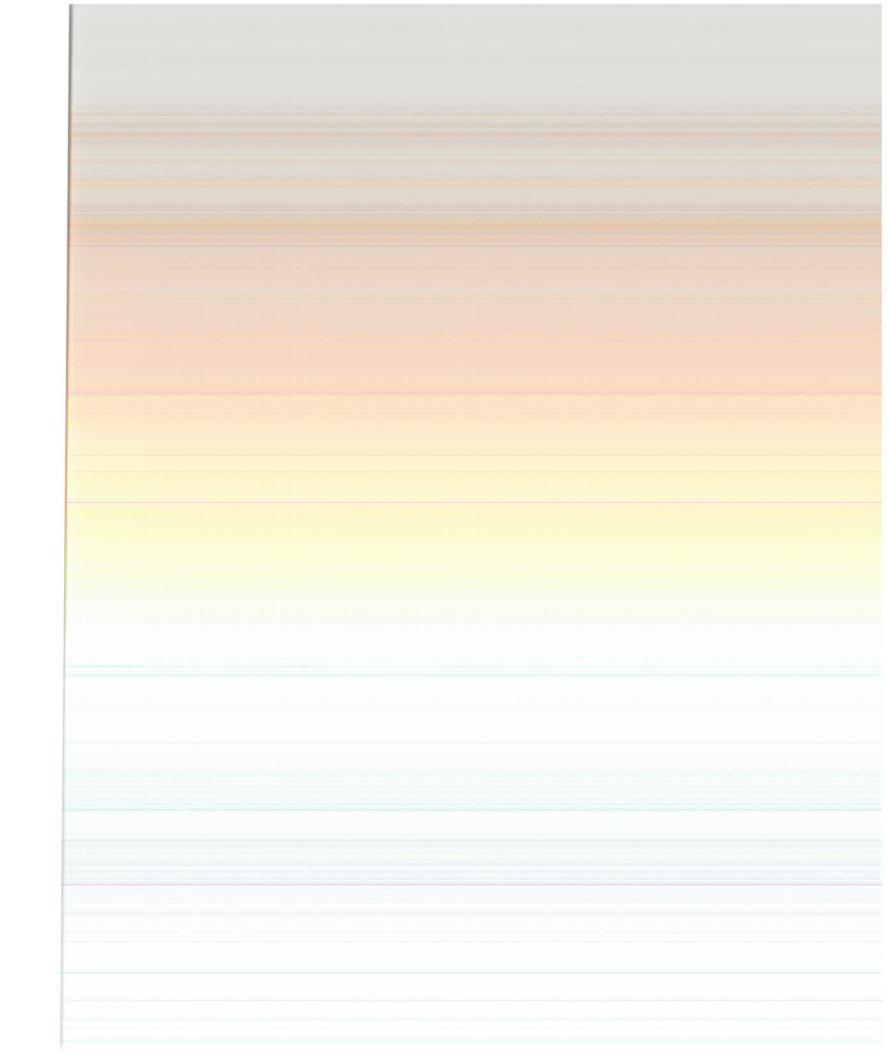
Patrick Nichols 146 Webster Street Malone, NY 12953

Ptlm. Nichols:

I'm in receipt of your letter dated November 3, 1993 where you requested the first (5) working days that you return to work to be your unused vacation time. I have to deny your request. The weeks of Dec. 5, 1993 and Dec. 12, 1993 and Dec. 26, 1993 are the only weeks that are available. You can inform me when you come back to work which one of those weeks that you want.

Sincerely,

Vames E. Phillips Chief of Police



November 3, 1993

Chief James Phillips Village Police Dept. 2 Park Place Malone, NY 12953

Chief Phillips:

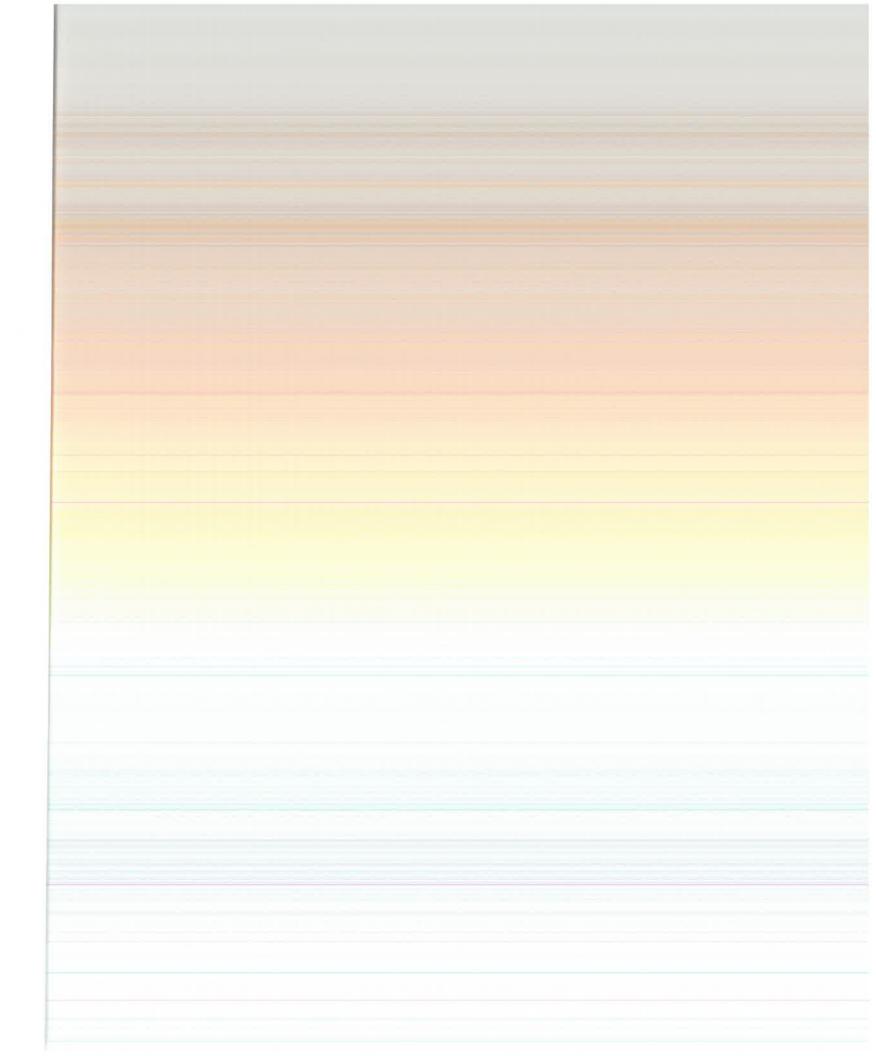
I am requesting in writing that a vacation scheduled in September that I was unable to use be rescheduled. I request the first five (5) working days I am scheduled to return to work be considered the unused vacation time.

Please let me know if this is acceptable to you.

Sincerely,

Patrick M. Nichols

cc; Thomas Halley



POLICE DEPT. VILLAGE OF MALONE

2 Park Place • Malone, New York 12953 • (518) 483-2424 • FAX (518) 483-2426

James E. Phillips
Chief of Police

Vernon N. Marlow Jr.
Assistant Chief

Chief Phillips,

10/24/93

I would like to inform you by letter totally against the idea of having to work with Patrick Nichols. My reasons for feeling this way are as follows.

I spent 4yrs of my life in the military and almost 4yrs now as a member of the Malone Village Police Department. During these last 8yrs, I've learned to depend on the people I work with for the safety of my life and their's. With the way Pat has brought down the morale and respect of the Police Department, I don't feel I can count on him when it really counts. He has betrayed my trust in him as a fellow Police Officer and he can never regain that trust I once had in him.

I don't think I can be productive at work, feeling that every decision or arrest I make could possibly be subject to close scrutiny by a fellow member looking for something to get me in trouble. Feeling this way could jeopardize my safety when a split second decision is needed when answering a call.

In closing, I feel having Pat back on the job will do more harm then good and would be disruptive to the entire Police Force.

Respectfully,

Patrolman James J. Russell

POLICE DEPT. VILLAGE OF MALONE

2 Park Place • Malone, New York 12953 • (518) 483-2424 • FAX (518) 483-2426

James E. Phillips
Chief of Police

Vernon N. Marlow Jr.
Assistant Chief

To Chief Phillips and whomever it concerns:

In regards to Ptl Nichols returning to duty with the Malone Village Dept I would like to state that I am in Protest of working with this individ I have worked with Ptl. Nichols in the past and have had nothing but problem I have two great partners at this time and wish to keep them. Ptl. Nichols person whom can't be trusted and whom I would rather stay away from because hard head ideas and the fact that he believes that he is always right, and ev else is wrong. Ptl. Nichols doesn't even like this job and has stated so sev if he is placed with somebody like myself whom does like the job and (the wor I perform it would only lead to disaster. I don't want to become a victum of big ideas and his media position every time he doesn't get what he wants. In type of job I feel that Pt1. Nichols is a problem to himself and anybody in contact with him. I don't think that it is right nor just to ask anybody to 8hrs in a car with someone whom you don't even talk to, it is impossible. I for myself and family for what could happen if he tries to slander my name t the headlines of the telegram, I don't believe that this is in my job descri to have to be subject to this. I will protest every day that I have to work Ptl. Nichols and if something does occur while working with him I wish it to that I will not be held responsible. I would appreciate your consideration i matter and hope that I can resume my position with the partners that I have present time.

Ptl. John P Durant

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Police dual. ms, is a of his veryone veral times			
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with be noted n this at this			

MALONE POLICE DEPARTMENT INCIDENT REPORT

8-A-4613

COMPLAINANT: Bernie Davis/Flemings Furniture

ASE# 8-446/3

ADDRESS:

47 East Main St

LOG: 3452

PHONE:

483-0114

HOME A LAT

OFFENSE: Criminal Mischief

INCIDENT LOCATION:

Behind Flemings

AT: 0750

DATE: 10/27/93

DATE/TIME COMITTED

RECEIVED BY: MVF

DATE/TIME INVESTIGATED:

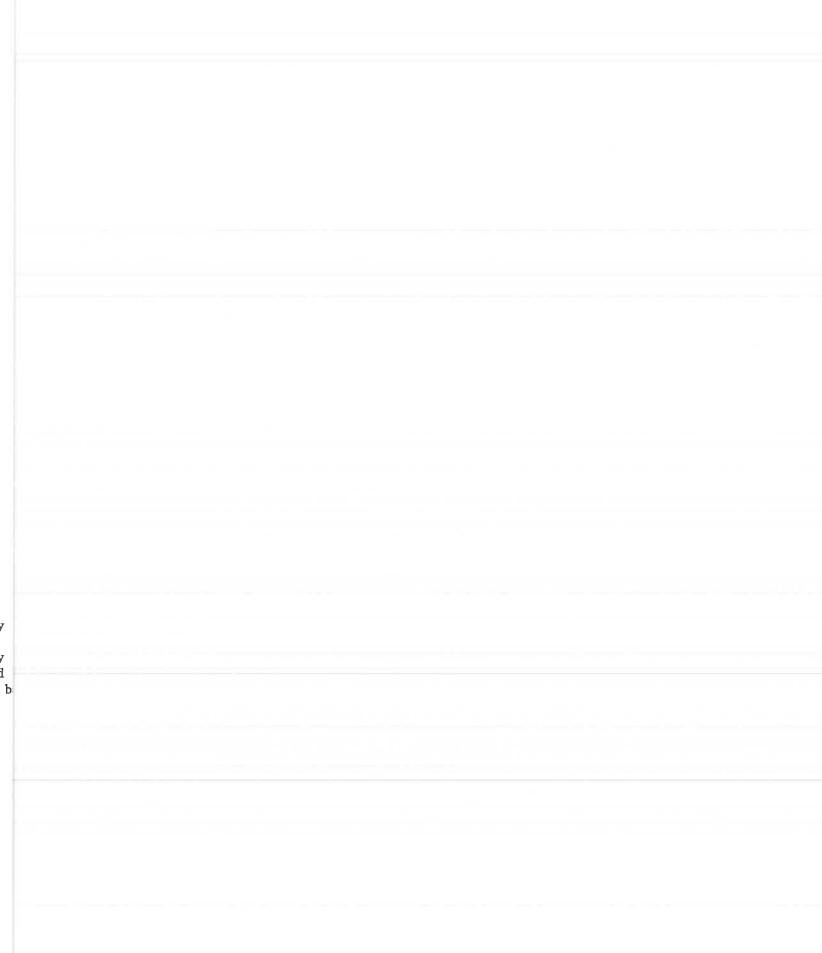
OFFICER ASSIGNED:

Simonsen

SUSPECT/PERSON ARRESTED:

DETAILS OF INCIDENT: Complainant called and reported that two tires on the company vehicle had been cut. Complainant further stated that he reported the same type of incident on 10/26. He then went on to say that this police department was something else and that if Officer Nichols was working this type of thing wouldn't have happened.

Patrol spoke to Mr. Davis who was upset that his tires on his new delivery truck were punctured. He could not believe that with the taxes he pays that we can't watch his vehicles. The front passengers and drivers tires were flat. I tried to talk to him but he would not talk. I went to take pictures and puncture hole that I found in the drivers tire. I spoke to Russell's Taxi drivers who told me that they saw nothing but will keep an eye out and if they see something they will contact the department. I talked to people that live in the aprtment on Mill street but they did not see anything either. I then went back and talked with the complaint and told him that we would need estimates of the damage. It was found later that the inside b back duels were also flat. The complainant said that he was going to contact the Mayor. I asked him if there was anyone that he was having problems with and he told me that he could think of anyone. I told him that we would try to check behind his building more often. Will have night shift keep an extra eye on the building.



MALONE POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFENSE REPORT

8-3-150

COMPLAINANT: Bernie Davis

CASE:

ADDRESS: Fleming's Fine Furniture

LOG: 3419

PHONE: 488-0114

OFFENSE: Criminal Tampering

INCIDENT LOCATION: Rear parking lot off Mechanic St.

REPORT RECEIVED BY: SJS AT: 0853hrs DATE: 10/25/93

DATE/TIME COMMITTED:

DATE/TIME INVESTIGATION:

OFFICERS ASSIGNED : Simenson

SUSPECT/PERSON ARRESTED:

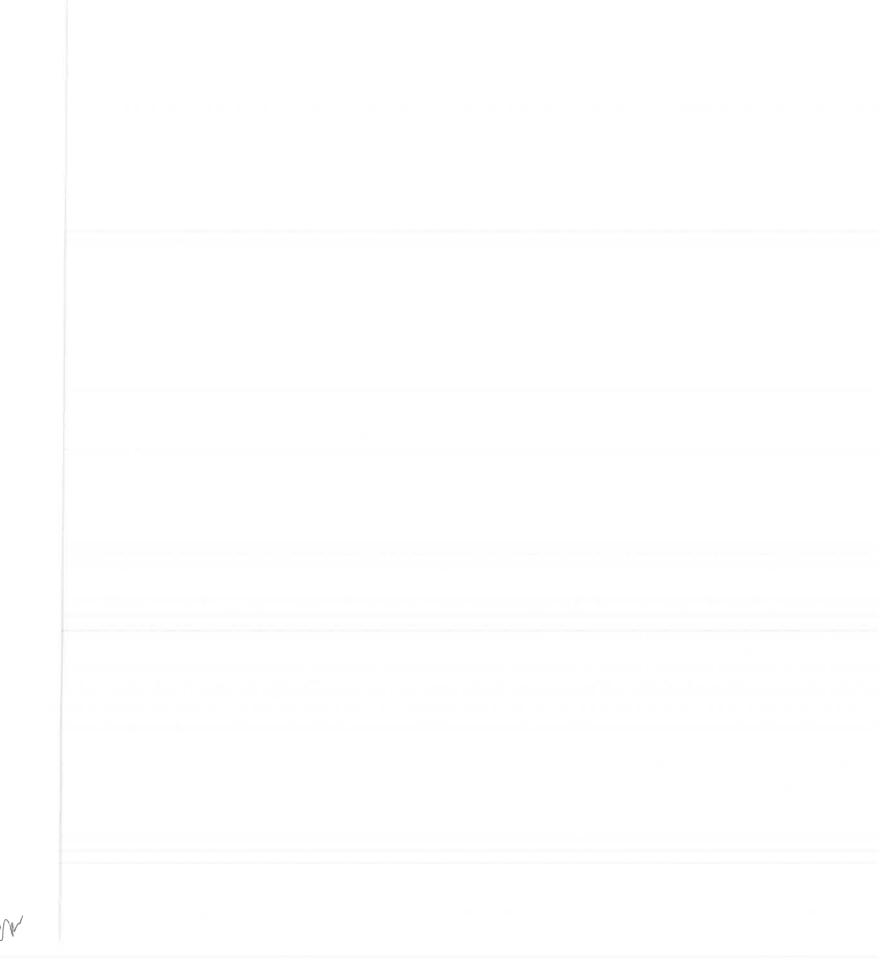
DETAILS OF COMPLAINT: Complainant called to report that when he got to work this AM he found two flat tires on his new 1994 truck. Caps where taken off the stems and the air let out, tire where inflated and held the air. Complainant requests that patrols check his lot more often to keep an watch on his business and equipment.

0930 Hrs. Davis called back and stated one of the tires would not keep air in it and the tire was at Jim Perry's Service Station. Spoke with Perry and he stated that one tire just had the valve cap taken off and was not flat but the other had two puncture holes in its sidewall and the tire would have to be replaced. SJS

Spoke with Jack Russell and his drivers they stated they saw no one in the area of the truck, did see some kids over by Shakers. Russell stated he was at the stand the latest and does not remember anyone being in the area last night, he went up to his apt. around 12:30 AM. SJS

SUPERVISOR:

REPORT BY:



WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, 1993



Suspended cop feared reprisals

By ALISON CALKINS Staff Writer Malone Bureau

MALONE - The fear of retaliation by Malone officials was what kept recently suspended Malone Village Police Officer Patrick Nichols from speaking out sooner about the alleged mistreatment of a prisoner in police custody.

In a formal complaint earlier this month to Malone Mayor James Feeley, Nichols charged that on April 3, a police officer on duty threw bleach into the police station's holding cell, which is a small room with a solid door, after a prisoner who was not allowed to go the bathroom urinated on the floor. Three days after the complaint was lodged, Nichols was suspended by Feeley for up to 30 days for violating departmental regulations.

Nichols said Tuesday that although he will wait until the Civil Service hearing to tell the whole story, he waited until recently to report the incident because he feared retaliation by Police Chief James Phillips, and because he wanted to be sure he had a good case.

"Retaliation is the number one reason I waited so long," he said. "That's the same reason a lot of others are waiting before they say anything. They fear retaliation too. But I made the decision I'd see this through, and I want the public to know what's going on."

Although officials and Nichols's attorney have refused to name the officer in Nichols's complaint, Nichols's brother-inlaw was willing to tell all. He identified the officer as Assistant Chief Gerald Moll.

"I learned it was Moll from a source in the police department. Everyone in town knows it's Moll. It's not a secret," said Doug Vensil, who works for the New York State Department of Corrections. "I'm a bit peeved at the whole situation, and there's a lot of other people who are upset at the way this whole situation came about. Gerry Moll is the

"He contacted me and showed me a memoranda with names vestigate and he might come vice hearing. back. That's all I've heard," Edwards said. "I was asked if I'd review the situation and I responded that if he came back I'd look into it. He never came back."

Edwards also said that the man allegedly mistreated, Scott, Mattimore, hasn't filed any charges against the village police for violations of his rights. According to the police blotter, Nichols and Moll were both on duty April 3 when the alleged incident occurred along with officers Steve Stone and Scott Mulverhill. Mattimore was arrested on burglary charges, and Edwards said Mattimore later pleaded guilty to criminal mischief for breaking a window in the holding cell. Phillips, Moll and Mattimore couldn't be contacted for com-

ment Tuesday.

Nichols confirmed that he also filed a complaint against another officer earlier in the year regarding another unrelated incident, but refused further comment because the matter is still pending. Vensil said he knew Nichols had filed a previous complaint about another issue he believed was covered up by police

"There are a lot of things that have been swept under the rug and Pat hates to see these types of things going on, that's all," he said. "I believe now they're just trying to get even with him for saying anything."

Both sides await hearing

By ALISON CALKINS
Staff Writer
Malone Bureau

MALONE - The charges against suspended Malone Village Police Officer Patrick whited out. He said he'd allow Nichols are being amended behis police department to in- fore the case goes to a Civil Ser-

Monday, Mayor James Feeley said he signed the order suspending Nichols under Article 75 of the Civil Service law, the section of law that states the rules for removing and disciplining civil service employees. Tuesday, Feeley said those charges were being amended. According to Tom Hally, Nichols's attorney with the Federation of Police union, the list of charges against Nichols is lengthy and includes: insubordination, removing departmental records, communicating with other agencies without going through proper channels, violating the Freedom of Information law, and violating the right to privacy.

Feeley said that under Civil Service law it is permissible to amend the charges and that Village Attorney Brian Stewart is at work doing so. He also said he won't discuss the changes until they are completed and that a hearing date sometime in early to mid-September is being arranged.

Article 75 also states the rules by which the hearing officer is selected and according to those rules, the Village Board is the body that does the selecting, according to Feeley. He said the board chose Malone businessman and former U.S. Navy internal investigations officer Brian McKee for the job.

"My perception is that this individual might have an in-depth understanding of personnel problems and an understanding of the chain of command and need for discipline," Feeley said, adding that he has only a minor aquaintance with McKee. "I'm more aware of his public resume. The board made the decision and there was more than one person discussed."

Feeley also said that as he understands the rules, there is no provision allowing Nichols to "The Sun"

Nichols Suspended

TOM GRADY SUN EDITOR

MALONE - Pat Nichols, a fiveyear veteran of the Malone Police Department and currently a candidate for the office of Malone Town Councilman has been suspended from duty for 30 days.

Nichols was suspended on Aug. 5 without pay, according to his attorney, Thomas P. Halley, of Poughkeepsie. A hearing scheduled for Aug. 24 has been adjourned and no future date has been set.

Nichols was suspended for "violation of the rules and regs of the police department" according to Halley.

Halley said the incident which led to the suspension was caused when Nichols reported "mistreatment of a prisoner by another Malone Police Department officer," to the Franklin County District Attorney and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. That officer has not been identified,

"This could be retaliation against him for blowing the whistle," said Halley, who cur-

rently is under the Federation of Police Unions in representing Nichols.

Police department spokesman Assistant Chief Gerald Moll refused to discuss the issue and referred all comments to Malone Village Mayor James Feeley.

Feeley said that Nichols, "would be afforded all the rights accorded to him under Article 75 of the Civil Service Law."

"If he is found not guilty, then he will be entitled to full reinstatement and all back pay minus any unemployment compensation he receives, said Feeley.

Feeley was unwilling to discuss the specifics of the case. He stated "no comment" to a question about the federal "Whistleblower Law" which protects public employees when reporting possible illegal acts.

"This is very definitely a situation the Whistleblower Law covers," said Halley.

Feeley said the village has retained the services of Brian Stewart as an outside counsel for this case.

"Basically, I have done nothing inappropriate and I stood by that decision then," said Nichols.

"And I stand by it now, and will until my hearing, which will be public. I am doing what a police officer is required, unfortunately, a 30-day suspension was taken out on me, and this is where we stand. I have done nothing wrong."

Nichols said he initated it being put out to the press.

" I felt that the public has a right to know everything up to my suspension," said Nichols.

Sept. 7, 1993 Telegram Front page

Police Discipline

Village Releases **List of Charges**

SHARON K. HUGHES Telegram Staff Writer

Mayor James Feeley has released a long list of amended charges against a local police officer, Patrick Nichols, claiming he violated departmental rules while making a complaint against Malone's assistant chief of police.

The disciplinary hearing for Nichols will be held at 9 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 16, in the village board room, according to Mayor James Feeley. If the hearing doesn't finish Thursday it will continue Friday.

Feeley suspended Nichols for 30 days without pay Aug. 5, on charges tied to his complaint of tion, discrediting the depart-Assistant Chief Gerald Moll's ment, public criticism of a treatment of a prisoner. Moll was cleared of mistreatment by the village board, which based its decision on a report pre- department, disclosing official pared by Police Chief James business of the department,



·Pat Nichols

member of the department, seeking the influence or intervention of a person outside the failure to treat members of the The list of 46 charges against department with respect, and Nichols include insubordina- releasing departmental information without permission.

According to Nichols, the amended list of charges does not include five criminal charges that were on the original list. The original charges were never released by the vil-

"I just hope people show up and listen to what was done and form their own opinion," Nichols said of the hearing, which he requested be open to the public. "It's a shame that it's come this far.

" I still have my hopes up," he said. "I feel confident that this will be resolved without my

losing my position." Nichols added he hopes Brian McKee's friendship with Police Chief James Phillips wouldn't interfere with his judgment.

McKee will be the hearing officer. He is the retired head of Naval Investigative Services; owner of the Gateway Motel and a former village police offi-

McKee said that he is as much a friend of Nichols as he is of Phillips and he wouldn't let his friendship with either man influence his feelings.

"I certainly don't want anyone to think that I would sacrifice my integrity," he said.

"I'm not the issue, here," Nichols asserted. "I never should have been the issue."

Nichols wouldn't comment on Moll's being cleared of any wrongdoing, except to say he hoped the village didn't act prematurely.

The 30 days of Nichols suspension ended Sunday. He said he is now back on the pay roll, but has not returned to work.

Sept. 13, 1993 Malone Telegram

Letter to the Editor

3/93

Support Police Officer

To the editor:

Why is Patrick Nichols being punished for protecting the rights of the people? I always thought police were hired to protect us.

Pat has become someone that our children respect by working with the DARE program, now he is being persecuted for being a good officer.

Must we live in fear that the police officer's first priority is to cover up for his fellow officers' mistakes instead of protecting the citizens he is paid to protect? Several people have had the misfortune of feeling the affects of police cover-ups before.

If the people complain abut the wrongful acts of one police agency, two more agencies just may take over. This act used to be called harassment, today it is the buddy system for police officers and their associates.

I have been part of one of these cover-ups before at the tune of a cost to our family of about \$80,000. We contacted everyone we could possibly think of, but the buddy system was at work.

If Pat had not contacted an outside agency no one would have ever realized what the departmental regulations of our great county jail are.

What are your regulations? Why would you degrade a good officer that the children respect?

> B. Smith Malone

P.S. I cannot understand why anyone should be punished for doing what is right.

It's pretty bad when people are afraid to comment in Pat's favor because of the repercussions that might follow.

Please attend the hearing.

Sept. 15, 1993 Malone Telegram

etters to the Editor

9/15/93 Questions About Police Incident

To the editor:

the Nichols-Moll incident.

best interest of the prisoner, Phillips and nothing was done. Scott Mattimore?

gave his story to the Malone the police department covering Telegram, he was sober. Do you things up? think it was correct for the window of the holding call to be taped, so Scott could not see out? And why wasn't Scott allowed to go to the toilet facility that night to urinate? If anyone has ever read the warning label on a Clorox bottle, they would urine without diluting it first.

unventilated room, can be very hazardous to your health.

Scott was gasping for air, and finally broke the taped window for air and was later arrested on criminal mischief charges for breaking the win-As a taxpayer of Franklin dow. If you were in Mr. Matti-County, I have several ques- more's shoes, Mr. Feeley, what tions to ask Mayor (Jim) Feeley would you have done? I'm sure and the Village of Malone on there are many people who would like to know! Why was First, I would like to ask a Officer Nichols suspended simple question of Mayor Fee- within 24 hours after this inciley. What would your attitude dent and a thorough investigahave been if the prisoner in the tion was done on Ralph Jesmer holding cell that night would before he was suspended? Pat have been your son? Do you Nichols is a good man and had think Officer Moll, who was the done a fine job as a police offiofficer in charge, acted on the cer. He went to Chief (James) So I don't blame Pat for going Scott may have been intoxi- someplace else. Why do you call cated that night, but when he that improper procedures? Is

What gives the village the right to exonerate Officer Moll? There are many people who believe Mr. Nichols did the right thing. Gossip has it that several officers in the department went to Officer Nichols' home and offered him their paychecks to know enough not to use it on help him out, but they are fearful to say anything on Mr. It is toxic and when used in an Nichols' behalf because they fear for their jobs.

Pat Nichols, I support you all the way. What you did was right. What Officer Moll did was wrong, and there are lots of us who know it! Keep your chin up Pat. I mean, Officer Nichols.

Linda Jackson Westville

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1993



MALONE — Suspended Malone Village Police Officer Patrick Nichols charged Police Chief James Phillips and Mayor James Feeley with covering up an incident of prisoner mistreatment at the police station during testimony at his civil service disciplinary hearing Friday.

Nichols is facing a list of charges after allegedly violating police department rules by reporting the incident to people outside the department without following the proper chain of command.

Friday, Nichols said he had no choice but to tell others, because he feared a coverup and retaliation by the police chief after filing a report against Assistant Chief Gerald Moll with the chief. "In May and June of 1993, I started to think there was a coverup because allegations were made by a resident of Malone regarding another coverup of an incident between himself and an officer. Things happened that were falsely reported to the Village Board," Nichols said, adding that he was supported in his views by other members of the Police Department who warned him to be careful. "Everybody knew what I was doing." buspended By ALISON CALKINS
Staff Writer
Malone Bureau Stephen Stone and Sgt. William Richie as among the supporters with whom he discussed the matter, even though Mulverhill, LaChance, and Richie couldn't remember many details about those discussions while on the stand Thursday. Union President Sgt. Chris Fountain also advised him to speak to the mayor, according to Nichols.

Nichols said that at one point, Richie called him at home and said he'd received an intimidating phone call from Moll. Nichols said he reported that to Feeley on Aug. 2.

"I told the mayor that another member of the department was being harassed because of his position. I told him about the differences in my report and the chief's investigation into the incident and that I feared retaliation. The mayor said to keep him advised of any harassment or retribution," Nichols said.

But after talking with Feeley. "Then on Aug. 5, I went to work and got suspended," he said, adding that he believed his program, reprimand about a prior incident at the Elks Club and his subsequent suspension from the department were clearly retaliatory. lalone police

of any harassment or retribution. keep him advised feared retaliation. dent and that I tion into the incichief's investiga-The mayor said to report and the ferences in my him about the difposition. I told ed because of his was being harassof the department 66 I told the another member mayor that

Patrick Nichols

Nichols also chuckled at Feeley's testimony that after talking with Nic feared for his perso

what I was doing." Nichols named

officers Scott

Letter to Editor "

Sept. 29, 1993 Telegram

Points to Ponder In Nichols Case

To the editor:

In regards to Officer Nichols: Points to Ponder:

1. Officer Nichols has been accused of not following orders and chain of command. Hitler's subordinates followed his orders and chain of commands. At what point do you not follow orders? When someone dies from being gassed? It is unlikely that I would have survived the conditions described by Mattimore.

2. When an experienced, well-trained officer was called upon to testify on behalf of Officer Nichols, his response was "I can not recall." Police officers are trained to make good observations. What happened to all

that good training?

3. Officer Nichols' refusal to conform (shut up) brings us back to Point No. 1. When you know something does not smell right, you owe it to yourself and your fellow human beings to look around the corner and check it out. I would never stick my head in the sand like an ostrich, in the hope that the problem would go away.

Last but not least, why was one of the principal characters,

Ass't Chief Moll, not called to testify?

Watching and Waiting,
Robert Barton
Malone

Letters to Ed. ton "

Sept. 29 1993 Telegram

Husband, Officer Did Right Thing

To the editor:

ing concerning my husband, events, but I could. Patrick Nichols, I wish to personally thank everyone who has taken by the chief and/or assissupported us through the last tant chief were unwarranted and concern, shown in several cause during the course of this several times to draw out what ways, has greatly helped to situation, there were several was bothering him, he refused

art and Chief (James) Phillips cers about Pat's "easy hours."

acting with malice and for per- sure what the problem was. would be retaliated against. sonal gain. Just what have we These were hours assigned to The effects of the DARE incigained from this? My husband's my husband by the chief to predent were still very vivid in his career and personal values vent Patrick from receiving the mind. But after a great deal of have come under fire, our fam- excessive overtime as had been soul searching he chose to do ily is concerned for their per-realized the previous year and the right thing, and filed his re-

ship with co-workers had been jeopardized.

ment and allowing them to be much to Patrick's devastation. buried. He has a problem with the motto of the police depart. ome was in the schools to anment being "To Protect and nounce the change - jeopardiz-Serve" when laws are being bla- ing the bond that developed betantly broken. Patrick's actions tween Patrick and the children. in this matter were not self. My husband, based on comserving, as the retaliation ments made to me from teachagainst him obviously was, ers, parents and children, is a Patrick can't make waves as fabulous DARE teacher, spendlong as he is suspended, and inglunch hours and recesses in-I'm sure intimidation was the teracting with the children deciding factor for this suspen- always caring and concerned the course of his suspension,

brought out in this public hear- children, but we have almost ing. The prosecution accused 500 in our extended family, Asmy husband of violating the sistant Chief (Gerald) Moll and rules and regulations during Chief Phillips didn't once conthe DARE incident. Well, Mr. sider the feelings of these chil-Stewart you accused the wrong dren, nor did JAO Reyome. person. I was the one who went As a certificate DARE inpublic with the situation, con- structor, JAO Reyome should tacting parents and teachers - have placed the bond Patrick unbeknownst to my husband, had developed with the children They contacted trustee Bob ahead of his own ego and Fraser, who, in turn, contacted stepped aside.

During the initial meeting. Patrick was under a "gag order" (again allowing the police to hide behind their rules and regulations), making Patrick un-In regards to the public hear- able to talk about the turn of rules and regs of the police de-

It was obvious the actions est, faithful man, dedicated to there was nothing to indicate was morally wrong. his career and the other officers this in Patrick's personnel file) whom he serves with. Mr. Stew- and complaints from other offi-

sonal safety, our financial situ- to enable Patrick to instruct the port, which resulted in his susation has been made unstable program to the best of his abilipension. Despite the stress and

Those of you who know my expense and having to fight for right thing. It has allowed us to husband, know that he is not a everything he got from the de- walk with our heads held high. "proby m cop." If my husband is partment, my husband drew viewed as a "problem cop" it is the line and questioned the because he has problems with need to switch. At that point, he Chief Phillips that he claims wrongdoing within the depart- was removed from the program,

Within 24 hours, JAO Reyfor his DARE kids. It's as if we but the general feeling is, "why Just to clarify one point not only have two immediate

If my husband is guilty of anything in the DARE situation it is having a wife who supports him, who has a big mouth, and who isn't intimidated by the partment.

For several months earlier six weeks or so. Your caring and unjustified — I say this be-own thoughts. Although I tried tracted and distant, deep in his ease the difficult times and re- different reasons given for the to discuss it with me. The only inforced our reasons for keeping hour-switching, ranging from comment he eventually made excessive overtime, insubordi- was that something had hap-My husband is a caring, hon- nation (which was unproven — pened at the station that he felt

My husband actually feared that if he did his job and rehave accused my husband of We weren't and still aren't ported the improper conduct, he and uncertain, and his relationhours as he could at his family's of my husband for doing the placed on us, I am so very proud

> The disrespect referred to by Patrick has brought to the force existed long before this situation. The people in this area are not blind or deaf, many have lived here all their lives, and the workings of the police department are no surprise to

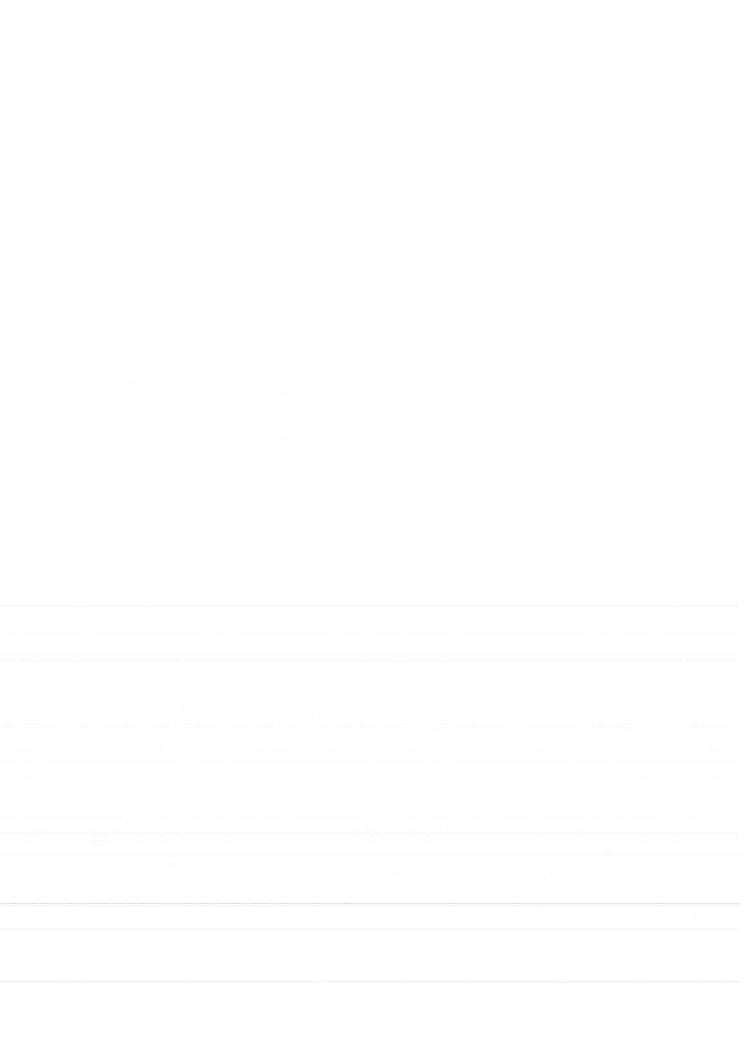
There have been many incidents of improper conduct involving the police department reported to Patrick and I over bother to report it, it would only be mishandled or buried completely like they usually are." We need a department that is, by law, not able to investigate their own. That presents too much of a conflict of interest. and personal feelings play too much of a part in any internal investigation.

And we need to have a police department that does not retaliate or punish its officers for reporting wrongdoings within the department.

I personally feel the village was misinformed and pressured to act quickly on this matter, suspending the wrong person. I firmly believe my husband has been made the scapegoat in all this - simply because he filed a complaint concerning the mistreatment of a person in police custody and the official misconduct of a supervisor. He is being punished for upholding the law, that he swore to uphold when he became an officer, while some of the police department supervisors, who are the real problem, are still secure in their positions.

Again, thank you one and all for your continued support. We appreciate the warmth and caring shown to Patrick, myself and our children. There are far too many people to mention. but your well wishes and thoughts have been a great source of comfort to us during this time. You have helped enforce the feeling that what Patrick did was right.

> **Betzy Nichols** Malone



Oct. 12,1995 Melone Telegran

Letters to the Editor

Nichols Was Good With Kids

To the editor:

The letter by Mrs. Nichols pointed out just how far-reaching this incident has become.

those children. As a parent of Nichols was the greatest. one such child, I was very angry

when my daughter came home from school almost crying, saying Officer Nichols had been replaced. This child loved and respected him.

Last year a day didn't go by when she didn't mention the D.A.R.E. program, how much So many are overlooking all she liked it and that Officer

> For someone to receive that much admiration from just one child when he saw so many in so little time says a lot. She would look in every police car hoping to see him. She would wave her hand like crazy in hopes he would wave back. Even if he didn't see her she would be happy just to have seen a friend.

The D.A.R.E. program involves standing up for yourself and just saying no to drugs, abuse, ect.

So for Pat Nichols to teach this to our children and then ignore his conscience would be a double standard.

I have met Officer Nichols years ago and know that it is not his nature. Nor should it be

My daughter has not lost that bond she had in D.A.R.E. She reads everything in the paper about her "hers" and prays everything will be okay again. She comes to me with questions I cannot answer. I try to tell her doing the right thing pays off in the end. This incident needs to be explained to the 500 or so children, because my child is not the only one who thinks Officer Nichols is the best.

Mary R. Allen Malone

REGIONAL

PAGE 13 PRESS-REPUBLICAN Oct. 19, 1993 Press Republican

Impartiality of officer to be contested

By ALISON CALKINS Staff Writer Malone Bureau

MALONE - Attorney Thomas Halley intends to prove that Brian McKee was not an impartial hearing officer.

Halley said he has evidence that McKee was ready to do the department's bidding from the start. For starters, he refer-red to a 1991 letter from McKee to former Police Chief Richard Brown in which he offers "courtesy accommodations" at his Gateway Motel to any Police Department

In the letter, McKee wrote that the free rooms were his way of thanking the department after they answered an alarm that was accidentally activated at the front desk.

"Plus, Mr. McKee is a former member of the Malone Police Department. This is the type of character you're dealing with," Halley said. "How can anyone consider that Pat got an impar-

tial hearing?" McKee said Halley is way off base with his accusations. He said he was so impressed with the way the officers responded to the alarm he wanted to do something.

"Pat Nichols was one of the officers that came. And donated money to the DARE program when Pat asked me. That could make me partial to Pat if you want to look at it that way," he said, adding that he got his start in law enforcement in Malone where he was an officer for a year.

"Because I have a fondness for police officers and because I was one for 32 years, how does that make me biased? I just fail to see how being supportive of your Police Department is being biased.

McKee said he stands by his recommendations and now it's up to the Village Board. He also said he's required only to submit his report to the mayor, and the mayor is the one who distributes the report to anyone he chooses

Fire cop in Malone, report says

By ALISON CALKINS

MALONE - The Malone Village Police officer suspended for official misconduct after reporting alleged mistreatment of a prisoner in police custody should lese his job, according to the findings of a Civil Service

disciplinary hearing,
Hearing Officer Brian McKee
recommended that Officer
Patrick Nichols "be demoted in grade and title and reassigned to duties within the government of the village ... outside the Malone Village Police Department. If this is not possible due to an inability to place (Nichols) elsewhere in village government, then I recommend that he be discharged from employment by the Village of Malone."

Nichols was suspended without pay for 30 days on Aug. 5 after reporting an incident in which he said a prisoner was mistreated by Assistant Chief Gerald Moll. Nichols was charged with numerous violations of departmental regulations after he reported the incident to people outside the department without following the proper chain of command.

His case was heard at a twoday public Civil Service disciplinary hearing in September, and McKee was appointed hearing officer by the Village Board.

In a report to Mayor James Feeley, McKee wrote that Nichols knowingly and without good cause violated the rules of the Police Department and brought "unwarranted discredit" on the department because he accused supervisors and co-workers of misconduct that was never proven.

"I am convinced that (Nichols's) misconduct requires serious disciplinary action, but this is tempered, to a degree, by his obvious excellent performance as a DARE instructor for the department," he wrote. "I am not convinced of his ability to perform adequately as a full-time patrol officer . . .

enough testimony to believe that returning Nichols to the job would be disruptive to the department, and "lead to additional confrontation of established authority by (Nichols)."

Nichols's argument that he was protected under the whistleblower law was not convincing, according to McKee, because Nichols waited four months before reporting the incident, failed to make a good-faith effort to provide the allegations to Police Chief James Phillips, and didn't allow a reasonable time for Phillips to take appropriate action once the incident was reported.

Vern Marlow, William Ritchie and Chris Fountain should also share the blame. He cited them for not taking supervisory action before Nichols filed his allegations with Phillips on July 13.

They "appear to have been fully aware, or at least highly suspect" of Nichols's intentions, he wrote. "They must share in the criticism for the misconduct of (Nichols) reaching the point that it did."

McKee also recommended that Officer Clyde LaChance, who that the hearing was tainted by gave Nichols some information lack of impartiality. about the incident that he accidentally found in the depart- beginning that Mr. McKee would ment's computer, be subject to do what the Police Department some disciplinary action for in- wanted him to and he did," he citing Nichols to further miscon- said. "Pat Nichols did nothing duct by "... improperly disclos- wrong. He saw wrongdoing and ing police information."

Nichols said he was disappointed by the report and he intends to take the matter farther. McKee said that sergeants "What I did was right. I may be

Nichols's attorney, Thomas Halley, didn't have much to say because he hasn't yet seen the report. He said he's astonished that the press got the report be-fore he did, and it's a continuing pattern of harassment in this

He also said he intends to request a county Supreme Court review of McKee's findings and

"I had a feeling from the he reported it."

Oct. 19, 1994 "The Sow"

Report: Pat is Rule-Breaker

THOMAS R. GRADY MANAGING EDITOR

MALONE-Pat Nichols is a rulebreaker, according to the report and recommendations put forward by Brian McKee, the hearing officer in the CSEA disciplinary hearing held in September.

McKee's recommendations include the demotion of Nichols "in grade and title and (be) reassigned to duties within the government of the Village of Malone and outside the Malone Village Police Department. If this is not possible due to an inability to place Police Officer Nichols elsewhere in the Village Government, then I recommend that he be discharged from employment by the Village of Malone."

McKee found Nichols guilty of nearly every charge filed by the village against him. These charges were violations of police department regulations. Of the few charges that Nichols was found not guilty of, were charges the village attorney could not produce enough proof existed, including a meeting with former

police chief Richard Brown

"McKee is a close friend of the police department." - Atty. Tom Halley -

"I'm not surprised that's what McKee would say," said Thomas Halley, the attorney representing Nichols. "We've known that McKee is a close friend of the police department and would bend over backwards to give them what they wanted."

Halley said that his client had no control over the choice of the hearing officer. Halley said he expressed concern about that situation, but it made no difference.

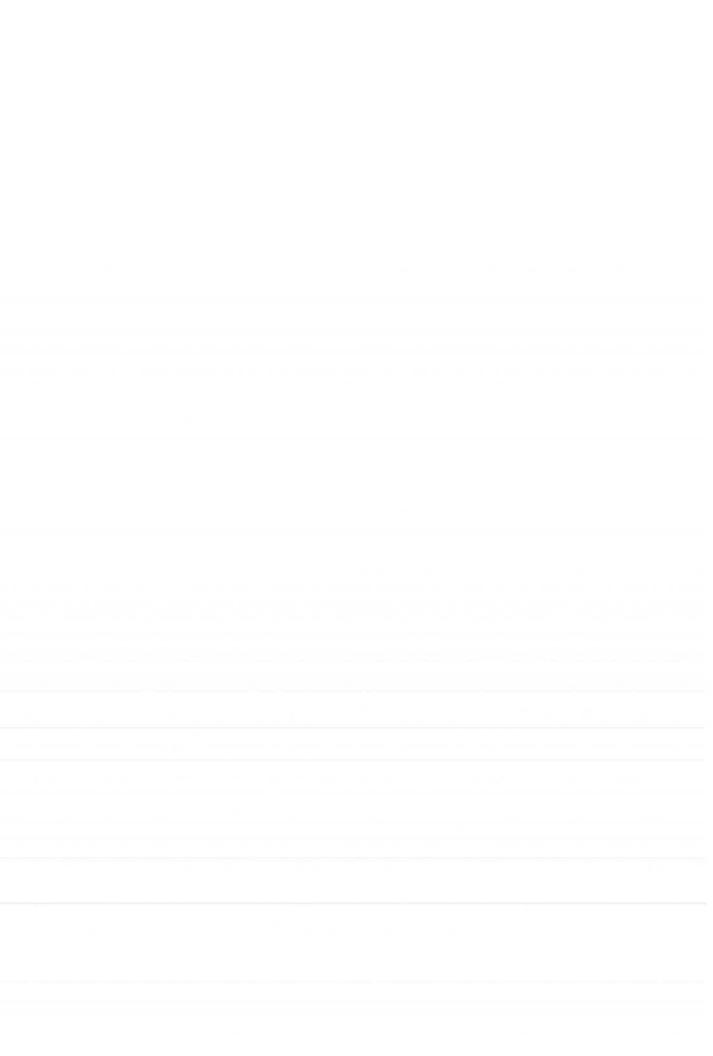
The next step, expected at the next regular meeting of the Malone Village Board will be that board's determination whether they will accept and act upon McKee's recommendations. That

McKee went on to say that Nichols "is fully responsible for his misconduct." However, McKee also stated that Sergeants Vern Marlow, William Ritchie and Chris Fountain were aware of Nichols intentions and should have taken steps to resolve the situation before it reached the point of the filing of allegations by Nichols. Officer Clyde LaChance was also at some fault for "inciting" Nichols to further misconduct, and recommends LaChance receive disciplinary action.

According to Halley, if the village adopts McKee's recommendations and removes Nichols from his job, the next step will be to go to New York State Supreme Court.

"We do not believe that Pat got an impartial hearing and that will be part of our request for a state Supreme Court review," said Halley. "This will become very expensive for the village."

Nichols stated he did not want to comment on the results of the hearing, but admitted he was very disappointed. Both Nichols and his attorney were angry that the



Oct. 21, 1993 Malone Telegram



NOTICES 100

Notices

Auto, Homeowner, & TAG SALE: Thurs 4-8, Business Insurance. Call Fri. & Sat. 8am. Bell col-Gallivan Insurance lection, furniture, dishes, Brokerage Inc. to com- waterbed, collectibles, pare before you make lamps & quality clothing. that next premium payment. 518-483-6153.

MARY KAY SHOWING Consultant will be avail., 110 Academy St., Thurs. 1 pm, 10/21/93. 483-9053.

NOTICE If you believe in Officer Pat Nichols and his efforts to maintain Police Integrity, please attend the Village Board Meeting this Monday night and voice your opinion & support for him, his efforts, and his family. Thank you.

Lost and Found

FOUND: Female, gray, Poodle-mix, Cosgrove Rd. Call 481-4120.

FOUND: Male brown & tan mixed breed dog, on Rt. 11, near Western Auto. Call 481-4120.

FOUND: Male Lab. & Doberman mix, on Cady Rd., near The Pines Restaurant. Call 481-4120.

FOUND: Male mixed breed dog, Meehan Rd. Call 481-4120.

Garage Sales

104

American Vlg. complex 34 Catherine St., Malone.

AUTOMOTIVE 200

Automobiles for Sale

201

1988 Pontiac Grand Am, 2 dr, auto, PS, PB, air, stereo, 4 cyl. Ex. cond. \$4,875. 483-8845.

Trucks For Sale 204

1990 Ford pickup, XLT 150 Lariat, extended cab, 351 V-8, 2 WD, cap, toolbox, 3 pt. hitch, new tires, loaded. 100,000 mi. Ford extended warranty 529-7736

Oct. 21, 1994 Front Press Republic 3

Malone cop keeps jo b, Will

be

disciplined

By KIRBY SELKIRK Staff Writer

MALONE — Village officials will allow suspended Police Officer Patrick Nichols to remain on the force, but he will be disciplined.

Nichols was removed from duty without pay Aug. 5, charged with accusing Deputy Chief Richard Moll of mishandling a prisoner and making disparaging remarks about Chief James Phillips and the police force.

Nichols was suspended for 30 days without pay. He has not been back to work since the suspension.

Nichols was given a Civil Ser-Nichols was given a Civil Ser-vice hearing in September. Mayor James Feeley appointed Brian McKee as hearing officer, and he handed down his recom-mendation on Monday.

McKee suggested the village demote Nichols in grade and employ him somewhere other than in the Police Department. If no such employment could be found, McKee recommended that he be dismissed.

The trustees decided to place a letter of reprimand in Nichols's dile, levy a fine not to exceed \$100 r and suspend him without pay for a period not to exceed 60 days. He will be given credit for the time he has already been suspended.

Trustee Robert Fraser on Wednesday read the section of New York State municipal law pertaining to the case before offering a resolution handing out the punishment.

The village decided to act as soon as possible and called a special meeting for Wednesday. The board faced a dilemma in or

that Feeley, by virtue of his having forwarded the initial charges and having testified at the hearing, was made ineligible to deliberate or vote on the deci-

Making the situation even more difficult, the board is short one member as Thomas Hickok recently resigned. The decision had to be a majority of the full board, four trustees and the

Thus, the burden fell to trustees Greg Dame, Earl LaVoie and Robert Fraser, who entered executive session to make their

"This is a no-win decision for the board, or the village as a community. This was a tough decision," Fraser said.
"We decided to do it right away. We either made a decision or waited until someone was ap-

pointed to fill the vacancy. That would have placed whoever it is in a terrible position and would have been unfair. It wouldn't have been the right thing to do," Dame said.

Nichols said he had mixed feelings about the decision. "I feel good. I'm going back to work. Obviously, there will be some hard feelings between me and some others, but we're professionals," he said. Some of his fellow officers hold no resentment, he added.

Nichols is not fully satisfied with the decision, however, and will contact his attorney. Thomas Halley, about what to do. "This is not what we were looking for. I don't think I did anything wrong, but if he says to take what I've got and live with it, then that's what I'll do."

Nichols Punished But Back on Force

Pat Nichols will return to the village police force but not before serving another 30 day suspension from duty without pay.

Members of the Malone Village Board of Trustees met in executive session to decide the fate of the suspended cop Wednesday night.

The village brought charges against Nichols in August for going outside the police department to report alleged misconduct of another police officer.

A two-day public hearing was held in September to hear evidence from both sides of the

Brian McKee, the hearing officer, filed his summary of the hearing and recommendations with the village board late last job was available, McKee recweek.

McKee recommended that Nichols be removed from the and friends of Nichols the village government. If no (Turn to Nichols on Page 2)



Pat Nichols

ommended he be fired.

About 12 picketers — family force and given another job in marched up and down the side-

(Continued from Page 1)

walk in front of the village office before the special meeting began.

Inside the meeting room approximately 40 people sat and chatted about the case while the trustees met in another room to consider the case.

Because Mayor James Feeley Nichols admitted. brought forward the charges against Nichols and participated in the hearing he did not professionals." participate in the decision of the board.

The recent resignation of Tom Hickok, threw a wrinkle Hickok and Feeley participat- don't deserve any punishment." ing only Earl LaVoie, Gregg the case. Any decision made of the hearing officer. would have to be unanimous.

While the three board mem-

bers were in executive session. Nichols entered the room to the sound of a standing ovation from the audience.

The trustees were out of the meeting room for about 30 minutes before they returned with their decision.

"This is a no-win decision for the board," Fraser said. "It's a no-win decision for village and for the community."

Fraser read from a photocopy of civil service law, the options the board had to consider.

"If such officer or employee is found guilty of the charges, the penalty or punishment may consist of a reprimand, a fine not to exceed \$100 to be deducted from the salary or wages of such officer or employee, suspension without pay for a period not exceeding two months or dismissal from the service." Fraser said.

Fraser then recommended a resolution to the board that Nichols be reprimanded, fined \$100 and be suspended from the police force for another 30 days without pay.

The motion was seconded by LaVoie and Dame concurred.

The audience broke into a sustained round of applause at the announcement of the penal-

"I was not planning to comment," Nichols said after the meeting was adjourned. "I feel good. What can I say? I am going back to work."

. There will be some hard feelings when he returns to work,

"We can handle that," he said. "We're grown men. We're

The case may still be appealed. Nichols said.

"I'm not satisfied with any punishment," he said. "I feel I into the proceedings. Without haven't done anything wrong. I

Trustees Dame and Fraser Dame and Bob Fraser, a bare said they took into account majority, were left to consider more than the recommendation

> "What was taken into account was Pat's record - the work he has done with the community," Fraser said.

"The person that he is was definitely a big decision making point," Dame said.

"I hope we can restore respect to the PD and the men that we had before," Dame said. "Let's get back to work."

Phillips did not return a phone call made to his office.

Oct. 21, 1993 Telegran Letter to Editor

Oct. 21, 1994 Malone Telegram

Questions About Police Hearing

To the editor:

Concerning the hearing held for Pat Nichols and his supposed violations.

I like many others attended the two-day hearing and after listening to the testimony, many things that were said bothered me. When Chief (James) Phillips was brought to the witness stand, he stated in effect, that he tries to run this town militarily. I for one do not care to have myself or my town run militarily, and if I do I will join the military service. Chief Phillips then was asked by Pat Nichol's attorney, if he questions, Mr. Mattimore, the subject in question, about the incident at the village lockup. He replied that Mr. Mattimore was a felon and he felt it was not appropriate, to ask him about the incident.

He was asked this question twice and both times he gave the same reply. Someone better inform Troop "B", that they are doing it wrong, as I do believe that they try very hard to get all sides of any incident or complaint. As to the police officer who stated not one of his fellow officers, as well as himself, wanted to work with Pat Nichols. This statement makes me, as well as other people in the gallery wonder, why would you worry about who you work

with if you are clean? This was quite a query in and outside of the hearing room.

If this incident had happened to one of my sons, I and my family would have sued the Malone Village and the Malone Village Police Department for every nickel in their coffers.

What Chief Phillips does not seen to realize is that, there are good and bad cops.

If with all his education he cared to read a few out of town newspapers or watch the news on television, he would find that this happens every day and in bigger and better police department than this one. I, for one, know that by no stretch of the imagination is Pat Nichols going to win this hearing, but I do hope that he takes this matter all the way up the legal ladder, if not for himself, but for other young people in this town, this was a unanimous feeling, as I left the hearing room. All this never would have occurred, if someone would have been kind enough to allow the young man to relieve himself.

Jackie LaPlant Malone Oct. 25, 1993 Malone Telegram



50 today?!

Happy 50th Birthday, Mom

A Special Thanks

We wish to express our sincere thanks to the many friends, relatives and co-workers who have come to our aid in the way of moral and financial support. During our recent and present difficult times your phone calls, short visits, gifts, money and positive comments have helped a great deal in enabling our family to continue without great loss. The overwhelming positive response from the community will indeed help us to whether the remaining subsequent processes. We thank you from remaining subsequent processes. We thank you from deep within our hearts.

Pat, Betzy, Holly & Nathan Nichols



Knowledge • Expe To Work

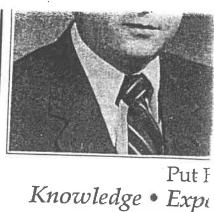
- Admitted to New York Bar in 1977
- Appointed Deputy Assistant Attorney General by Hon, Louis J. Leskowitz in 1977
- Promoted to Assistant Attorncy General by Hon. Robert Abrams in 1978
 Former Malone Town Attorney

• Private Practice 1

Vote Row B

Republican

Paid for by the Committee District Attorney, and Thomas L



Jan 121 1994 Malore an Kelegsan

Letters to the Editor

Wants Dad To Teach DARE

To the editor:
My name is Holly Nichols.
I am 11 years old and in fifth grade at Davis School.

For three years, I have been waiting to have my dad Pat Nichols to teach me DARE. Every year I have been told how much fun my dad was in DARE classes. But he won't be teaching me DARE this year because

we have a new DARE teacher.

I like Mr. Simonsen he is our neighbor and is a very nice man. But it's not the same. I really wanted my dad to teach me and now he can't. I am very unhappy. Daddy said it should not matter who teaches me the program, cause it's the lessons that are important. He said Officer Simonsen will do a good job. Even my brother, Nathan, is upset and he is only in third grade.

Mommy told me when daddy went back to work that he was still the DARE officer cause no one told him he wouldn't be. They didn't tell him that would be part of his punishment. I was so glad. But now mommy said he isn't going to be and I would really like to know why. My dad was a good teacher and really likes kids. He's a good person and has taught me alot of neat things. He was very proud when he became a DARE teacher, it meant alot to him. I thought it was so cool having my dad as the DARE teacher. I think it was very unfair and very mean to take DARE away from my father after he did such a good job for all those other kids. I really love my dad. No matter what anyone else says, I think he's the greatest.

Holly Nichols Malone Jan, 18, 1994 "The Sow"

Police Officer Wants Charges Annulled

MALONE - On January 20, Patrick Nichols, the Malone police officer who was charged with violations of the rules and regulations of the Malone Police Department, will once again have his day in court.

Nichols and his lawyer, Thomas P. Halley, are seeking to have determinations made by the Malone Village Board on October 20, 1993 reversed and annulled.

Nichols first incurred the wrath of the Police Department last year when he challenged what he considered to be a gross injustice. Nichols attempted to file a complaint with Chief of Police James E. Phillips against Assistant Chief of Police Gerald Moll when he learned a detainee had been subjected to alleged abusive treatment at the hands of Moll while being held by the Village Police on April acting on the recommendations of 2, 1993.

the police force for violation of the and gave him a reprimand.

rules and regulations of the police department August 5, 1993. The Village Board appointed J. Brian McKee as the Hearing Officer, and a hearing ensued under Section 75, Civil Service Proceeding. The ensuing hearing had little to do with Nichols initial charges. Instead, what followed was a bureaucratic exercise in how to present or keep testimony relating to the Public Employees Law from being presented as evidence. Halley attempted to question Phillips on his investigation into the incident of April 2, but McKee refused to allow any testimony elating to the incident to be admitted at the hearing, stating, "I will not allow any testimony relative to the actions or a lack of action of any of the personnel involved in that incident "



Following the hearing, McKee recommended that Nichols be demoted in grade and title and reassigned to duties within the government of the Village of Malone and outside the Malone Village Police Department. He further recommended Nichols be discharged from employment with the Village of Malone if another position outside the Police Department was not available.

The Malone Village Board, McKee, placed Nichols on a 60-Nichols was suspended from day suspension, fined him \$100,

> Halley has filed a petition with the Supreme Court of the State of New York contending the Village Board made an independent find-

ing, based upon a report submitted by the chief of police, that Moll had not committed any wrong doing. Halley said this was allegedly done prior to the convening of the Nichols' hearing. According to Halley, it is logically and factually impossible to clear Moll of any wrong doing without finding Nichols automatically guilty of wrongdoing.

Halley further contends that McKee was hardly an unbiased or impartial hearing officer. On March 14, 1991, McKee made an

offer to the former Malone chief of police in which he extended an open invitation of free lodging to the police department at his motel. The invitation included any guests designated by the chief. According to Halley, this was a violation of Section 805-A of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York, which is designated the "Code of Ethics."

Halley maintains Nichols was therefore faced with a situation in which his fate was to be determined by a Hearing Officer who was a friend of the police department who had shown a complete and utter disregard for the Code of Ethics for municipal employees contained in the General Law of the State of New York.

According to Halley, hearing officer McKee removed any doubt about his bias, interest, and prejudice when he made a statement following his recommendation to terminate Nichols. McKee told the Malone Evening Telegram he didn't think his being an honor-

ary member of the police department and a friend of chief Phillips affected his judgement.

Halley further alleges that in the summer of 1993, McKee supplied hats to members of the Malone Police for their night shift uniform, and that on another occasion he provided long sleeve shirts to the Police Department to be worn as part of the winter

The Village of Malone was advised that a verified answer to the petition along with any supporting affidavits must be served no later than five days before the scheduled hearing on January 20. Brian Stewart, the attorney representing the Village of Malone. informed the Sun that this had been done, but he declined to provide a copy or elaborate on the proceedings. "Mr. Nichols' petition is without merit, and I hope. and expect, that the judge will dismiss it." said Stewart.

Nichols could not comment on the petition because, according to Halley, he has been prohibited from speaking to members of the press.

Nichols' wife, Betsy, said both Phillips and Feeley have barred Nichols from communicating with the press. When asked about her husband's recent election to the town board, Mrs. Nichols said. "I think the people of Malone spoke most emphatically when they elected Pat to public office. They gave him a vote of confidence, and have shown that they trust and respect Pat for his willingness to challenge even the Malone Police Department in the name of justice."

MALONE POLICE DEPARTMENT INCIDENT REPORT

COMPLAINANT: DA RICHARD EDWARDS

CASE#:

ADDRESS: Franklin Co. Court House

LOG: 2366

PHONE: 483-6767

OFFENSE: Personnel Complaint

INCIDENT LOCATION: Justice Court

RECEIVED BY:

AT: 1310 hrs

DATE: 3/30/94

DATE/TIME COMMITTED:

DATE/TIME INVESTIGATED:

OFFICER ASSIGNED:

SUSPECT/PERSON ARRESTED:

DETAILS OF INCIDENT: In ref: to the above, complainant called and stated that he was justice court waiting to prosecute a Vehicle and Traffic trail and that the arresting officer (Patrick Nichols) had not shown up. WHR

Went to officer Nichols house and informed him that he was scheduled for a V&T trial at justice court which was to start at 1300 hrs. I told him that I needed to know what action he was going to take and he told me that he would probably go down to court. I suggested that he call justice court court and inform them of same. WHR

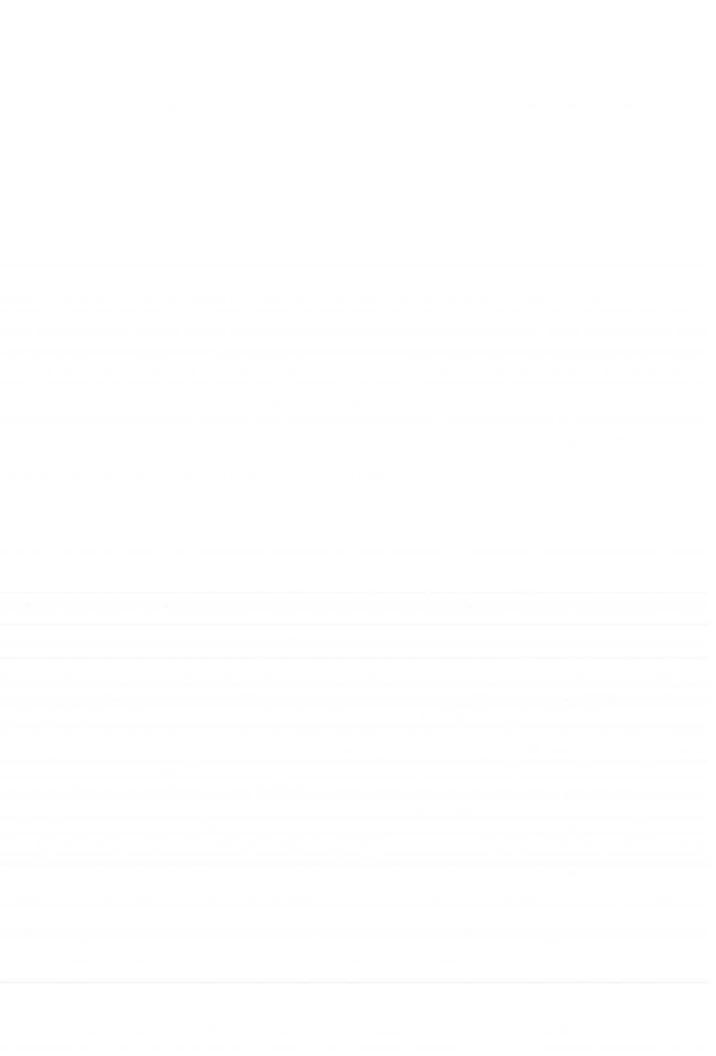
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SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

Classification	NO
Name of Complainant Address	Phone No.
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DETAILS OF OFFENSE, PROGRESS OF INVESTIGATION, ETC.: (Investigating Officer must sign)	
Page NoTwo	Date 02-16 19.94
02-15-94 Ptl. LaChance advised me that a Jackie LaPlante from Valtalked with Ptl. Nichols wanting a copy of our report. Ptl. LaChar she would have to speak with the Ass't Chief or Chief.	Haven called the station and note advised LaPlante that
02-16-94 0900 Hrs. Marge Miller came to the station and stated that Jackie LaPlante as she wanted some information on a Val Haven resipulled and discovered that Ptl. Russell didn't finish the investige people had to be interviewed. I advised Marge that we couldn't relatime but could answer any questions that Jackie may have.	ident. The report was gation yet as two other dase any reports at this
LaPlante came in requesting the report. I advised her the same as seemed to take offense to it. She continued and I advised her not answer any questions that she would have. She then stated " Are yo whole conversation took place in front of Sgt. Fleury, Ptl. Mulver Marge Miller. After she made the comment, I felt that there was morknew. I walked out of the room and gave the report to Sgt. Fleury care of the matter. LaPlante sleft the stations of the stations	I advised Miller and she to get snippy and would u threatening me?". This hill, Ptl. Simonsen and re to this that what I and advised him to take
I then asked Marge if there was something more to this than I'm awa I then advised Marge that if her office feels that the subject is to to the community, I can assign another officer to complete the invedidn't feel that was necessary.	that much of a threat
Called Lesley Lyon Office of Aging Coordinator, she advised that La volunteer. I advised her of the situation and she stated she would	aPlante was a Ombudsman look into the matter. GKM DATE
CASE FILED 28 THIS CASE IS Active 29 APPROVED BY Yes No Cleared by arrest Unfounded Inactive Other	·

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

	Classification	NO
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Questions About Police Hearing

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What Chief Phillips does not seen to realize is that, there are good and bad cops.

If with all his education he cared to read a few out of town

JO.

185 Jo

We, the undersigned, support the actions taken by Officer Pat Nichols, and feel that he should retain his position on the Malone Police Department regardless of the outcome of the public hearing, for the following reasons: 1) He acted in good faith with an honorable intent. 2) He acted in the best interest of the public. 3) His actions took courage and fortitude. 4) His motivation was not self-serving. 5) He is an ethical person who believes in justice and fair play.				
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	30 East Main St Malone

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- 4) His motivation was not self-serving.
 5) He is an ethical person who believes in justice and fair play.

NAME	ADDRESS
1 Bran tuffay	malph
2 Juy famica	
3 Danel Q. Raulle	Malone
4 Joe McDarten	North Bangor, NY
5 Charles Cruell.	Box 181 Malone
6 Brian Reome	MAJOWE
7 Leose Pood	Moni
8 Daniel tonch	- Milone
9 Shely Thompan	Malone.
10 Kinda Teotes	1 Finney Blect. Malono
11 Charles Towle	- Malone My
12 Maurice million	no Borger
13 Jack Deckers	Malone
14 Jerry 29 Plante	-halowe
15 for almotion	Constable
16 Dan Boybard	Constable
17 Holes Vryhof	thevers Rd Constable
18 Marie Brooks	Malone.
19 Coly 1 Smith.	Bushe Ny
20 Janece Collein	Malon

- 4) His motivation was not self-serving.
 5) He is an ethical person who believes in justice and fair play.

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NAME	ADDRESS
1 Mary Reta Shelmore	Merrie O, Ny 12955
2 Jo Salle	Burbe n y 1291)
3 Delon la Pormani	
4 Synnille M. Brook	Beyoke nef. 1291)
1 - 81/00	Choleangay, wy 12920
5 Jusa Skeller	Malore 714 12953
6 John H. Kelly	Alalone, M. 1. 12953
7 Bob + Songrei Cof	Lyon men ny 12952
8 Milhell Leure	Bulle 11.11 12817
9 Dieta Charlan	Making No 12983
10 Clina Coak	
11 Jan Balled	MAJORE N. 4 12452
12 Theme Balland	Maline NY 12.853
13 Janlachen ,	Maline DO 1200
14 Synnmetanl	Molone Ny 13953
15 Q V 7 P 2/ P	
	Constate, 313 12926
16 Malina Carta	11 Celone -ny 12953
17 Dula Duy	Rute 3, BALONE
18 Dear Cato	
19/ Clanne (Crumm)	8t.3 Malone
20 South 9 Junk	Bush 714

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NAME	ADDRESS
1 hilliam A. MAN	Lyw MI
2 Cill	
3 My Tures	BANGOT NY.
4 Son Marshall	Malone H.
5 Mike Muller	Malore, NY.
6 Clan Cooley	majore Ny
7 Garold Richards	Bt. 11. B malone.
8 Catherno Macrejour	& Rt 2. Box 362. malone
9 Nicholas Richards	Bt 11B. majore.
10 Donielle Richards	At 118 makere
11 this in Ellison	RI# 1 malono, DY
12 Olf Jule hours	13 coffe At males
13 tour encore	18 Scott Dive
14 / allers State	7 Beman St. Malore
15	15 Wollisms Malone
16	- 15 Son to
17 les The Ta	Malonehy
18 Maria Barca	Strang dr. Malau MU)
19 June m Malley	6 Patrode D. Malone
20 Mater Duperrein	_ le. Man rr. Our e

NAME ,	ADDRESS
1 Jonathan King	173 W. Main Malone
2 Muter 9. Dele	Y-0 Box 354 Malone DY 12953
3 Perce Reducto	- 1 1/2 / (2153)
4 Jean a. Manwelle	
	P.O. Box 84 Midone n.y.
5 June Millagla	KX1BX375 Char. 1/4/2920
6 Jala Hickory	24 Sheppandsta MAJON
7 Homes Har Chan	25 coels an ma
8 that Selaste	AAKE Towanne - Allenburg Lepot hy.
9 Ilwal Ricare	32 Acidemy Street
10 Dianne Duprey	1431 Rt ZZ, Movers 12958
11 Matt Mohn	24 SHERARD ST., MILONE, N.Y.
12 Sarald Fromboling	173 w pain palone Ny
13 Debra / Greenwood	Rt 1 Box 260 Brown Pol Molere
14 Mak Greenway	R+1 Box260 Molone
15 Done Crons	Whipple ville Ray Malone
16	
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NAME	ADDRESS
1 Stay wo Hoeft	KIN I BA 807 Candlet my
2 Lin Hoch	
3 Connie Maelo	23 Williamson St Madera
4 Jax Marten	Constable StRd, Malone
5 Mary Boyea	_ 28 Rockland St Malone
6 Brendo Flerry	Constable, NY
7 house hute	Priklan Rt N. Barryon NY 12966
8 Dry Shova	Constable ny, 12926
9 Charlote Harwood	- Malone Try
10 Janny Criselli	malore 779
11 Michele thompson	Malone
12 Patty Fournies	30 Franklin St. Malone 24.
13 Lucille Raville	B. 2630 Linekiln Rd. Malore My
14 Horen thompson	32 Ellow Malore 17.4.
15 Lecrye Vylipe	474 AA Powers Rd Constable
16 Mark Sleplin	24 Brown Mex Mx
17 John Deragon	malone NU
18 Popon John	malone NI
19 John Beckett	Malone
20 Gal Magnolls	West Pangor
	U



NAME	ADDRESS
+ Sola fresh,	mass.
2 James Carblen	Thears Id Malake
1 Completed	123 FORT Covington SI MAJORE
4 Decly Durant	7 Blown St. Malore
5 D. Miller	24 Park St Walon
6 Raila Degun	RDI BoxMLA Chateaugay
7 Brenda Turner	HCR#1, Box 200, Dwle Head, ny.
8 AMarias Frigh	299 EMain Sinalme, My
e libration	14 Westers Miller
10 Mahara Hu	Rule n. V
11 Kim Rondo	Halace)
12 Hirla Fauchied	Star Route, N. Banger, ny 12966
13 Hirda Wescegon	Stav Ete Malore
14 Jany Demies	- 8 Highland Ave Natone
15 Muglas Verse	12 CENTER MALONE NY
16 My Jourse	12 center Sr Walnus
17 January	min fd Maline
18 Ti Kne	min Rel- Ma
19 4. Juliator	Rayloud St - 11/alone
20	

ny.	

NAME	ADDRESS
1 Norm Floredan	1/7 Constituted of Malane My
2 /20 Charette.	constable
3 Im Charette	Constable
4 Linda Jackson	no. Bangor Ry
5 Word of factor	No. Banger Nul
6 Tony Stone	malone, n.y.
7 Marrie Morkson	no. Bargor ny
8 1 Jehnie Micha	
10	
11	
12	3
13 John 5 / 1 - Mar	West vitters Ky,
1 Dipplin & L. Mitton	
15 man Edward Pa Pasa	Malone, N. Y. (138 Webster St.)
	71/alous, 7/1. Go
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	and the second s
NAME	ADDRESS
1 Julie Demuchis	Ilile Maple St. MASSENA, N.Y 13666.
2 Total La Brate	45 pariden St. Walane, NY 12953
3 CALLY PECORE	24 Gentle BR. DRIVE MAINNE aly
4 Cindy Sut	4(eWilliamson & malone Mg
5 Hun m hishaul	RT#3 malone MY.
6 Dda Pitchard	36 factory St Makene My 12953
7 Kay Andry	Charleaugay, n.y.
8 James Kamiea	Jone Park St malore 21.4.129
9 Jina Farrere	Rt.11 Burke
10 Lou Bullenger	#151 Willow Malone NY 1295
11 Heien Smith	RFD# MALONE NY 12953
12 Vondy Wolch	R+11 Hour ry 12957
13 Joan La May	Pt 11 mais Ty 139-9
14 Brenda Liffler	Rt3 Box 224 W Make My
15 Danda Dariocoo	P.O. Box 858 Malone
16 lu Crony	Burke . n.y.
17 tamela Debrh	199 apt Fort Covingen St. Halone
18 Dobin (olding)	19 Edward St. Malone
19 Delgno trecto	40 Ocademy Malon.
20	

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NAME	ADDRESS
1 midullo Basontte	179 Dione St. Malore
2 Mary Conferor	Malone
3 Lucille (otro	9 Margaret St.
4 Dusan Lavernia	malone ny
5 Sunda Tatte	239 Park St.
6 Judy Mc Divney	118 Catherine St
7 Bed Broadis	Ch#3 malone DV
8 angu Clark	RT #2, maline
Tymulto Smith	RT 1 Benk, N. g
10 Loradie M Holay	columner Ed Malone, Nes
11 Joe Borland	37 Costerst Majore
12 Mul Farm	BOY 18A LAKE TIPIS RD -MAJONE
13 Linda Margerille	68 millower St, malane
14 Las Sarding	BelyRd - Malone
15 Robert Sceden	Rily 80 Molon
16 Merrell Callins	
17 Orthu Demur	Constable ney,
18 Daniel Ruttin	RT=2 Malani
19 Michael & Hort	242 Webster-St Molonce Mel
20 Carolyn Firlik	Mr. Bangor, Mit

NAME	ADDRESS
Bay amial	
1	QTI BX266 Con taller 12926
2 Davil Reslitt	215DUANEST MALONE NEV.
3 ange Rockrilo	Brash Riley Rd. Malono, MY.
4 James Tomeca	Bx.177 Lower Park St, Malour
5 Marc Efficien	94 Censtale & Malre
6 Seatt & Nissell	The Highland Ave. Malore, Ny
Weener King	metono orle
8 Bonfamin F. Bashaw III	Maline, N. 4
9 Ordan Leduite	Brudeton- N.y
10 Jacque Marker	north Bangor
11 Doblue & Bell	North Baugo
12 Dawn Krimparky	north Banco
13 Veff Canan	malone
Weller & Dut	Thelane.
15 Harold Mallette	malene
18 link here	Malin
17 Larron Chapmay	Bangor
18 Clara R Smith	malon hey Golb.
19 Warla Michols	Burke M. C.
20 Robard Boyla	malono my

- 5) He is an ethical person who believes in justice and fair play.

NAME	ADDRESS
1 Keun Warner	Dinio Road, malone
2 Melissa Jones	_ 132 webster St.
3 William Michals	Burke, h.y.
4 Joanne Beaudon	10000
5 Keler Ammara	Constalile El 12926
6 Don Corney	Chatenaga, 914 12920
7 Jel Mysrend	7. Bongg 18/ 1296
8 Fail Cherg	Constoler 1 2/1 12908
9 Totalal Tillian pr	145 union St. M. Flore
10 hamely.	BURICE ANY
11 Josep Donny 1.1 cmas	_ malene nij.
12 her allow	Malore, N.y.
13 Dale Telle	- Malma, N.y.
14 BRODE A TOLLERAN	Malone, N. y.
15 Westa L. Bichards	Malore, NY
16/ Venisicales	Brainardsville 11/1
17 June 1. June	MAlore, NY-
18 Milland Lamier	Westville
19	B Barrenburgh
20 MECTACLE	Malore WC

NAME	ADDRESS
1 Theresa andrews	1 Elm St. Malone
2 Michael & Ondrue	1 Elm St. Maline.
3 John Ju Landen	I Elm It malone
4 James Il LaBrake	18lm et malone
5 Jonny M. Pendell	1 Elm St. Malone
6. Bill takin	1 ch 3 miliono
7 Sauf Leasten	1 clm by his
8 Han Ry Plant	15 Monday & Maloro NY
9 Lin Cart	15 Monroe Street Malone 1/2
10 Ruce Lagaret	178m ST. niglace ny
11 Charmain Mushall	18lm It malue hirl -
12 Sanka Boarbevay	1 Elm St. Malone 7. 3.
13 High Goras	19hm A. Malow D. (1
14 Debia Janus	1 Elm St. Malone NY
15 (Inna M) econe	malove hy
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NAME	ADDRESS
1_ Den Cring	30 Chorry St.
2 Wayne Walbridg	e 82 West Street
10-3/11	25 Bigelow Street
4 Jennyer 3. Monette.	
5 Victor m. Fellin	51 E. Mainst. Malone
	66 WEST MAIN ST MAKEN
7 June Mix Alen	RFD2 BOX54 Mafer a
Coher & Fault	29 College all
9 Frederick Polishu	73 deadony A
10 Sconard C. Jesson	2+8th 8t.
11 DANIEL P. KLESES	CENTRY ST. BRISHTON, NY
12 Am Marie Brown	229 Duane St Malone
13 Sol Wlitzman	104 WEBSTER ST. MALONE, NY
14 Karen Manhall	
.1	McCabe Rd, Malone
15 Jalph Juleus	40 Thand analone onay
16 () (afare)	6 Hayest
17 / Day J. 11 e	19 Weinington St. MALone, M.7
18 Harrow Soward	Is Covengton Rd. Mal. 2.
19 Dusan ring	30 Cherry st. Malone n.y.
20	-

NAME	ADDRESS
1 De liso Harris	Bango N.Y. 12964
2 Sichard My air	- PRAGUE NV 12940
3 Junes Hornier	- Malowe MY 12958
4 Clwclard A. Januica	Ma love n1/12953
5 Nama-R Lama	Malor Ny, 12953
6 parthy Tucker	Bush 9.7.12917
7 Care Centry	7). Bargn. 114. 12966
8 Landra Lamies	
9 Pathy Dewstoad	90 Pailwad St.
10 Knut Viesten	(1)
11 Cenn Cook	9 mill &t malone
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NAME	ADDRESS
Beverly Marlaw	To. Bongor, N.Y.
2 Bruce & Smith	Burke 14
The Auch	malone Rid
4 Hay Gettier	Mat- 111
7.11	11/11/070, NY
5 Suth (saper)	11/10/04,1/9
6 Sechard Marlow	n. BANJOR, N.Y.
7 Jalitha Blow	maline 1 4.
8 Jina, Butterfield	Malore, ny
9 Milliam I weedle	- Malone Ny
10 Cynthea Turcotte	malme, W
11 Louis L. Kirly	Malone D.Y.
12 Paper Morrison	Mariana 129
13 Jenuse Toucherout	Male on
14 Patricia Di Cataldo	A COLL COLL
15 Sheila, M. allen	malore, n. y.
16 Donna Prue	n. Bargor, n.y.
17 Janet Decorse	Churubusco NY
18 Dorothy Ling	No. Bangor, N.J.
19 Shirley Rolley	malon on y
20 Diana Bowen	Westville
- July Struck	W J D W 1 1 10

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NAME	ADDRESS
1 LlayDLAMORE	RN. BAUGO NY.
2 fath Tuper	RHB malone my
3200 Trk	Po341 m blone
Mary Clack	
4 raig stock	P.O.Box 26 Moira
5 Com La Dunta	in Rt Box100-c No. Panger U
6 Lenny Foundary	AT I Best Int Harth Burn Mel
7 Kely Dan	At 1 Box 100 C. No. Barger My At 1 Box 100 E Flooth Burger, Nej 38 Brown St Malan
8 David Dam	97 andrew St Molor
9	- Theore
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4-16-02	

NAME ADDRESS 1 Egge Blome 18 Short av. Malone	
2 Me Davage 29 Elbas St, Malore 3 LAN aghs 11 from St med. 4 Lee Va Rose. MIN VIEW, N. Y. 12969. 5 John Deeper Chateaugay M.M.	
7 Marie Putchard 249 Park St. Malone 8 Damiel D. Vark Drudewick St. Malone 9 Ruth yelle 380ch Buguon Hunding des 10 Journal pulle 300 Bergeren Hunding done 11 David Richard Malone	<i>h</i> 1
12 Contro December Dienter Sei, 13 Barbara Dechu Chateangay n.y. 14 Dammy ha Mere Westville, Dy 15 Deboral R. Johnston Malone 181 Dest Mais 16 Darcy Erck Malone ny 17 Cippie Reining LI Coders trailer park 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18	28
19 Wilcom Montin Cristable st mala My. 20 Ling Respolls Westviele, N. y	

5) He is an ethical person who believ	
Scott Neslitt	Morth Banor OpentSt Box 503 12966
NAME	ADDRESS
The Charland	10 Flanklin St. Malore, NY 13953
2 them Harrelly	18 Bentley ave, Malone, Ny. 12953
3 Inita De Coste	P.O. Box 354 malone, ny 12953
4 Michelle Langlois	16 Cherry St. Malore Ny 12953
5 Condy M Flowing	22 Cherry St Malore, NY 181
6. Muchael Horney	Houndville rd Malone Ny 12953
7 Pata Burnett	Rt 1 Brushton My
8 Katheine L. Stender	P.F.D. Box 108A N. Barrager. N.Y. 12966
9 Troy Suite	RT. 2, Box 93B MXLONE NT 12953
10 Brand March	P.O. Boxilei STREGIS Falls
11 Kip Cassara	- Route Z. Box 63Z Chuteaugax, NY
12 By Bulling	MUZZES RJ. MOLONE
13 Malked	10 WERB AUE MATONE
14 Dale Santie De	PO Box 793 MAlone
15 Carl Thomas	MHONE //
16 lim Janfream	BT1 Box 221 moirs ny 12957
17 Michal Sel	P.O. B.x 34/ Nord. 1k.
18 David C. Then	Coveytown Rd. Constable n. V. 12926
19 SOTT P KVE	36 Brainst Malone NY 1953
20 land or und	123 Dickoon centar
1 Donl Jesuren.	1. Boneson 1. 4

1 Sear & Smith 2 Houtter M. Veng &	ADDRESS Malone 16.9. 12953 Phelone M.y. 12953
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NAME	ADDRESS
1 Betty Goodman	22 Branch Street - Malone, hy.
2 m 0000 Bilas	26 Branch Street Malone Ny 1245
3 Michael J. Melangar	Box 293 Moita N.Y. 12957
4 Cheryl Am Cargar	
5	BOX 38
Eurosel McCo	Box 38 Malore, ny RT-1 Box 108 N. Burle 12917
8 Thomes St Helen	At 2 Box 80 Malone 12917
9 Keel 2 tell	Bt, & Box 80 malore W.Y
10/10 may Tremont	constable It Rd Molene XX.
11 TheResa J. Hyves	25 BRANCE St. Malove
12 Jean M. Hyres	28 BRANCO A. Malone
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12553 CN17 NX.	
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NAME	ADDRESS
1 Marie O. Hordman	34 Branch Malnu, hy 12953
2 Brande St Hairo	Constable IT Rd malone Ny
3 Patrician Laccossa	Chasa ld Chatacean VI
4 marie Cumore	Cosstone little menter
5 Da Das O. GHans	25 How and One holene
6 Candy Land 6	Fay RO NORONE DX 12966
7 Werdi Clarke	121 Webster St Malon NV 12953
8 Jama Westral	PEREX 206 Dictionson Civ. Mater 12930
9 Chay Dunas	44 Park St Malone, NY
10 Linds J. Gilmore	71 West St malone NY 12953
11 Wandy Hooper	Durido Charmagne, NY1895
12 Sherry La Faire	63 Lockland St. Walone, nel 2453
13 Augles Loodman	3/ Branch St. Melon, ny
14	1 10 6 7-7
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NAME	ADDRESS
1 MIKE Nichols	7+ INNEY MAJONE
2 Racit Comers	Covertain Rd Constable
3 James Mc Eugene	Coxetable NX 12926
4 Berry Miles	Contabe 11/12926
5 an M. Beachie	Controle, N. 7. 12926
6 Huhar Dusces	B4312 Melone
7 Mestegallen	100 park Street malere
8 Rueral Belmann	Baxion RT3 malone
9 Sangera Mullu	Box 179 Bruss ker Gralone
10 Keith Muller	Box 179 Bruse RD Molone
11 Mauss Tamica	Borgs Borgn ny.
12 Daniel & Bonest	r. Bayon vy
13 Stan Cerlanek:	
14 Scott Lamica	malone N.y
15 Shevy Jamica	Malore N.Y.
16 Brenda Barnett	n. Banger N.y.
17 Shirley Boyla	molone
18 Lydia La Pre	Mount and View
19 Roland Boyes	malone ny
20 Mares Ilyli	Malone Fig.

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NAME	ADDRESS
1 Levald Lamica	Lower Park St.
2 Laugh Room	acceleny st.
3 Kein R Dulles	21 Barbara ST
4 Fine Somels	31 AWAY BINEGROVETLIS
5 Cathy L. Peroce	211 6-110 16-12-12
	24 Gentle Breeze DR 4979
2/10/2	T(1)
	51 factors
8 Dicole Rome	Laver Harlest.
9 Sdeplain Bouton	R+3Bax29 malonery.
10 Roberts Car &	Megour NY
11 BARRY Lamina	Lanes Park St
12 Brian Lamica	Lower Park St
13 Syli Gerssell	Massema n. 7:
14 Dlenn Janica	29 EIBOW Street
15 Pearl Ja Rock	75 academy
16 Belly Morton	Constable St. Rd
17 Matt Secon	Chetacegay
18 Deve fandon	Brandon
19 Tellean Bretchard	56 Factory IT Malonery.
20 Angola Rackhill	Lilastvillo, n/1.

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NAME	ADDRESS
1 Aladelm Reame	Lower Park Malone 1141283
2 Teny Provost. 3/Tax Cacais	Opt: 173 Falling leaf Dr. omabne. n.y. 12953.
4 Tracy D. Bornssey	BRUSHTON, NY 12916
5 & priada la Rocque	porter Road malon Ny 12963
6 Landy Dailey	A+1 Constable My 12926
7 Rena Bell	Cook Rd. Buske ny 12917
8 Ungola Hogo kgan	215 Einst #4A malone My 12953
9 Bin Grand	54 Brown St Malone, N. Y. 12953
10 <u>feri Keeth</u>	175 Webster St. Walche, NY 12953
11 Dione V usnesky	RFD BOX252 Constable my 12926
12 Jeny Wills	185 Follingheaf by Malone, N.y 12953
13 Crittle & Handly	P.O. Box 285 Morra ny 1295 7
14 Mary 2 Minelike	45 Edurard St. The , n. 4142
15 / Nee & combins	Box 173 Bushe wy 12911
16 Janua Paguin	Boy 129, Malone, NY 1295'3
17 Linda Simonds	81 Park ST. Malone NY 12953
18 fran 7 Km	22 William St Motore My 1295
19 Ellie Borge	12 Shout ano, Molone, Wy.
20 Debbie Parge	Badore Rd Malore

NAME / O	ADDRESS
Good Sull	AT / N. BANGER, N.Y.
2 Ripa Drewno _	Rt. 1 N. Bargon My
3 Lei Fethore	215 Elm Malore ny.
* Pelsen & Gueren	RRJ Box 1694 Malones
5 Sandi Rilly	58 Wm St Malone
6 Mild feel	RAH Malowe M. H. 13053
7 Bubaia Kichards	10 Huntington St. Malone
8 FolmPollares	SSTRANCIOR MALGUE
+ Tracis spaulding	Dorth Bangor 1291ds
	PHE 30, Malane. 12953.
11 Debbie Durant	Box 210-1 Brushton, My.
12 Tipol grambly	Bre 210 molae ong
13 Liney (Elypie	Finey BHd Malor
14 John byle	bit done
15 William & perman	D Rraghts
16 Truy Janolakar	Banger
17 Koven Garlas	malone
18 Jan Danie	MoiRA
19 Michael John	Melone
20 Mark Bankord.	Mala



We, the undersigned, support the actions taken by Officer Pat Nichols, and feel that he should retain his position on the Malone Police Department regardless of the outcome of the public hearing, for the following reasons:

1) He acted in good faith with an honorable intent.

- 2) He acted in the best interest of the public.
 3) His actions took courage and fortitude.
 4) His motivation was not self-serving.
- 5) He is an ethical person who believes in justice and fair play.

NAME / - //	ADDRESS
Good Sull	MI N. Bangoa, N.Y.
2 Risa Treum	Rt. 1 N. Bargon My
3 Lei Fathorle	215 Elm morlone ny.
4 Person & Gueren	RRJ Bar 11094 Halones
5 Sandi Rilly	58 Wm St Malone
6 Mild feel	RYII Matone A. M. Jusses
7 Bubaio Kuchards	10 Huntington St. Malone
8 FolnPollars	SSTRANCIOR MALGNE
o Turacio spaulding	Dorth Pangor 129106
10 Earch Haspan	PHE 30, Malore. 12953.
11 Debbie Durant	Box 210-1 Brushton, My.
12 Type Greenbley	Ber 210 malae ong
13 Jacy (Ellois	Finey BHd Malor
14 John byle	for done
15 Willia (X panaul	O Rraghts
16 Try Jonolog	Banger
17 Koven Garlano	malone
18 Jam Danie	MoiRA
19 Michael Jack	Melon
20 Mark Bonbard.	Mala

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NAME	ADDRESS
Day a mysell	at 1 Bx266 Constaller 12926
2 Davil Reslitt	215DUANESTMALONE NY
3 arua Rockrilo	Brasie Riley Rd. Malono, M.
4 fames Tomesa	Bx.177 Laver Park St, Malour
5 Marc I Higgin	94 Censtale & Malre
6 Sept & Sinssell	IL Highland Ave. Malore, Ny
Vena King	melone orly
8 Benjamin F. Bashaw III	plakne, n. f.
9 Orda M. Leduit	Brushton-N.y
10 Jacque Marker	Mort Being or
11 Bolike & Bell	North Bangon
12 Dawn trongwiky	north Banen
13 Veff Lunain	malone
Wellen & Dut	Illalane.
15 Harold mallette	malere
18 Mark Bers	Melon
17 Larron Chapma	Bangor
18 Mara RSmith	malion hen york.
19 Warla Machols	Burke U. C.
20 Robard Boyla	malono ny

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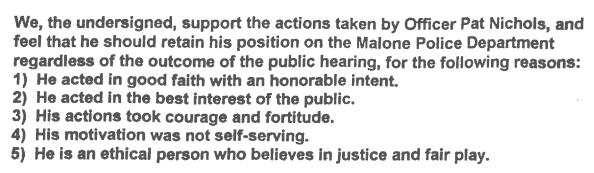
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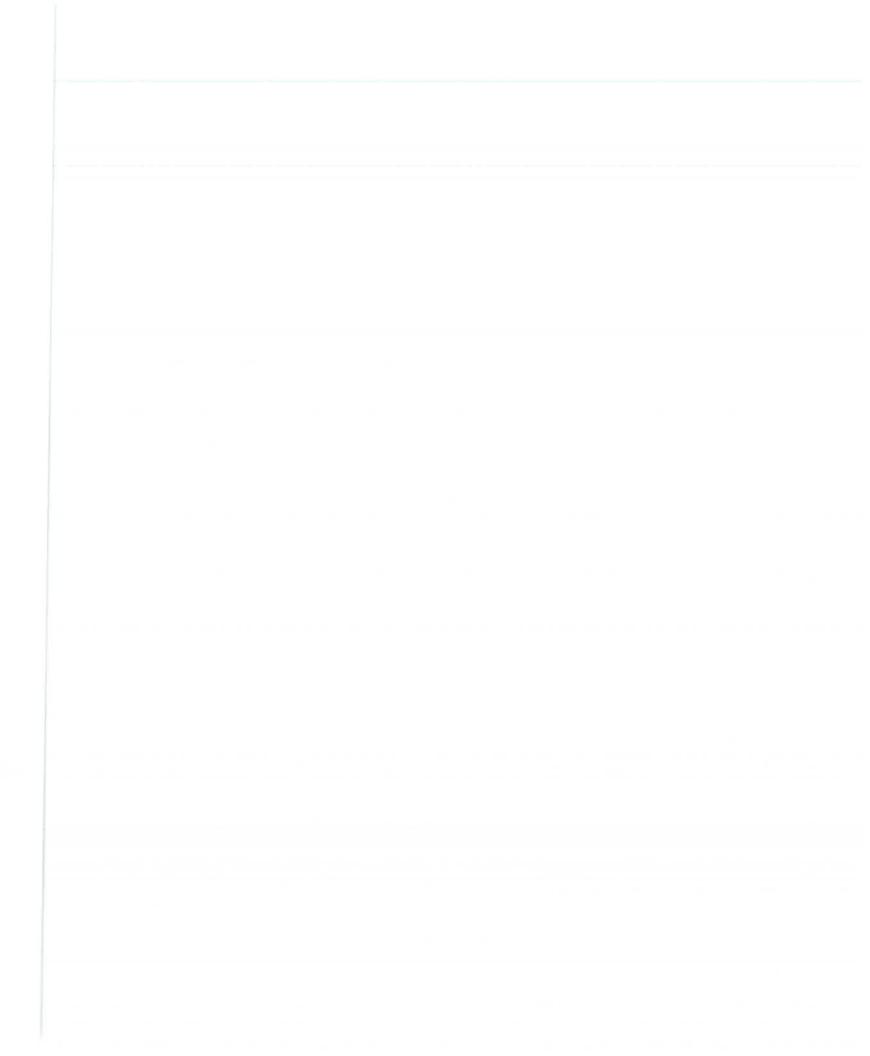
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NAME	ADDRESS
1 Lews Wainer	Dinio Road, malone
2 Melissa Jones	_132 webster St.
3 William Michals	Burke, h.y.
4 Jeanne Bourdoin	Nickinson CA M12921
5 Kelin Ammara	Constalile 129 12926
6 Don Come	Chatenuga, 974 12920
7 Jul My Torent	- A. Barger M1 1391L.
8 Pail Oliver	Constalute 1 x 2/. 12908
9 Totaled Tilian gri	145 union St. M.Klone
10 plus alments.	BURICE ALY.
11 Job Janus 11 cmas	malene N.T.
12 San allow	Malone, N.y.
13 Jale Jette	Malme, ruy
14 Boog A Salleran	Malone NU.
15 Mosta L. Richards	Malme, NY
16/lenischilen	Brainardsville 1/1
17 John P. Lune	MAlore Ny
18 Milbard Lounica	Westville
19	Barrow birth
20 Settrace;	Majore WC



NAME	ADDRESS
1 Norm Florellan	1/9 Constoled thalanchy
2 Leo Charette.	constable.
3 Im Chriette	Constable
4 Sinda Jackson	no. Bangor Ry
5 Would factor	No. Banger Nuf
6 Tony Stone	malone, n.y.
7 Meanil Mockson	Mo. Bargor ny
8 1 Jehrie Micha	L) North BANGON
10	
11	
12	3
13 Sh & Milles	West vitters Ky,
14 mount L- Mattoon	Molone, M. G. (138 Webster St.)
15 June Edward Sc Pose	Malone, D. 4
16	
17	
18	• 1
19	
20	



NAME	ADDRESS
+ Sohn Fregge	39 Constable ST.
2 Jamaferese	Theors Id Malore
3 Krond Campleau	123 FORT Covergeon SI MAJOR
4 Beely Durant	7 Blown St. Malone
5 D. Mille	24 Ruch St Malon
6 Paula Degun	RDI Box 169 Chateaugay
7 Brenda Turner	HCR#1, Box 200, Owle Head, ny.
8 AMarine Fryt	295 E.17 1ain St.17 1a Care, 14
e aller stop	14 Westers Milabol
10 Mahana Mu	Bule NU
11 Kin Koneto	Halone)
12 Juna Frenchied	StAR Route, N. BANGOV, My 12966
13 Dinda Wescegon	Stav Ete Malore
14 Jany Denne	8 Highland Ave nalone
15 May Can Trains	12 CENTER MALONE NY
16 Al Denos	12 center Sx pholone
17 / m	min fel - mlng
18 / Lune	min Rel- ma
19 P. Juliator	Ray Koud St - 11/a lone
20	

Scott Smith

- 1 E - 1 E

Said Pat Brought Petitions into Garage with him his car dad been! there. For 3 was as 4 days being worked on! Had it in his hand.

we for a

Scott Game Pat Bill. For about 300.06 that is when he asked Scott to Signi it. was not threatened, in anyway.

DAKE Lamitie Si

Pat approached him. To signe petitions, had it in his hand

WAS NOT AT the Same time that.
Scott Smith signed not Same day.
Stateed Statement is true + accurate.
Was fold. By Officer Fleury that I
did not have to give a statement it
I didn't want to.
Was not theatened in any way.

Earl Thomas

Pat approached me with a paper inithis hand.

I never saw puttitions before or into

I was not threatened in anyway that I was in trouble if I did not signi petition.

The Statement is true as I gave it.

The statement was read to me as I can't read very well. This took Place a different time there when scott Signed it.