

CVUV RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS POSED FROM HOOK REPORTER LINDSAY BARNES

November 12, 2007

As we understand it you have questions in several areas. Listed below are the questions (*in italic*) from you as we understand them, followed by our response.

1. *How did the situation between Edward Deane and Jim Camblos deteriorate to such an extent that Mr. Camblos told a police officer (Karl Mansoor) to “aim low and lead him”?*

There is absolutely nothing which occurred in reference to dealing with Edward Deane that justifies Jim Camblos;

- a) Recklessly waving a loaded gun back and forth in front of multiple people on more than one occasion.
- b) Telling a police officer to shoot Deane by saying that if he sees Deane to “aim low and lead him”.
- c) Telling a police officer that if he (Camblos) sees Deane he is “taking no prisoners”.

We hold that it is never acceptable, nor should it ever be tolerated, for a constitutional officer, especially a prosecutor, to tell a police officer to shoot someone.

Mr. Deane was understandably upset with Jim Camblos for not prosecuting the driver who was responsible for the death of his (Deane’s) wife and two granddaughters. Mr. Deane acknowledged making rude statements to Mr. Camblos, calling him names, and accusing him of being “paid off”. However, actions and statements by Jim Camblos in his official capacity went far beyond exercising caution with a distressed victim into the completely inappropriate realm of promoting excessive and unnecessary aggression.

2. *What is CVUV’s response to Jim Camblos’ allegation that our ad was a “total lie”?*

At the press conference held in front of the Albemarle Courthouse on Nov. 8th, 2007, Mr. Jim Camblos alleged that CVUV’s ad featuring Edward Deane was a total lie. Mr. Camblos, after being questioned by Albie Tabackman, admitted that it was not a total lie but filled with half-truths, then after an additional question admitted that there were **no lies** in the ad. Mr. Camblos then proceeded to tell a reporter that the entire exchange with Mr. Tabackman was “off the record”.

So, according to Mr. Camblos himself, there are no lies in the ad.

We believe our ad accurately represents unnecessary, callous, and aggressive retaliatory actions directed towards a grieving victim.

3. *Considering the following statements attributed to Jim Camblos;*

"The theme was I don't care about victims. Yes, he did get locked up. It was because he came into my office and threatened my wife and children. He tried to come to my residence. The statements made are half truths," and then adding "They don't tell you it happened because [Deane] threatened my family."

Where is Mr. Camblos wrong in his statements to Albie Tabackman at Thursday's press conference?

CVUV had access to, and fully reviewed, all available first-source contemporaneous police notes and reports with regard to the allegations by Mr. Camblos that Edward Deane threatened the life of his wife and children. We found no direct threats attributed to Mr. Deane against Mr. Camblos' family in any of those reports. In response to an email that Jim Camblos was circulating, CVUV posted an open letter to Mr. Camblos on our website on Friday Nov. 2nd. We asked Mr. Camblos for two things:

- 1) If Edward Deane had threatened to kill Jim Camblos' family, why didn't he ever charge Deane pertaining to that allegation?
- 2) If Mr. Camblos had any evidence that in fact Mr. Deane had threatened to kill his family we would like to see it and CVUV would provide a forum for him and post the evidence on our website.

Mr. Camblos never responded to our request.

On April 11, 1999, Edward Deane was arrested at the entrance gate to Glenmore for allegedly trespassing. Mr. Deane wasn't even officially inside the Glenmore residential area when this occurred nor had he been inside. The Glenmore security guard also stated that Mr. Deane indicated that he had come to Glenmore for an open house. After a thorough search of his person and vehicle by the police officers at the scene, Mr. Deane was found to be completely unarmed. Mr. Deane never gained entry into the Glenmore neighborhood and never engaged in any threatening or forceful behavior or statements there at the entrance to Glenmore. He posed no physical threat to Mr. Camblos or anybody else on the day of his arrest.

We do not believe it is acceptable to arrest a person because someone thinks that same person might break the law in the future. It should only be acceptable to arrest someone for actually breaking an explicit law.

Mr. Camblos' comments to Karl Mansoor (March 25, 1999) pertaining to shooting Mr. Deane were prior to the Glenmore incident. If Mr. Camblos felt threatened he should not have chosen an approach that was in reckless disregard of the law (telling an officer to shoot someone). It was not a good leadership example by Mr. Camblos to do so.

Even if Mr. Deane did threaten Mr. Camblos' family, and for the record CVUV has not seen any evidence to support this claim, police officers should not be told to come up with any charge they could find for which to arrest Mr. Deane when Mr. Deane was tending to flowers and crosses by the side of the road which commemorate the death of his wife and granddaughters. That approach is completely antagonistic and retaliatory. It only serves to inflame the distress being experienced by a victim who lost his wife and two granddaughters.

Because of the incidents and reasons listed above and because of many other incidents and reasons, CVUV endorsed Denise Lunsford as the best candidate for the position of Commonwealth's Attorney. We believe that Denise Lunsford will better serve the public by providing true concern for the needs and rights of crime victims and that her actions will reflect that true concern.

Crime Victims United of Virginia was formed to be a voice for crime victims. Not all cases will be prosecuted but the approach to how crime victims are treated in this community is one which needs reform. CVUV has received multiple reports from the public and professionals in the system including retired judges, about abuses that exist throughout the system. CVUV will remain vigilant and a steadfast voice for crime victims both locally and statewide.