

Brian Mackie

From: Derrick Jackson
Sent: Monday, November 04, 2013 11:19 PM
To: Brian Mackie
Subject: Re: Marquell Ganter

Hi Brian,

I must say that your email was a shock and for a couple of reasons it stung. One, because I do value your opinion and two, the notion that my actions in some way take away from the safety of this community is a difficult notion to accept. In fact, it was my actions that allowed us to arrest Mr. Ganter and remove him from the streets. Prior to my involvement our officers, Mr. Ganter and the community were in a much more tenuous predicament. Detective Sgt. King and I were able to bring a dangerous situation to an end peacefully. Something I'm very proud to have been a part of.

As you know I had nothing to do with any decisions around charges, pleas or how the courts decided to deal with this particular case. After all of those decisions had been made and only then did I do what my conscience called for me to do. Yes, you are correct that my mentoring did not prevent this terrible act from taking place. However, I take solace in knowing that my mentoring played some part in him turning himself in, admitting fully his role and ultimately taking responsibility for what he has done.

Brian, I understand you are upset about my letter and I'd be shocked if that alone dramatically changed his sentencing. But if it did then I believe I have been doing my job effectively. The fact that a judge would look to my position and value that input says to me that in fact my role in keeping this community safe is not questioned but in fact valued. The Sheriff's Office does in deed work tirelessly to keep this community safe and in doing so we work on all points of the criminal justice continuum. From prevention, to arrests, to sending people off to prison and working to make sure the community is prepared when they return. As the Director of Community Engagement I believe that my informing the judge of his character from my vantage point and unique perspective was an important fact in the decision that the criminal justice system of Washtenaw County had to make. That is my purpose in being here...my purpose in becoming an officer...my purpose in working tirelessly to build bridges and yes, my purpose in being a social worker.

I could tell quite clearly from your email how upset you are with me and as you said disappointed. I do hope that this one incident does not damage a relationship that I value greatly.

Derrick Jackson
Director of Community Engagement
Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office

On Nov 4, 2013, at 2:13 PM, "Brian Mackie" <MackieB@ewashtenaw.org> wrote:

Hi, Derrick,

I am disturbed by your letter on behalf of Mr. Ganter. I most certainly respect your right, as a citizen (and social worker), to advocate on behalf of an offender, but you have done a disservice to the victims who were shot at and are traumatized by this crime. Your letter on behalf of Mr. Ganter is written on Sheriff's office letterhead and was written in your capacity as an employee of the