From: Coronda Regan

To: Alexander Galarza; Alexis Malena; Alysia Powell; Amber Fulghum; Aniya Walton; Anthony Monahan; Arron Taylor-Wood; Ashleigh Malko; Ashley Bensinger; Ashley Rohweder; Ashulyon Williams; Austin Tew; Benjamin Zacharias; Billy McCoy; Bradley A. Dean; Bradley Rountree; Brandon Blake; Brenda Williams; Brennan Couillard; Brian Alston; Brianna Bethea; Bruce Clark; Bryan A. Marley; Bryan Arthur; Bryan Blacksmith; Cesar Anavisca; Charles L. Hodges; Charles Lopez; Chris Day; Chris Wike; Christa Willoughby; Chynna Athill; Clara Hines; Claudony Joseph; Colin Hunt; Corey Mitchell; Coronda Regan; Cortese. Ian; Dale Hart; Daniel E. Mariscal; Darrell Morgan; Daryl S. Cifers; David Reeves; Delbert Bray; Derek Rolland; Derwin Braybov; Don Sisko; Doug Pearce; Drew Holland; Dwight Shepard; Elisabeth Brown; Elizabeth Walker; Elvin Tatum; Elyse Craver; Emily Weidner; Enrique Medina; Erica Hancock; Fire Marshal; Fred Ferreyra; Garrett Johnson; Haden Androlowicz; Haley Mahoney; Harald Smith; Hector Calleias; HMPR PT; Jack Upchurch; James Gonzales; James Roth; Jariya Summers; Jarvis James; Jasper Brock; Jeff Cannady; Jeffrey Dodson; Jeffrey Hill; Jennifer Locklear; Jerry Legge; Jessie Bellflowers; Joanne Scarola; Joquin Cooper; Jorden Suchomel; Joseph Davis; Joseph Kress; Joshua Marquis; Julia Smajdek; Justin Jones; Karen Page; Karl Hendrix; Kasey Ivey; Katherine Snyder; Keith Bryant; Kelli Wall; Kelton Glorfield; Kenjuana McCray; Kenneth Tatum; Khodee Sterrett; Kristen Stultz; Lamarco Morrison; Lee Brock; Leeanne Carlucci; Lewis Boore; Lewis Brown; Lexxus Cromwell; Luis Renvill; Marcus Valldeperas; Marisol Kozain; Mary Turner; Matthew Cain; Maxey Dove; Meagan Mereness; Meghan Freeman; Michael Wheeler; Mikayla Jones; Mitch Deaver; Nataly Schwarz; Natasha Robinson; Nathan Landreth; Nathan Vaughn; Nina Pulver; Paul Howard; Phoenix Nichols; Princess Watson; Rachel Martinez; Reception; Rena Bryant; Richard Evans; Ricky Ramey; Robbie Grady; Robert Carter; Robert Fields; Robert Hurlburt; Roman Ganados; Ryan Duffie; Shaniece Smith; Sharon Slappe; Shawn Thompson; Skye Terry; Stephen Dollinger; Steven Kelly; Tarik Karmane; Taylor Hall; Teandrea Wilkins; Terry Cashwell; Thomas Brown; Thomas Ruffin; Thomas Thompson; Timothy Sealey; Tony Locklear; Tony Mendez; Tony Pone; Tyler Riddle; Valerie Goins; Valerie Moore; Vonda Johnson; Whitney Martinez; William Cannon; William Evers; Winfort Nichols; Xavier Robinson; Yury Bondarev; Zachary Vickers

Cc: Chancer McLaughlin; Ashley Wyatt; Stephen Kessinger

Subject: Office Trash Pickup Reminder

Date: Wednesday, April 23, 2025 1:09:07 PM

Attachments: image001.jpg
image002.png
image003.png
image004.jpg
image005.jpg

Hello Staff,

If your trash can needs to be emptied please place your trash cans outside your door for collection to avoid any disruption inside your office.

In Service,

Coronda Regan
Executive Assistant /
Deputy Town Clerk

5770 Rockfish Road
Hope Mills, NC 28348
(910) 424-4555

TownofHopeMills.com

Please note that emails sent to and from this address is subject to the North Carolina Public Records Law and may be disclosed to third parties.

Please consider the

environment before
printing this email.

From: Jorden Suchomel
To: Police; Robert Carter; Bryan Arthur; Stephen Kessinger; Matthew Cain
Subject: Torch Run Information
Date: Monday, April 21, 2025 8:31:50 AM
Attachments: Outlook-k2psi5sj.png
Outlook-LinkedIn.png
Outlook-Twitter.png
Outlook-Facebook.png

As you all are aware HMPD will be participating in this year's Law Enforcement Torch Run **May 15th, 2025.** I just wanted to push out a couple of details.

DATE: Thursday May 15

TIME: Time Line

0800-0830-Assemble of all runners in the rear parking lot of Town Hall located at 5770 Rockfish Road.

0815-0830-Assemble both lead and rear convoy support vehicles POC LT. Rolland/Ofc Suchomel

0830- Photos

0850-0852-Prayer by Bobby Carter-Chaplain

0855-All runners and convoy line up

0900- Run Begins

1000- Arrive at FTCC Trojan Field

Location: HMPD to JP Riddle Stadium - (L)(Rockfish, (R)Main, (L)Lakeview, Legion Rd)

Participants: Chief Dollinger, Cpt. Bray Boy, Lt. Joseph, Sgt. Moore, Officer Kress, Officer J. Jones, Officer Karmane, Officer Alston, Officer Snyder, Officer Powell, Officer Cortese, Officer Schwarz, Officer Marquis, Thompson, J. Cooper, Officer Vickers, Officer Tew, Officer Mahoney

If I have missed any names, please email me.

Logistical Support: LT Rolland and Sgt Mendez (ATV) and Ofc Suchomel, Sgt. Walker and Lt. Rohweder Patrol Vehicles, Recovery Vehicle Public Works, HM Fire Department vehicle.

Mandatory Requirement- Special Olympics Torch Run T shirt is mandatory. I need all T-Shirt sizes by **April 24th.**

A written detailed plan will be pushed out a week prior to the run.

Jorden Suchomel



Hope Mills Police Department
O.S.D/ Street Crimes Unit
Cell: 910-674-6596
Office Phone: 910-429-3500
Email: JSuchomel@townofhopemills.com
5788 Rockfish Road
Hope Mills, NC 28348
www.TownofHopeMills.com



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FirstTwo continues to partner with the best in class applications from Axon/Fusus, Flock, Peregrine & ForceMetrics. Click here to see what additional integrations are coming in 2025 from CAD, DFR, and 911 Providers.

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FirstTwo Full Agency Licensed customers receive all partner integrations at no cost. Simply email support@firsttwo.com and our team will do the rest. FirstTwo pricing is public at https://www.firsttwo.com/pricing.html.

Partner Spotlight

We are excited to partner with Axon / Fusus and be part of Axon Week.

Fusus is a widely used Real-Time Center platform used by law enforcement. Fusus

integrates video and data feeds from security cameras, body cameras, LPRs, AVL, drones, and of course FirstTwo into a single pane of glass.

Return to FirstTwo



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Want to change how you receive these emails?
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From: Eventbrite
To: Delbert Bray
Subject: Plans? Right in your backyard.
Date: Monday, April 21, 2025 5:13:02 PM

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Eventbrite



Big plans are brewing

Sat, May 17 • 12pm - 10:30pm

When Life Gives You Lemons-Spring Festival

The Mabry Farm
588 Mabry Rd, Angier

Book It

Fri, May 2 • 9pm - 2am
RicoVeli Birthday Bash feat. BIG YAVO + MORE

Club Vibe
117 Odell Rd, Spring Lake

Book It

Sat, May 17 • 7pm - 1am
Beauty & The Beast - Adult Prom

469 Posey Farm Rd
469 Posey Farm Rd, Raeford

Book It

Sat, May 3 • 8pm - 11pm
Ladies Night Karaoke

Matt Matt Boutique
5812 Yadkin Rd, Fayetteville

Book It

BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE

This Weekend



Nightlife

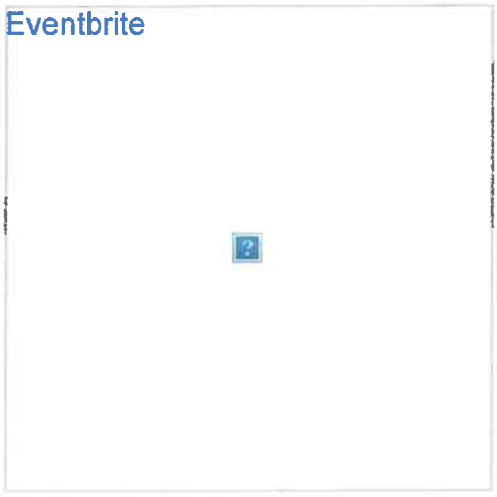


Free



Explore more

Eventbrite





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95 Third Street, 2nd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94103

Unsubscribe

From:	John Avila
To:	Chancer McLaughlin
Cc:	Stephen Dollinger
Subject:	First Amendment Retaliation, Fourteenth Amendment Discrimination, and Municipal Liability – Officer Delbert Bray
Date:	Friday, April 25, 2025 10:49:01 PM
Attachments:	All individuals here are friends of Officer Bray on Facebook (1).pdf Screenshot_20250417-162754.png Screenshot_20250417-103337.png FB_IMG_1725488564717.jpg

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Date: April 25, 2025

NOTICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS CLAIM AND DEMAND FOR SETTLEMENT

Dear Town Manager and Town Attorney,

I write to formally notify you of my intent to file federal civil rights litigation against the Town of Hope Mills and Officer Delbert Bray unless an appropriate settlement can be reached within the next fourteen (14) business days.

This letter outlines the full extent of your exposure under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 and related statutes. I encourage you to review this matter with urgency and seriousness.

I. Factual Summary of the Violations

On **April 17, 2025**, I filed a formal written complaint with Chief Stephen Dollinger concerning Officer Delbert Bray's public Facebook statements advocating that immigrants "should have no rights under our law." These remarks were made under Officer Bray's personal account while depicting himself in his official Hope Mills Police Department uniform and while serving as a School Resource Officer — placing them squarely within the color of law.

Chief Dollinger immediately acknowledged the validity of my complaint, launched an Internal Affairs investigation, and directed Officer Bray to remove official imagery from his public profile.

Nevertheless, within **hours** of my formal complaint, Officer Bray **privately messaged me** on Facebook, stating:

- "So you're wanting to get my work involved now huh."
- "Needless to say, beyond done with you now."
- "Even knowing you got here illegally... I still wouldn't have dimed you out."

These communications constitute **direct retaliation** against me for exercising my First Amendment rights, and **explicit discriminatory animus** based on my perceived immigration status, in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment's Equal Protection Clause.

I immediately reported this retaliatory behavior. Chief Dollinger acknowledged that Officer Bray had no right to contact me, confirming that the misconduct continued even after direct notice to Town leadership.

Following these events, I became the target of **sustained public harassment** tied to the original misconduct, resulting in **emotional distress, exacerbation of my service-connected PTSD**, and **reputational harm**.

II. Liability of the Town of Hope Mills

A. Knowledge and Deliberate Indifference

- Chief Dollinger and Captain Deaver received **actual notice** of Officer Bray's unconstitutional conduct.
- Despite this knowledge, Officer Bray's retaliation occurred **immediately** and **uninterrupted**.
- The Town had a constitutional obligation to implement protective measures **after receiving notice**, including but not limited to:
    - Immediately suspending Bray pending investigation,
    - Issuing no-contact orders, and
    - Ensuring protection of complainants from foreseeable retaliation.
- The Town's failure to act effectively constitutes **deliberate indifference**, triggering **Monell municipal liability**.

B. Causation and Harm

- The Town's inaction **directly enabled** retaliatory and discriminatory harm to occur.
- Emotional distress, PTSD exacerbation, and reputational damage are **direct, foreseeable consequences** of the Town's failure to protect a citizen engaged in protected activity.
- Courts have consistently held municipalities liable under § 1983 for **failure to prevent retaliation** once a risk is known and preventable.

C. Pattern or Policy

- The failure to shield a known complainant from retaliation reveals either:

- A de facto policy of tolerating retaliation against whistleblowers, or
- A systemic failure to train or supervise officers concerning citizens' First and Fourteenth Amendment rights.

- Both conditions satisfy the **Monell standard** for municipal liability.

III. Damages and Exposure

You face liability for the following damages:

Type of Damages	Basis
Compensatory Damages	Emotional distress, PTSD exacerbation, reputational harm
Emotional Distress Damages	Anxiety, loss of security, humiliation
Reputational Damages	Public harassment and credibility attacks
Punitive Damages (Bray Personally)	Malicious retaliation and discrimination
Attorneys' Fees and Costs	Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1988

Settlements and verdicts in comparable § 1983 retaliation and discrimination cases routinely exceed $300,000 to $1 million, depending on severity, documentation, and public exposure.

A jury presented with:

- A disabled combat veteran,
- A naturalized U.S. citizen,
- Who suffered retaliation by a uniformed officer for exercising constitutional rights,
- After the Town had full notice and failed to prevent it,
  would be uniquely positioned to return a substantial verdict — and rightly so.

IV. Settlement Demand

To avoid litigation, I am willing to resolve all claims through a settlement in the amount of:

$325,000

This figure is reasonable in light of the documented constitutional violations, emotional harm, reputational loss, and the Town's clear legal exposure.

V. Demand for Response

Please provide a written response to this settlement demand within fourteen (14) business days.
Failure to respond or to engage in good-faith settlement discussions will result in the immediate filing of a federal lawsuit seeking full damages, punitive awards, injunctive relief, public disclosure, and recovery of attorneys' fees.

All further communications should be directed to the address and email provided below..

Respectfully,

John Gabriel Avila
U.S. Army Veteran (Ret.)
Naturalized U.S. Citizen
avilajg99@gmail.com
100 Hay Street, Suite 704 #1110
Fayetteville, NC 28301

From: NC Criminal Justice Training & Standards
To: Delbert Bray
Subject: Guarding the Badge - Issue #2
Date: Friday, April 25, 2025 6:58:11 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

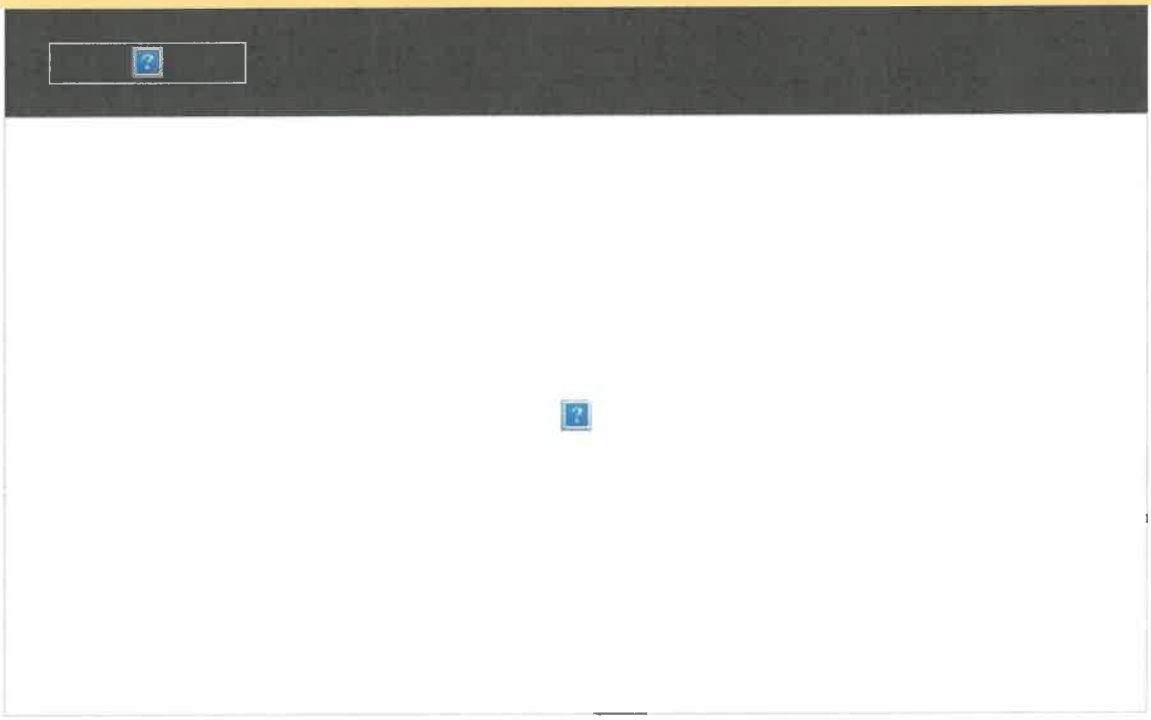
CJ Standards is pleased to share the latest issue of Guarding the Badge. We hope you take a few minutes to read about the important happenings in NC law enforcement.

https://ncdoj.gov/download/141/cj-publications/368585/guarding-the-badge-issue-2.pdf

CJ Standards Staff

From: Axon
To: Delbert Bray
Subject: Take the Digital Evidence Trends Survey
Date: Thursday, April 17, 2025 12:02:45 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.



Each year, we are fortunate enough to publish a report on Digital Evidence Management based on the feedback of over 750 industry experts like you.

We're reaching out once more to gather insights from professionals across the industry who work with digital evidence. Whether you're involved in capturing, retrieving, managing, reviewing, redacting, or utilizing digital evidence for police reports or courtroom proceedings, your input is invaluable to us.

Your participation in this short 5-10 minute survey is greatly appreciated. Upon completion, you will have the option to enter our raffle for a chance to win a Strike Light, a consumer TASER.

Take the Survey

As we did last year, the findings from this survey will be featured in our annual report, providing law enforcement agencies with an opportunity to share their experiences and gain insight into successful strategies.

Stay safe,
Axon



From: Axon
To: Delbert Bray
Subject: Upcoming deletions for next 30 days starting Apr 21, 2025
Date: Thursday, April 17, 2025 1:48:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Axon - TOWN OF HOPE MILLS POLICE DEPT. - NC

Upcoming deletions for next 30 days starting Apr 21, 2025

Hello Delbert Bray (Badge ID: 2848),

The upcoming evidence deletions summary for the next 30 days starting Apr 21, 2025 is now available in your Evidence.com Inbox.

To view the message, go to https://hopemills.evidence.com

Thank you,
The Axon Team

SECURITY NOTICE: Axon will not send you emails that request your username, password, security questions, or any other sensitive information. If you receive an email requesting information, it is most likely an attempt to gain access to your account. Furthermore, please verify that any hyperlinks in the message above begin with the proper URL e.g. "https://agencyname.evidence.com". Please forward emails that appear suspicious to help@evidence.com.

From: Axon
To: Delbert Bray
Subject: Upcoming deletions for next 30 days starting Apr 28, 2025
Date: Thursday, April 24, 2025 6:08:03 AM

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Axon - TOWN OF HOPE MILLS POLICE DEPT. - NC

Upcoming deletions for next 30 days starting Apr 28, 2025

Hello Delbert Bray (Badge ID: 2848),

The upcoming evidence deletions summary for the next 30 days starting Apr 28, 2025 is now available in your Evidence.com Inbox.

To view the message, go to https://hopemills.evidence.com

Thank you,
The Axon Team

SECURITY NOTICE: Axon will not send you emails that request your username, password, security questions, or any other sensitive information. If you receive an email requesting information, it is most likely an attempt to gain access to your account. Furthermore, please verify that any hyperlinks in the message above begin with the proper URL e.g. "https://agencyname.evidence.com". Please forward emails that appear suspicious to help@evidence.com.

From: Arctic Wolf Managed Security Awareness
To: Delbert Bray
Subject: Today's Security Awareness Session
Date: Tuesday, April 29, 2025 12:07:34 PM

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Hello Delbert,

It's time for another security awareness session.

Today's session is: **Quiz: Remote Work and Communication Channels**

Duration: **Less than 5 minutes**

We appreciate your participation in the program. Keeping everyone up to date with these topics is very important to our cybersecurity.

When you're ready, click the "Start" button:

Start

Thank you,

Arctic Wolf Managed Security Awareness Team

From: Axon
To: Delbert Bray
Subject: Evidence.com - Account credentials reset
Date: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 3:33:16 PM

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Axon - TOWN OF HOPE MILLS POLICE DEPT. - NC

Evidence.com - Account credentials reset

Hello Delbert Bray (Badge ID: 2848),

Please note, your username is **dbray**.

We have received notification that you have forgotten your password. For security purposes, you must create a new password. Please visit this web address to change your password:
https://hopemills.evidence.com/index.aspx?class=UIX&proc=ForgotPassword&action=ResetPassword&token=ac0da74db174195628a8348a56d4ceabc19f385b&partner_id=f1ab4cae07544a1d9919bd4ef4beac81&caller=ecomsaas

If you have any problems, please contact your Agency Administrator.

Thank you,
The Axon Team

SECURITY NOTICE: Axon will not send you emails that request your username, password, security questions, or any other sensitive information. If you receive an email requesting information, it is most likely an attempt to gain access to your account. Furthermore, please verify that any hyperlinks in the message above begin with the proper URL e.g. "https://agencyname.evidence.com" Please forward emails that appear suspicious to help@evidence.com.

From: Axon
To: Delbert Bray
Subject: Password Change Complete Confirmation
Date: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 3:35:43 PM

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Axon - TOWN OF HOPE MILLS POLICE DEPT. - NC

Password Change Complete Confirmation

Hello Delbert Bray (Badge ID: 2848),

Password successfully set.

If you have any problems, please contact your Agency Administrator.

Thank you,
The Axon Team

SECURITY NOTICE: Axon will not send you emails that request your username, password, security questions, or any other sensitive information. If you receive an email requesting information, it is most likely an attempt to gain access to your account. Furthermore, please verify that any hyperlinks in the message above begin with the proper URL e.g. "https://agencyname.evidence.com". Please forward emails that appear suspicious to help@evidence.com.

From: Axon
To: Delbert Bray
Subject: Your Axon Account Verification Code
Date: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 3:36:15 PM

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Axon - TOWN OF HOPE MILLS POLICE DEPT. - NC

Your Axon Account Verification Code

Hello Delbert Bray (Badge ID: 2848),

You recently requested a security code to be sent to this email account. To verify your identity, enter the code shown below.

964731

No need to wait for verification code emails.

Sign in quickly using a verification code straight from your body-worn camera. Learn more

Thank you,
The Axon Team

SECURITY NOTICE: Axon will not send you emails that request your username, password, security questions, or any other sensitive information. If you receive an email requesting information, it is most likely an attempt to gain access to your account. Furthermore, please verify that any hyperlinks in the message above begin with the proper URL e.g. "https://agencyname.evidence.com". Please forward emails that appear suspicious to help@evidence.com.

From: John Avila
To: Mitch Deaver
Cc: Stephen Dollinger
Subject: Re: Complaint
Date: Thursday, April 17, 2025 6:13:02 PM
Attachments: image001.png
image001.png

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Captain Deaver,

Thank you for your involvement in the internal affairs investigation regarding Officer Delbert Bray.

At this time, I respectfully request that all communication related to this matter be conducted in writing. Please send any questions, updates, or requests for information via email to avilajg99@gmail.com or by U.S. Mail to the address below:

John Gabriel Avila
100 Hay Street · Suite 704 #1110
Fayetteville, NC 28301

For documentation and accountability purposes, I will not be engaging in phone conversations regarding this complaint.

Thank you for your understanding and professionalism.

Sincerely,
John Gabriel Avila

On Thu, Apr 17, 2025, 5:02 PM Mitch Deaver <mdeaver@townofhopemills.com> wrote:

> Mr. Avila,
>
> I am Captain Mitch Deaver with the Hope Mills Police Department, and I am the department's Internal Affairs Investigator. I have copied Chief Dollinger who you have been corresponding with to this email. Chief Dollinger has informed me of your complaint regarding Officer Bray, and I will be initiating an internal investigation regarding your complaint. I wanted to ask if you could provide me a contact number in case I needed to contact you to obtain further information regarding this matter. My contact numbers are listed below in my signature, should you have any further information or questions.
>
> Respectfully,
>
> **Mitch Deaver**

Hope Mills Police Department

Captain Administrative Services Division

5788 Rockfish Road

Hope Mills, N.C., 28348

Office: 910-425-3504

Cell: 910-674-7095

Email: mdeaver@townofhopemills.com



From: Mitch Deaver
To: John Avila
Cc: Stephen Dollinger
Subject: Re: Complaint
Date: Thursday, April 17, 2025 6:36:53 PM

Thank you sir.

Mitch Deaver
Hope Mills Police Department
Captain Support Services
5788 Rockfish Road
Hope Mills, N.C., 28348
Office: 910-425-3504
Cell: 910-674-7095
mdeaver@townofhopemills.com

On Apr 17, 2025, at 6:13 PM, John Avila <avilajg99@gmail.com> wrote:

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Captain Deaver,

Thank you for your involvement in the internal affairs investigation regarding Officer Delbert Bray.

At this time, I respectfully request that all communication related to this matter be conducted in writing. Please send any questions, updates, or requests for information via email to avilajg99@gmail.com or by U.S. Mail to the address below:

John Gabriel Avila
100 Hay Street · Suite 704 #1110
Fayetteville, NC 28301

For documentation and accountability purposes, I will not be engaging in phone conversations regarding this complaint.

Thank you for your understanding and professionalism.

Sincerely,
John Gabriel Avila

On Thu, Apr 17, 2025, 5:02 PM Mitch Deaver <mdeaver@townofhopemills.com> wrote:

Mr. Avila,

I am Captain Mitch Deaver with the Hope Mills Police Department, and I am the department's Internal Affairs Investigator. I have copied Chief Dollinger who you have been corresponding with to this email. Chief Dollinger has informed me of your complaint regarding Officer Bray, and I will be initiating an internal investigation regarding your complaint. I wanted to ask if you could provide me a contact number in case I needed to contact you to obtain further information regarding this matter. My contact numbers are listed below in my signature, should you have any further information or questions.

Respectfully,

Mitch Deaver

Hope Mills Police Department

Captain Administrative Services Division

5788 Rockfish Road

Hope Mills, N.C., 28348

Office: 910-425-3504

Cell: 910-674-7095

Email: mdeaver@townofhopemills.com

<image001.png>

<image001.png>

From: John Avila
To: Stephen Dollinger
Date: Thursday, April 17, 2025 11:04:20 AM
Attachments: unnamed.jpg
Screenshot 2025-04-17 09.47.23.png

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John Gabriel Avila
100 Hay Street · Suite 704 #1110
Fayetteville, NC 28301

April 17, 2025

Chief Stephen Dollinger
Hope Mills Police Department
5770 Rockfish Road
Hope Mills, NC 28348

Chief Dollinger,

I am submitting this letter as a **formal complaint** against Officer **Delbert Bray**, presently assigned as the School Resource Officer at Hope Mills Middle School. The enclosed **Attachment A** is a screenshot of a public Facebook discussion, captured the morning of April 17 th, in which Officer Bray—posting under his name and an account that depicts him in Hope Mills uniform—states, *"Come here illegally, you should have **no rights** under our law. And promptly get the boot."* When I identified myself as foreign-born, he reiterated, *"My statement stands,"* later adding that the matter is *"not [his] jurisdiction or line of work."*

These remarks cannot be brushed aside as casual rhetoric. The Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments guarantee that *all persons* within the United States receive due process and equal protection; Officer Bray's declaration that certain people "should have no rights" is a direct repudiation of those constitutional mandates. His position as an SRO grants him daily discretionary power over a diverse student body—power that is fundamentally incompatible with a publicly professed intent to disregard the rights of individuals he perceives as undocumented.

To remove any doubt that the Facebook account belongs to a sworn officer, **Attachment B** is a photograph posted by Hope Mills Middle School showing Officer Bray in full department uniform beside a chalkboard reading, *"Get to Know Your SRO – Officer Bray."* The image confirms both his employment and his assignment to children who may themselves be immigrants or the children of immigrants.

I therefore request that the Hope Mills Police Department immediately:

1. **Initiate an Internal-Affairs investigation** into Officer Bray's conduct and social-media activity;

2. **Relieve him of SRO duties** pending the outcome of that investigation; and

3. **Provide written confirmation** of the steps the department will take to ensure that all

officers, particularly those in school settings, honor the constitutional rights of every person they serve.

I look forward to your prompt written response. Please direct all correspondence to the address above or, if you prefer, contact me at avilajg99@gmail.com

Respectfully,

John Gabriel Avila

From: John Avila
To: Stephen Dollinger
Subject: Follow-Up – Evidence of Discriminatory Intent by Officer Delbert Bray
Date: Thursday, April 17, 2025 5:47:16 PM
Attachments: Screenshot_20250417-162754.png

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

John Gabriel Avila
100 Hay Street · Suite 704 #1110
Fayetteville, NC 28301

April 17, 2025

Chief Stephen F. Dollinger
Hope Mills Police Department
5770 Rockfish Road
Hope Mills, NC 28348

Re: Follow-Up – Evidence of Discriminatory Intent by Officer Delbert Bray

Dear Chief Dollinger,

Thank you again for initiating an internal affairs investigation into Officer Delbert Bray's conduct. I write now to submit additional evidence demonstrating that Officer Bray's private messages are not merely retaliatory, but reveal a clear discriminatory intent based on my perceived immigration status.

1. Direct Messages from Officer Bray
Shortly after I filed my formal complaint, Officer Bray sent the following Facebook texts (all timestamps shown in EST):

12:37 PM – "So you're wanting to get my work involved now huh."

12:37 PM – "Needless to say, beyond done with you now."

1:17 PM – "Saddest part, is even knowing you got here illegally, whether I agreed with it or not, I still wouldn't have dimed you out. Still won't. But you, man you've went to new lows over the last few years. Not surprised anymore honestly."

2. Evidence of Discrimination
Officer Bray's explicit reference to my "getting here illegally," coupled with his stated willingness to "dime me out" on that basis, confirms a bias against immigrants—despite my status as a naturalized U.S. citizen. In these messages he:

Elevates immigration status as a disqualifying factor for legal protections;

Conflates past entry with current rights, suggesting only the "undocumented" deserve punishment;

Uses demeaning language to express contempt and resentment for my background.

Such remarks, made after I exercised my First Amendment right to report misconduct, demonstrate that Bray's hostility was not a neutral disagreement but rooted in animus toward my national origin.

3. I respectfully request that these messages be added to the internal affairs record as evidence of discriminatory intent. I further ask that you consider appropriate disciplinary measures and training to ensure no officer may wield personal prejudice as a tool of intimidation.

Enclosed please find screenshots of the full message thread. Thank you for your continued attention to this matter and for your commitment to maintaining the integrity of the Hope Mills Police Department.

Respectfully,

John Gabriel Avila