

Independent Ethics Commission – Formal Complaint Form

Before the Independent Ethics Commission
of the State of Colorado

For Commission Use Only

Received date: 01-Dec-2021

Case. No.: 21-30

The Complainant is: James Shires

(name)

Mailing Address: 7313 W 26th Ave

Wheat Ridge, CO 80033

Daytime telephone number: 720-454-0558

Email address: jshires628@gmail.com

The Respondent is: Jefferson County Sheriff Jeff Shrader

(name)

Mailing Address: 200 Jefferson County Parkway

Golden, CO. 80401

Daytime telephone number: 303-277-0211

Email address: _____

When did the alleged violation occur: December 29, 2020

Describe the specific acts or things complained of, with facts that provide a full understanding of the alleged violation(s). If possible, cite the specific ethical standards alleged to have been violated and describe how the violation(s) occurred. Use additional pages if necessary. Attach any documentary evidence you wish to submit.

The brother (Jon Shrader) of Jefferson County Sheriff Jeff Shrader died on Dec 18,2020. He passed away while in the Albuquerque, New Mexico hospital. Jon Shrader lived and worked in Clovis, NM. He had never been in law enforcement.

Either on Dec 23 and/or 24 Sheriff Shrader contacted Denver metro area law enforcement agencies asking for the police motorcycle units to help in providing a Police Escort to Crown Hill Cemetery for the funeral of his brother. At least one agency (Westminster Police) declined stating it was unethical and disrespectful to Law Enforcement Officers killed in the line of duty.

14 officers encompassing the Jefferson County Sheriffs Office, Lakewood Police Dept. and Arvada Police Department conducted an "Official" police escort on Dec. 29, 2020 for Jon Shrader, a civilian and resident of Clovis, NM.

Description of acts or things complained of (continued):

The motorcycle officers were in full official uniform and used agency provided motorcycles. At least one of those officers requested more than 10 hours of overtime pay.

It is likely officers from Wheat Ridge Police and Golden Police were part of the 14 total motorcycle units. Since Dec. 29, 2020 was a Tuesday it is extremely possible the executive staff (Sheriff, Undersheriff, 3 Division

Chiefs and some Commanders) from the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office were in attendance while on-duty.

A conservative estimate to the cost of the funeral escort and attendance by Law Enforcement personnel would be \$5000.00. This was paid for with taxpayer funds. Jeff Shrader, the Sheriff of Jefferson County should pay the cost personally.

Article XXIX Ethics in government (Amendment 41)

Section 1. Purposes and findings

(1) The people of the state of Colorado hereby find and declare that:

- (a) The conduct of public officers, members of the general assembly, local government officials, and government employees must hold the respect and confidence of the people:
- (b) They shall carry out their duties for the benefit of the people of the state:
- (c) They shall therefore, avoid conduct that is in violation or their public trust or that creates a justifiable impression among members of the public that such trust is being violated,
- (d) Any effort to realize personal financial gain through public office other than by compensation provided by law is a violation of that trust;

Advisement regarding remedies and penalties: Pursuant to Colo. Const. art. XXIX, § 6, a covered individual found to have breached the public trust for private gain is liable for double the amount of the financial equivalent of any benefits obtained by such actions. The manner of recovery and additional penalties may be provided by law. The Commission does not assess criminal penalties, award injunctive relief, or award damages to complainants.

I hereby acknowledge that the facts presented herein are true to the best of my knowledge, and I will cooperate in the process regarding this complaint and will appear at any proceeding of the Independent Ethics Commission if the complaint is scheduled for a hearing.

Signature: _____

James Shiva

Attorney (if applicable): _____

Dated at Wheat Ridge (City), Colorado, this 1st day of December, 2021.

Created by Article XXIX of the Colorado Constitution, the Independent Ethics Commission may review and hold hearings on matters falling within its jurisdiction as outlined in Article XXIX.