



Meriden Police Department

Employee Complaint Form

50 West Main Street

Meriden, CT 06451

203-630-6339

www.cityofmeriden.org

Office Use Only:

IA#: 11-44

Initials: @

Date: 06 / 08 / 11

Instructions: If you would like to file a complaint against a police employee, please write legibly and fill out this form. Personal information will not be disclosed to the public, unless required by law. You can submit this form by mailing or returning it to the Meriden Police Department at the address given at the top of this page.

I wish to file a (please check one):

If you are filing a complaint, indicate the type of complaint you wish to file (you must check one):

Formal Complaint: Involves a serious allegation of misconduct, and I want my complaint officially investigated, for which discipline may be imposed, if the allegation(s) are sustained.

Informal Complaint: Involves a minor complaint or concern, and I only want my complaint/concerns on record. I understand it will be for informational purposes only, will not be formally investigated. However the matter will be discussed with the employee(s) involved.

Information about you

LAST NAME <u>STIEGLER</u>		FIRST NAME <u>MICHAEL</u>	M.I.	DATE OF BIRTH <u>9, 21, 66</u>
STREET ADDRESS and APT# <u>64 SHELLEY RD</u>		CITY <u>MERIDEN</u>	STATE <u>CT</u>	ZIP CODE <u>06451</u>
HOME PHONE () - () - ()	WORK PHONE () - () - ()	CELL PHONE <u>(203) 537-3292</u>		SEX <input checked="" type="radio"/> MALE <input type="radio"/> FEMALE

Information about the incident

LOCATION OR ADDRESS OF INCIDENT <u>50 WEST MAIN ST MERIDEN</u>		DATE OF INCIDENT <u>4, 1, 11</u>	TIME OF INCIDENT : AM/PM
WITNESS LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX <input type="radio"/> MALE <input type="radio"/> FEMALE
WITNESS ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	PHONE () - () - ()
NAME OR ID# OF OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE <u>HUSTON 410</u>		NAME OR ID# OF OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE <u>SULLIVAN 373</u>	

Nature of action: Please use the narrative section below to briefly describe what happened. If you need to use a separate sheet of paper to continue, please make sure to date & sign it.

<u>ON 4-1-11 SULLIVAN AND HUSTON RELEASED A LETTER</u>
<u>DETAILING INCIDENTS AT THE R.D. IN CHECKING INTO</u>
<u>THESE INCIDENTS I LEARNED THAT SULLIVAN AND HUSTON</u>
<u>LIED IN THIS LETTER. I AM SUBMITTING PROOF THAT</u>
<u>THESE OFFICERS LIED IN THE LETTER.</u>
<u>ALSO THEY CLAIM THEY ARE PROTECTED UNDER THE WHISTLE BLOWER</u>
<u>ACT. THIS IS ALSO A LIE. THE CITY OF MERIDEN DOES NOT</u>
<u>FALL UNDER THE GUIDELINES OF SECTION 1-120. EVEN IF IT</u>
<u>DID, THESE OFFICERS LIED</u>

I attest that the above information and my statement is true and correct to the best of my recollection

Signature:

STIEGLER

Date:

6 / 8 / 11

On April 1, 2011 Officers Sullivan and Huston presented a letter to Larry Kendzior that states the department is corrupt and being led by a vindictive Chief. In the letter, they name several Officers and accuse these Officers of wrong doing. As a Union Official, it is my duty to protect these members from discipline that could result from this letter. The letter began by saying these two Officers have witnessed this corruption for too long and it has affected both of them emotionally and physically. They claim that other Officers are also sick of it, but afraid of the Chief and refuse to say anything. They also claim widespread nepotism within the department.

Nepotism is favoritism granted to relatives or friends regardless of merit.

Above is the definition of Nepotism. Nepotism is possible in any workplace around the world. Their claims of Nepotism could be true and should be looked into; therefore I feel that they should also be looked into by the union, not just an independent investigator. This way their results should mirror ours.

- Police corruption, a specific form of police misconduct designed to obtain financial benefits, other personal gain, and/or career advancement for a police officer or officers in exchange for not pursuing, or selectively pursuing, an investigation or arrest

Above is the definition of Police Corruption. This is an extremely serious allegation and should not be taken lightly. If in fact this is taking place, anyone involved should be arrested and imprisoned. There is no room for Police Corruption in today's world. As the Vice President of Local 1016, I will also be looking into this allegation in the case it is covered up by The State Police and The FBI. Due to the serious nature of the complaint, Officers Sullivan and Huston notified The Connecticut State Police and the FBI. They have also obtained the services of Attorney Sally A. Roberts.

The following are the results of my findings.

They begin the letter by naming the subjects of their complaint, Chief Jeffrey Cossette, Deputy Chief Timothy Topulos, Sergeant Len Caponigro, Sergeant Glen Milslagle and Officer Evan Cossette. It should be noted that outside of work, I do not have a relationship with any of the persons mentioned above.

They begin by informing Mr. Kendzior that they have filed Disparate Treatment grievances. It should be noted that anyone can use the Union as a vehicle to file a grievance. It does not mean that the Union agrees with the member or supports the grievance. The Union has a duty to file their grievances in a timely manner, as long as the grievance has merit. The grievance can not be frivolous. In this case, the members felt that they were treated different than other members and it's up to them to prove this, not the Union. They will be

working closely with the Union Attorney regarding these grievances. Union Officials are not Attorneys and do not defend members in any way. We are here to make sure due process is followed.

On page 1 of their letter they say that the Chief has openly said that he will not be here when the grievance reaches the labor board so he does not care about it. I have numerous meetings with the Chief and have never heard him say this. He has said that he will not leave as long as these allegations are out there, due to the fact that no one will hire him based on this letter. He will have to wait until the investigation is over and his name is cleared.

Their first example in their letter is in regards to Case # 06-08978. In this case a stolen vehicle had crashed and the operator fled the scene on foot. Sullivan and Huston claim that Evan Cossette was a PST at the time and was on a ride a long with Officer Fry. They claim that Cossette exited the vehicle upon seeing the suspect, tackled her and broke her arm. They also say as a PST. Cossette was very arrogant and acted like a supervisor and had no regard for PST rules. They claim the tackle was "unorthodox" What kind of tackle isn't? When someone is tackled, the outcome can't be predetermined. If Sullivan or Huston were to tackle someone, would it be smooth and effortless where they could guarantee no injuries?

Because they didn't supply the case number, I had to research it myself. I mention this because apparently they didn't read the case report before making these accusations. The case took place in April 2006. Cossette was hired as a PST in October of that year. How could he have disregarded the rules of a PST? Cossette was a Police Explorer at the time of this incident. The report states that Cossette saw the suspect walk behind a house. As he exited the vehicle along with Officer Fry, Cossette ran behind the house and audibly told Officer Fry that he was with the suspect behind the house. Explorer Cossette never tackled the suspect at all. The case report included witness statements that state that the suspect complained to them about the broken arm and other injuries prior to Police involvement.

At this point in my investigation, I have no idea why they included this case in their letter. It is full of lies and misinformation. Even in the beginning of the complaint, they state their opinion of Cossette. They say that he was arrogant and acted like a supervisor. Even if this were true, it has no place in this letter. It simply shows their dislike for Evan Cossette. How could he act like a supervisor, he was an Explorer at this point in time.

Officer' Sullivan and Huston then write about an incident that took place at Maloney's Bar on West Main Street. Sullivan doesn't give a date or time for the incident at Maloney's. He does not state how he knows Evan was under 21 at the time, nor does he state how he knows he was intoxicated at the time. Evan was

not pulled over, involved in an accident or tested on any breathalyzer or blood test. There are no known witnesses to the incident. He states that Casanova assaulted Evan. I am unable to determine if Sullivan thinks that Cassanova should have been fired, or Evan should have been fired. In any case, I can only assume that he's talking about Cassanova for the assault that he committed. After checking into this incident, I learned that Evan was 21 at the time.

The incident at the mall appears as if Evan was in the process of doing his job when the people who were at fault for the incident began to protest the infraction. This has happened to me numerous times throughout my career. Often times the Officer is unable to quell the protest and further action by Police is required. How can an Officer turn something into a criminal offense? If the party receiving the ticket committed a misdemeanor while receiving an infraction, that is no fault of the Officer.

Also, did Giammarco counsel Evan and advise him what, if anything, he did wrong? Giammarco is the FTO; if Evan violated policy or put other officers at risk, it is the job of the FTO to handle the situation promptly with whatever means he deems necessary. Did Officer Giammarco document the incident, notify training or the shift commander, or did he just remark about it at a later point in time in a locker room discussion? Why do Officers Sullivan and Huston report that the subject of this incident was African-American? I believe they are trying to insinuate that the incident was racially motivated in an attempt to sway judgment. There was no need to report the race of this person. They should be ashamed for doing that; it was totally uncalled for. After obtaining a copy of the report, I learned that Officer Giammarco is the one who initiated the arrest and, upon placing the subject into custody, he was pushed by him.

The next paragraph begins by informing the reader that it was during an "off Duty" conversation. They report this because they were covertly recording people in violation of department policy, without their knowledge. The first incident took place on Summer Street. If in fact their version of this incident is the truth, how can he blame the Chief for doing nothing about it? It would be the duty of the Officers to come forward and report the incident. I can say without hesitation that Lt. Richards does not fear the Chief and would not hesitate reporting such an incident. It is my opinion that Officer Buck was simply embellishing an incident thinking that the conversation was just between him and Sullivan. In reporting this incident, the only person who is in the wrong, is Officer Buck. Did the alleged victim come to IAD to report the abuse?

The next incident is reported by Officer Ford, apparently during a conversation with Officer Sullivan. The incident on Curtis Street sounds very outlandish. Sullivan mentions the weight of the suspect as if this has any bearing on the amount of force used. Can a 110 pound man kill a Police Officer? I find it hard to believe that any Officer would strike a suspect in the head with an ASP. I think

we all know that would very likely KILL someone, especially the way it was described. Let's say for a minute that Evan did swing at this man's head, how am I to believe that Officer Ford has the training and speed that it would take to stop the blow? Does Officer Ford have martial arts training? Why was Officer Ford not injured during this incident?

I have since looked into this incident and learned that Sullivan's version is not true. The true version is as follows, Officer Cossette was the first Officer to make contact with the suspect. The suspect ignored commands to stop. This was an active foot pursuit. When he was close enough to the suspect, Officer Cossette struck the suspect on the thigh in order to stop the suspect. In reading Officer Ford's report, Officer Ford states that even after being struck with the asp, Ford himself needed to "punch" the suspect in order to get him to comply. He didn't mention anything about stopping Evan from assaulting the suspect. How could he have stopped Evan if he was the one who was busy punching and cuffing the suspect? They revert back to their same old statement and claim everyone is too fearful to report these incidents.

They then write about the incident that started this whole campaign, the man in the holding cell that Cossette pushed back and caused him to fall. They report that Cossette used excessive force in taking him into custody, but in reading Huston's report he states that the suspect was fighting with Officer Cossette and he ran over to assist Cossette. Huston reports that he struck the suspect more than once with his metal flashlight because the man refused to turn onto his stomach so they could hand cuff him. He reports that he stuck him again when the suspect refused to let them close the door as they placed him in the cruiser.

In Huston's report he states that Cossette was not able to control the subject and even after he assisted they had trouble controlling him. They inform the reader in their letter that the subject is only 5' tall and 150 pounds as if to make it sound like Cossette could easily handle the subject. Which is it?, he's so strong it took two Officers and a metal flashlight, or Evan alone(who they report is 6'03" and 270 pounds) could handle the subject on his own? Additionally, they outright lied about Evan when they described his height and weight.

Evan pushed the suspect with no intent to injure him. He had no way of knowing he would fall. I challenge Sullivan to prove the suspect "cracked" his skull. He was discharged from Midstate and told to see the Doctor at the clinic on State Street in seven days to have the staples removed. Doesn't sound like a fractured skull to me? Also, how do we know that Officer Huston didn't do the lion's share of this injury when he used his metal flashlight to strike this guy several times while he was fighting with him? Officer Huston admits to this serious violation in his report. The suspect was released from the hospital back into police custody less than 24 hours after the incident. A "cracked" skull is a serious injury that would require a longer stay in the hospital along with numerous tests and procedures afterward. None of these were done. I can't find the Officer who Sullivan claimed said had feared the injuries were life

threatening. Even if there were, how can an Officer make that determination and what impact would it have if he/she had that opinion? He claimed that the suspect had his "skull" stapled together. I have never heard of this procedure before. It's obvious that Sullivan is embellishing this story for this letter. His description of Evan is "wild and out of control". This is his opinion and means nothing. Sullivan calls Evan "dangerous" and claims that he "seriously" hurt several people. Who are these people? How can you write this without documented proof that it occurred?

Next he goes into Officer Ganter's incident. Sullivan doesn't explain that if nobody in IA knows about an incident, they can't investigate it. Officer Ganter's incident took place in front of the IAD Sergeant. Officer Ganter lost his temper during his incident and did it out of anger. Officer Ganter admitted wrong doing and was no more severely disciplined than anyone else in that position. He then goes back to the incident in the cell. He says that in his opinion, it was criminal. That shows his lack of knowledge in criminal law. Evan had no intent whatsoever. Mishandling the prisoner is the proper charge in this case. Sullivan thinks it's criminal because he's bias against Evan and would say that if it weren't true.

3 Pasco Street, for Sullivan to say that the suspect was in control when he was being handcuffed is simply his opinion. This is not true at all. The knee strike was warranted in this case. Methvin is well known for fighting and resisting Officers. He has a lengthy record with numerous felonies. To say his injuries were serious physical injuries, was a lie. The injury was superficial. Sullivan says that he needed "nearly" 6 staples. Well how many was it? Was it 5, was it 4? If you know so much about it, why not say the exact amount? For the purpose of embellishing this statement, that's why. It doesn't take much force to put someone's teeth through their face. This area of the face is very thin and nothing more than flesh. I'm told that his teeth did not even go "through" as described in the letter. The onus would be on Sullivan and Huston to prove this before they actually report it. Evan called Sullivan to see why he wanted the tapes and to ask why Sullivan was associating with a known felon, in violation of department policy. Why would Evan show remorse for what he did? It was not an accident; he intended to strike the suspect with his knee. Evan determined it necessary to complete the arrest safely. It's up to the suspect to supply the documents to support his case. IAD is under no obligation to run around and fetch these documents for Methvin. After listening to the tape, I could clearly tell that Cerejo is the one screaming saying, "I'll break your face", not Evan. Sullivan makes an issue out of the fact that IAD did not ask Cossette where the knee strike was delivered. Why would Sergeant Caponigro need to ask where the knee strike was delivered? It was obvious where it was. This was no cover up. As far as Sergeant Caponigro saying that he's just going through the motions, he has said this to me several times. What he means when he says this is that he's already investigated the complaint enough to know that it's a false complaint, but he needs to complete it by interviewing everyone involved. Can you imagine what it would

look like if Sergeant Caponigro didn't interview Evan? Although it's not the best choice of words in hindsight, his meaning is not what Sullivan is trying to portray. He claims that everyone is lying by saying the injuries were superficial, this is his opinion, not a lie.

As far as Officer Farkas goes. Sullivan doesn't know the facts of this issue. Officer Farkas came to the union and asked if he could retire. He wasn't forced to retire. He decided to retire before his case was brought to the chief. He made this decision on his own; he was not threatened with an arrest. If there were PC for an arrest, what difference would it make if he worked here or not? His case was an internal issue at best.

As far as Visconti and Wilkinson go, did Sullivan make a complaint? If he saw something that night, is he not obligated to act? Apparently, he's the only one who saw something there. This issue was not physical between the two of them. It was simply a heated argument. If Sullivan didn't make a complaint, how would the Chief know about this issue? Should Officer Sullivan be brought up on charges for not taking action on a domestic violence case? He's the one saying that it was physical. He quotes the bartender as saying, "all the cops are fighting". Why weren't ALL the cops arrested then. Because the bartender was fabricating the fact that anyone was fighting. Her credibility is lessened with me for saying that everyone there was fighting. Maybe she lied to get a faster response.

They write about Officer Lawlor. I don't know if they are comparing Brian's incident to the incident at the hospital, but the two are clearly different. For them to say it was the Chief's personal mission is ridiculous. The Chief is responsible for the Department; he had no personal gain in Brian's case. He did not shop from GA to GA. This is a lie. If GA-7 denies a warrant, you can't go to GA-9 or GA-5. The case did not happen in that geographical area, how could they prosecute it? Maybe they didn't know that GA stands for Geographical Area, I don't know. In any case, once the GA turns it down, you need to go elsewhere like to Rocky Hill, not another GA. I hate to say it because I don't agree with it, but Chief Cossette was correct in his assessment of the Lawlor case. Brian used the system and was unable to win his job back and was also convicted. I think that once that happens, you need to stop saying the Chief was on a mission, because he was right and we were wrong. At least in the courts.

As for Huston being late for the road job; Huston was actually the 3rd person who was told to fill out a letter of explanation. Huston was caught lying in his letter and the CAPTAIN, not the Chief, initiated an untruthfulness case against Huston. Once again, these guys don't have the correct facts and accused the Chief of initiating the IA. As far as the Union saying that people have 20 previous

late slips. That's for regular duty, not private duty. Everyone was warned the previous week about their conduct on road jobs. Huston took it upon himself to ignore the rules and come in late and then lie about it. He's on camera at the station. He's a liar and this goes against his credibility as far as I'm concerned.

They then submit the second part of their letter to the City Manager. They again speak about the incident between Brian Wilkinson and Dave Visconti, but add no further details or proof.

They then write about Officer Femia crashing his cruiser responding to felony in progress, but fail to add the history of Officer Femia's driving. They then compare it to Dave Visconti's incident. As for Detective Visconti's accident goes, Sullivan knows full well that Visconti was responding to a possible burglary or home invasion on South Colony Street, yet he claims no knowledge of it to bolster the story. Once again, he embellishes the story for sensation. Another mark against his credibility. He claims that Visconti and Mike Merrigan are friends and this is the reason Visconti faced no action. How does that involve the Chief?

They then speak about numerous different driving incidents but don't add all the details and explain how each situation is different and how some members have histories that dictate a harsher sentence.

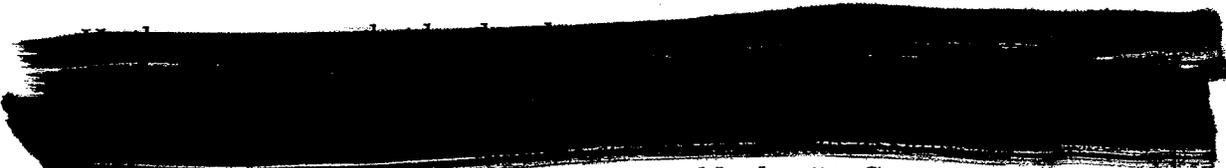
They then compare Officer Shean to Officer Giammarco. Again, two different situations with different histories, yet they fail to mention that.

As for Lt. Green; a thorough investigation was done by Detective Williams. Lt. Green did not admit to doing anything illegal and as far as doing an internal investigation, Lt. Green retired and no investigation was done. Why do an internal investigation on someone who does not work here. The outcome of the investigation would have no affect on Lt. Green at that point. He would not lose his pension or anything else. He retired on his own, no threats or promises were made to him. They write in the letter that Lt. Green admitted to things that are simply not true. These are serious lies and should have some sort of repercussion. Lt. Green retired well before this investigation and should not have been mentioned in this letter. Just another incident that was not looked into prior to these two recklessly and carelessly putting this information into the letter. It is now at a point where they are affecting people's personal lives.

Sullivan compares his DWI to domestic violence cases where Officers were arrested. The Officers who were arrested for domestic violence were simply accused of it. Once they went to court, they were all found not guilty. None of the allegations were true. Sullivan was clearly driving drunk and violated the law. For him to say that his case will be dismissed is not true. Once he completes a

program his case goes away, that doesn't mean that he didn't do it. This is kind of funny because they speak of about arrests and histories of people who have had their cases nolleed or dismissed, yet they are suing the Chief for the exact same thing. In the other cases, the Officers did not do what they were accused of. There is a big difference there. For him to say there was no complainant or victim is not true. The State Trooper who was vigilant in his duties was the complainant. Every other driver on the road was a potential victim. Sullivan makes it sound like nothing because he didn't have the opportunity to kill anyone that night. Maybe the trooper saved a life by stopping Sullivan that night. Just because nobody knows about, that doesn't make it alright. That's an ignorant statement, especially from an accident investigator.

Sullivan goes into his work status after his arrest and states that he expedited his work permit with DMV. Once again he leaves out exculpatory information. I question why Sullivan did not mention that the Chief is the one who actually got his permit for him. While at DMV, Sullivan was told that he was not going to be issued a permit. He panicked and immediately telephoned the Chief while still in the office at DMV and asked the Chief to speak to the person who was denying Sullivan the permit. After the Chief spoke to her, she agreed to issue the permit. Sullivan himself told me about this. How can Sullivan say that the Chief doesn't treat him fair when the Chief does things like this? The Chief was under no obligation to do this for Sullivan, yet Sullivan claims that he is a target for the Chief. The Chief had nothing to do with the un insurability issue, this was all Bob Homiski from Safety and Risk, yet Sullivan blames the Chief for it. Sullivan tries to compare his arrest with the arrests of other Officers. Those other Officers were merely accused, Sullivan admitted to his violation. Although he tried to play it down as if DUI is nothing these days, it's a very serious violation, especially for a Police Officer.



He again mentions Lt. Green. This time he adds that Lt. Green was seen on video having sex in full uniform. This is another blatant lie and in and of itself should be enough to terminate Sullivan. Sullivan talks about the agreement with Neron where he was to work in entry permanently. This agreement was put in place due to the fact that Neron was a known liar and per the Giglio Act, a Police Officer must disclose to the Defense that an Officer who is about to testify has been proven to have lied. Something that may have to happen to these two Officers if their unable to produce some proof.

Sullivan and Huston then talk about an incident in which Evan was assaulted by Officer Cassanova. For some reason, Sullivan and Huston lied and wrote that Evan was under 21 at the time. The fact is, Evan was 21 when this

assault occurred. Evan did not want to make an issue out of it because he knew that Officer Cassanova was already warned about his off duty conduct and didn't want him to lose his job. Additionally, Evan did not drive home this day; he was driven by a friend.

Sullivan and Huston then speak about an underage drinking party in which Evan was the investigating Officer. They claim that Cossette had prior knowledge of the party, yet he waited for it to take place so that he could run up there and issue tickets. Nothing could be further from the truth; Evan actually left the scene and later determined the identities of the youths because they were lying about their names and DOB's. He issued the infractions at a later date. Once again they embellish the facts of their allegation. Sullivan then goes on to defend the youths for drinking. He writes how they have opportunities for scholarships and play sports. Is it Sullivan's protocol to not take action when it relates to drinking because he himself was arrested for D.U.I.? Regardless, Sullivan just loses even more credibility because he prints this in his letter without researching the incident.

They then go into Police Week in DC. They admit to making fun of and humiliating Cossette for his behavior in a vehicle on the ride to DC. They went as far as putting the video on his face book page to humiliate Evan even further. These are clearly men with a vengeance. They show in this paragraph that this whole thing is personal against Evan and they are making all these allegations up in their heads. From the errors regarding English and spelling, this paragraph is hard to comprehend. I believe this paragraph is written by Officer Huston. Officer Huston shows his anger toward Evan by calling him a coward. What does Evan being a coward have to do with corruption? This statement should not be in this letter, but it was a chance for Huston to embarrass Evan. Huston admits that once again, Officer Cassanova assaults Evan and he expects Evan not to take any action. Huston states that Evan "beats" handcuffed prisoners. Statements like these simply put an idea in the public minds that are reading this. Can he prove that Cossette has ever "beaten" a hand cuffed prisoner? One would almost overlook the 5th grade level writing and focus on the lies. I am 44 years old and have been to many Police functions. Not once has anyone ever slapped me in the face or poured a beer over my head. This shows the mentality of Officer Huston. As I read this letter, this paragraph is the most damning toward the credibility of these two Officers. It clearly shows motive to ruin the careers of Evan and his father. It's filled with hatred, anger and lies.

I refuse to list anything regarding the going away party for Officer Rogers for obvious reasons. Sullivan and Huston neglected to take the time to remove the name of a sexual victim from the letter. I believe there is a civil penalty for this.

They speak about an incident at the Union golf tournament. I was at this function and did not see either Sullivan or Huston all day long. Nor did I see Evan vomit or urinate on himself. If in fact Evan was intoxicated, he did not drive himself to or from this event. This is a Union event held at The Southington Country Club. It is no different than any other golf tournament. There is alcohol there. It is far from a sophisticated event. The money from this event is used for numerous scholarships and other community related things. Why is alright for Cassanova to get so intoxicated in DC, that he slaps people in the face and pours beer on their heads, but during a Union function, Evan can't drink. I would think it's the opposite. If I were in DC to honor fallen Officers I would honor them by acting civilized and professional. Since Sullivan and Huston were not at this event, I think they are embellishing what Officer Slezak told them.

Sullivan and Huston speak about an incident at the PBA, in which it sounds like Evan was once again assaulted. I don't understand their motive when they print these incidents. Why does it bring discredit to The Meriden Police Department when Evan is a victim?

They then go into the Excessive Force part of their letter. They begin by stating their opinion and saying that Evan acted very arrogant and like a "supervisor". Seeing how it's already been established that they dislike Evan and have already lied in order to discredit him, their opinion means absolutely nothing at this point. If in fact Evan acted like a supervisor, veteran Officers would not have stood for that, they would have immediately done something about it, regardless of who his father is. Evan was a PST and acted like a PST. To me, he seemed eager to learn the job and actually went to veteran Officers to seek advice. Prior to being a PST, Evan was a Police Explorer and was familiar with many Officers at the P.D., he had no problem seeking them out and asking a question.

He again writes about the female who broke her own arm. He claims that Evan and Officer Fry came upon a female who had a warrant. This is a lie. The female was wanted for recently crashing a stolen car. They had no idea who she was when they were searching for her, how could they have known she wasn't dangerous? He says that he searched for an internal affairs report on the incident and makes a sarcastic comment because there is none. Why would there be one, there was no reason for one? They claim that they made someone aware of the incident but they have not looked into it. I have looked into (unlike them) and found nothing wrong.

They write a paragraph that would make the reader think Evan had 3000 I.A. complaints against him. This is just for show, not truth. He then rehashes the same incidents over again and offers no proof, but I did find one thing very interesting. Sullivan claims that the suspect in the holding cell

that Evan pushed blew a .3 nearly an hour after being at the station. How is this possible if he was in the hospital with a “cracked” skull? Just another lie.

They then talk about Evan having trouble passing the bench press part of the Cooper Standard and insinuate that Detective Muir was a liar and passed Evan when he was unable to pass on his own. Once again they input their opinion and show the bias they have against Evan. I was actually present the day Evan passed his test and witnessed it myself. Detective Muir showed no favoritism whatsoever. Several times, she warned Evan what would happen if he were to fail the test. Additionally, Numerous Officers have been afforded numerous attempts at passing this test. Officer Ford is one that I personally know of. Training would be able to supply a complete list of Officers that needed more than one chance to complete it. Although it's not the physical part of the academy, Officer Femia needed several attempts to pass the driving portion of the academy. This shows that the department will give extra time to Officers in all aspects of the academy.

They then interject their opinion once again and state that Evan became known as a very aggressive and out of control rookie Officer. Due to the spelling and grammar errors in this paragraph, I believe that once again, this comes from Officer Huston. Officer Huston seems to have deep anger issues toward Evan for some reason. His writings are identifiable from the anger, spelling and grammar errors. They state that the investigations were shallow at best. Again, this is their opinion, not fact.

Regarding the incident at Midstate Medical Center. I have read the report rather than believing locker room rumors like Sullivan and Huston. The report clearly states that Supervising Nurse, Sean Raimo relayed to Evan that the patient was heavily intoxicated and could not leave the hospital for fears that he could be further injured. The Police Department has the same policy and I find it hard to believe that Sullivan and Huston are not aware of this. Our policy states that when we come across an intoxicated party, even in his own home, we are to have him transported to Midstate if a family member can't be located. Midstate has a policy where an intoxicated person can't be released until their level of intoxication is at a safe level. The patient in this case is not only intoxicated, he's also injured and now running around outside and is exposed to single digit temperatures. If he were to fall and hit his head he could easily be knocked unconscious and lay there and die. Any reasonable Officer should know this. We have a duty to protect people and are liable for their safety in a situation like this.

In this case the patient may or may not have been the voluntarily, I do not know. It is clear however that once at the hospital, hospital officials deemed it unsafe for him to leave. Acting on good faith information from Hospital staff, Officers Cossette and Nowak both pursued this man and caught up to him. Once contact was made, the patient resisted Officers physically and verbally. Both Cossette and Nowak engaged the man physically. It's unclear why Sullivan and Huston say that Nowak “just watched”. It's either because they want to call

Nowak a coward for not assisting a brother Officer or they want to make it look like Cossette was acting outside the scope of his duties. Fortunately, neither is true in this case. The Officers used minimal force in this case and caused no further injury. The report also states the names of hospital officials and security officers who witnessed the entire incident. None of whom came forward and accused Evan of excessive force. I see no reason for discipline in this case. If Officers were disciplined in this case, we would not be able to perform our jobs any longer. This kind of thing occurs every day, it's a non issue and there is no reason for it being in the letter.

They write about Officer Lawlor. I don't know if they are comparing Brian's incident to the incident at the hospital, but the two are clearly different. For them to say it was the Chief's personal mission is ridiculous. The Chief is responsible for the Department; he had no personal gain in Brian's case. He did not shop from GA to GA. This is a lie. If GA-7 denies a warrant, you can't go to GA-9 or GA-5. The case did not happen in that geographical area, how could they prosecute it? Maybe they didn't know that GA stands for Geographical Area, I don't know. In any case, once the GA turns it down, you need to go elsewhere like to Rocky Hill, not another GA. I hate to say it because I don't agree with it, but Chief Cossette was correct in his assessment of the Lawlor case. Brian used the system and was unable to win his job back and was also convicted. I think that once that happens, you need to stop saying the Chief was on a mission, because he was right and we were wrong. At least in the courts.

They then write about Officer Ganter. When it fits them, they have plenty of accolades for Internal Affairs. In this case, Lenny and Glen give their opinion of Officer Ganter. Because it makes it look like the Chief wasn't fair across the board, they idolize Lenny and Glen all of a sudden. You can't call someone a liar in one paragraph and then make them an expert in the next. Because I have firsthand knowledge of both incidents, I can say that Al Ganter admitted that his was an issue, Don Huston failed to admit that he has an anger issue. I can say for sure based on the past week, Don Huston has an anger issue. Concerns about this were documented and relayed to City Hall.

They close the letter by saying the Chief "often" threatens criminal charges or termination in order to get a member to except his terms of a suspension. This is a blatant lie. I have sat in on many hearings and can say this without doubt. First of all, if the Chief has a case that warrants criminal charges, that is his first option. He's done this when appropriate. Sullivan simply throws it out that he has disciplined people for violations that other people have committed and the Chief didn't even look into those because he favors one person over another. An example of this should have been documented in the letter. Without an example, it's a lie. After everything Sullivan and Huston have said, I'm sure if they had an example of this, they would have documented it.

To say the Chief is extremely vindictive is not true. Look at everything the Chief did to help Sullivan when he was arrested. It's my opinion that the Chief went above and beyond to help Sullivan.

What the Chief does do in disciplinary hearings is common. He will impose a certain number of days when it's necessary to suspend someone. If that person accepts the suspension, he will break it down over a certain period so the person does not feel the effect of the suspension all at once. If the person grieves matter, in SOME cases this option has been taken off of the table. I have never heard of a suspension being broke up and the employee can still work overtime anywhere else. Does this sound like a vindictive man who would do this? I think not. One more thing that Sullivan never mentions in his letter, the Personnel Director sits in on every disciplinary hearing and has the same input as the Chief. Is she also corrupt, as they claim? In reading the entire letter, I see no allegations of corruption. It's unclear to me why they used that word so many times in describing the situation. Look up Lt. William White of New Haven P.D., there's your corruption.

These Officers have proven to everyone that they are prepared to lie and deceive people in order to retaliate against them. I myself am a victim of these lies and deception. One day I was coming in for my shift, when I saw Officer Huston standing alone near the sally port doors. Officer Huston was staring me down as if he were waiting for me to approach him. I stopped to exchange pleasantries with someone else and noticed that Huston would not stop staring at me with a look of disgust and anger on his face. As I approached the area he was standing, I said "what's up Don" as if to say hello. Huston began walking toward the lot across the street and responded, "what's up Teddy" in a very sarcastic and angry tone. Huston continued to walk away even though I asked him what he meant by that. Because Huston refused to turn to me and explain himself, I called Officer Sullivan to ask him what was going on. Sullivan informed me that they knew that I was the one who was sending e mails to the Record Journal. I explained to Sullivan that I had no idea what he was talking about so he told me that someone used the e mail address, patsfan2277@gmail.com to e mail the record journal some information that basically bashed Sullivan and Huston. The record journal turned around and forwarded these e mails to their attorney. Sullivan claimed that his attorney hired a private investigator to trace the e mail and they came up with my home address. Several days after this, I learned that their attorney had requested my file from City Hall on 04-27-11. A friend of mine then called me and said that there was a listing on Craigs List for me. The listing was posted on the same day Roberts requested my file from City Hall. It was posted under, "missed connections-woman for male" and the headline was, "pats 04 black dodge ram, Meriden". Part of it said that the female was driving through Meriden and saw me checking her out several times and she requested that I e- mail her to tell her what kind of car she was driving. This was a poor attempt for these losers to get my e mail address because they were sure that I was patsfan2277, but they needed proof of it. They didn't care that my wife of 15 years could have seen that posting and thought that I was checking out random

women as I drive around. I did e mail them and told them to leave me alone, I had nothing to do with their letter and I wanted to keep it that way. When I e mailed them back, they saw that it wasn't from patsfan2277 so they made up a lie and said their private investigator determined that I was responsible for the e mails. They're attorney then went to Hartford P.D. in an attempt to have me arrested. The Hartford Officer had to tell her that the e-mails were not threatening in any way and they would not do a warrant for me. Even after that, she went to the court and attempted to have a restraining order put in place and then came to Meriden P.D. and filed a "Criminal Threatening" complaint against me, and then went to the Record Journal and told them her lies. Of course the paper printed this garbage, not only did they print that; they did a huge article telling the public what a great person she is. She's such a great person that she lied about me and could have ruined my marriage and my career. I have since filed a complaint with the Connecticut Bar against her and will seek other legal measures to make sure she doesn't do this to me again. I urge anyone who has been slandered or affected wrongly in any way due to her negligent, reckless and careless behavior to file a complaint against her. This can be done online for no fee.

In closing, it is my opinion that these Officers made up numerous lies for the purpose of slandering Evan and Jeffry Cossette. They have cost the taxpayers of Meriden thousands of dollars for an investigation into these lies and they should be held liable for these costs along with any other damages incurred for the victims mentioned in this letter. Although they claim "wide spread corruption", their letter does not show one incident of corruption and it's full of lies; therefore they should not be able to hide behind the "whistle blower" act as they like to tell everyone they are covered by. The whistle blower protection is for people who tell the truth, not liars.