

**STATE OF ALABAMA
COUNTY OF ETOWAH**

AFFIDAVIT

COMES NOW, Trenton Garmon, Esquire, and after being duly sworn under penalty of perjury under oath and doth depose and say as follows:

1. I, Trenton Garmon, a dual-resident of Etowah County, Alabama and Pinellas County, Florida, am over the age of nineteen (19) and being of sound body and mind, verify the following as true and accurate fully intended to be a verified Affidavit in support of the Statement of Claim being filed on my behalf against the Pinellas County Sheriff's Department and other relevant parties.
2. I was arrested under false pretenses, perjury was committed against me by "officers" and abuse. A trial was held in the case Circuit Court of Pinellas County, Florida - Criminal Division before Judge Dorothy Vaccaro and a duly sworn & empaneled Jury.
3. The trial resulted in a "Not Guilty" verdict on the Driving Under the Influence (DUI) charge.
4. A felony for "Child Endangerment" was indicated as an unofficial "charge" on the arrest report, but was subsequently not prosecuted per the letter dated April 16, 2018 from Fred Schaub, Assistant State Attorney for the Office of the State Attorney, Sixth Judicial Circuit of Florida for Pasco and Pinellas Counties. This overcharge is another damage and was not supported by a shred of evidence proving yet again the malicious methods implemented.
5. Specifically, Assistant State Attorney Schaub stated in his letter: "...an investigation has been conducted in the above-styled case and it has been determined that the facts and circumstances as presented do not warrant prosecution at this time."
6. This letter was sent to "Holly Garmon, Parent of Sydne, Judah, Josiah & Sarah Garmon" who is my wife although we are currently separated. The separation in large part was triggered by the fallout from the false arrest, false allegations by the Sheriff's Department, malicious prosecution and what would become perjury of the Deputies involved.
7. On or about March 08, 2018 at approximately 6:16 pm after having picked four (4) of our five (5) children up from Liberty Christian School I was encountered by two Deputies from the Pinellas County Sheriff's Department. Given my wife and I elected to live in a poor neighborhood to serve our community as pastors we were aware they patrolled the area, but had no idea how oppressive the police were. Regardless, the Officers complained about arrived about one (1) minute their report indicates after the phone call of concern over me taking a nap on the side of the road.

8. I had not encountered Officer Hulm before, but had seen him frequent in uniform at the gas station across the street from the Waffle House on 54th.
9. Charles Blumberg and James Hulme acted inhuman, cruel and like bullies. I was a married man with 5 children and my wife living in my home. I paid my bills and had no government support above my partial disability from my ankle injury during my time in the Army. We were leading a church in the community together. They acted like beasts and animals and lied under oath which is on the record and preserved.
10. Both Officer Blumberg and the other Officer Hulme committed clear perjury, destroyed evidence and generally breached my civil rights all in an attempt to create a framework of false light to gain revenue and thus personally provide from the Law, rather than act within their duties and should be training to serve and protect me as a citizen, not enemy of the state. In addition to destroying evidence, they also misquoted me which the records and video confirm as a means of further framing their intentions of simply gaining a conviction notwithstanding their duties and the actual law.
11. While literally taking a nap in my own vehicle with the doors locked and my children in the vehicle watching a movie with the electric doors on child-safety lock, the Officers approached the vehicle leading eventually to one reaching aggressively without permission and no need into the vehicle, battering me, yanking my keys out of my hand. This happened immediately upon rolling down the window while still in my own van, safely parked on the side of the road less than one (1) block from our home and in front of and to the fear of my children.
12. At the time we lived at 2797 58th Avenue North, Saint Petersburg, Florida and hosted a weekly parenting group for the church that we were volunteer pastors for, literally.
13. There were on average twelve (12) to twenty (20) people that would attend to include children and we would eat snacks together, feed the kids pizza and talk parenting over a book or video.
14. After picking up the children being very fatigued from work and travel, I decided to lawfully take a nap before arriving home to a crowded group which I was expected to host with my wife.
15. The Pinellas County Sheriff's Deputies at no time showed professionalism, objectivity or candor. Rather they were aggressive, nonsensical and abused my civil rights and police policy.
16. During the trial, which the audio has been preserved and is being transcribed, both lied under oath. The dispute was how much "wine" I had consumed given a plastic container of wine was placed next to me in the passenger seat and was resting there when they approached the vehicle along with no less than five (5) other bags of groceries.

17. The officers literally destroyed the wine bottle with one testifying it was empty and the other testified after being excluded by "The Rule" that it was about half full. I requested that it be preserved and yet they destroyed it. In fact, in the dash cam of one of the Deputies vehicles the Jury saw where the bottle was removed and discussed it as being a wine bottle with wine in it.
18. No more than one glass had been consumed out of the bottle that was located in the van I was in with my children along with other groceries all of which was safely and legally parked on the side of the road.
19. I have, among some other health issues, "Hypersomnia", which is a sleeping condition that is similar to narcolepsy but slightly different in that I will not randomly fall asleep. But I get extremely sleepy at times and require a nap. I sleep about four (4) hours each night and about thirty (30) to sixty (60) minutes in the afternoon. Dr. Kim Schmidt at Medical Center East diagnosed the sleeping condition after ordering a sleep study which was performed by Sleep Tech Mr. Nicholas Heatherly at Saint Vincent's Hospital - East in Birmingham, Alabama. The report is filed herewith the Statement and this Affidavit. The sleeping condition was presented to the Jury.
20. The Officer's at no time asked me about why I was taking a nap. And did not process any other medical or physical conditions properly during the investigation as required by policy and the Law. In fact, they literally felt it appropriate to stick their hands in to my vehicle, batter me and do all of this in front of my children who they were pretending to be protecting. It was and still is hard to believe that it occurred.
21. After I exited the vehicle as directed, although the entire encounter was illegal and unconstitutional, the officers yelled and harassed me. To include when I was directing my children to safely cross the road to be with my wife. And they were making waves yelling at me while I was discussing getting the children home with my wife.
22. I am a United States Army veteran having played football for the United States Military Academy as a Cadet on their football team. I was on the team that was in the 100th Army-Navy Game and sustained an injury to my right ankle during Beast Barracks which only worsened that year in football.
23. In December of 1999 surgical hardware was placed in my right ankle which now and at the time of the unlawful arrest, assault and battery is considered to be a "10% impairment" to the body as a whole.
24. This among other opportunities to be reasonable, honorable and act legally were offered and/or available to the Deputies had they had the training and prudence to have conducted a proper investigation.
25. In fact, both were so cowardly that they felt it appropriate to batter and assault another man in civilian clothes just because they were Deputies wearing green. It was and is quite a sad thought with regards to what they believe it means to be a "man", much less an "Officer" of the Law.

26. Regardless, after the harassment during my children's egress from what the Deputies made into a crime scene (harassment, battery, disorderly conduct, destruction of evidence and eventually assault) the officers continued with their oppressive ways arresting me with intention "over cuffing".
27. I advised them that I have surgical hardware also in my right shoulder which underwent two (2) surgeries from having played college football. These men are cowardly enough to not even honor a front cuff request by a veteran of the United States Army who they approached sleeping in his own personal vehicle lawfully where no violence, but for theirs, was involved or alleged.
28. The shoulder pain was real, uncomfortable and unnecessary. Deputy Blumberg refused to place a seat belt on me after I cooperated and allowed him to arrest me and got into the back of the tax-payer owned and paid for Tahoe. The cowardly actions continued as upon request to be belted given he was driving erratically and speeding on 62nd, the Deputy literally slammed on the brakes of the Tahoe from a speed of no less than thirty-five (35) mph causing my face to strike the plexiglass.
29. The known "brake check" tactic was intentional and I reported it as such to the Sheriff's Department. This part of the incident is indicated in the medical records to include the bending of my glasses, but I was misquoted as saying I did not know if it was intentional or not. It was very clear as intentional and was an assault further revealing the "culture of crime" I came to discover that is accepted many times among the Pinellas County Sheriff's Department. As I entered the Jail I literally to further make the point walked a few feet over to my left rather than directly towards the door and walked no less than seven (7) steps heel to toe over a straight parking line to prove my capacities in the moments of initial oppression, false light and false accusation. At the Jail I requested medical attention which was provided by Katrina K. Ray, RN 55122. Nurse Ray examined my face and eye where I was assaulted into the plexiglass. She did an eye scan to check for concussion and I asked her if my responsiveness appeared impaired and she said "no".
30. Exhibit "O", has the narrative description in letter format of the incident wherein we sought to be reasonable and provide medical documentation of the sleep condition not inquired of by the Deputies in beach of policy. Given the charges I was forced to expend money for a lawyer for the criminal defense and was forced to hire an attorney for a bar inquiry which was filed. Roger Futerman, Esquire was paid \$12,500 to defend me and Clark Hall, Esquire was paid \$1,00 to address the bar inquiry.
31. I wish it were not true, but the arrest and charge was used by my wife to gain full custody and control over our children. There were costs for the DUI school costs and lost time of no less than twenty (20) hours for the programs.
32. I was forced to appeal the automatic suspension of my driver's license as well. I lost no less than ten (10) days of working time which equates to approximately

- \$25,000 in total having spent twelve (12) days in jail unnecessarily. A bond revocation was entered because of the separation from my wife and her obtaining of an injunction which is on appeal and my lawyer (Melissa Isaak, Esquire) says that we are on the right side of the law. So I ended up spending twelve (12) days in Jail for charges that I was found "Not Guilty" on. The experience revealed a very disturbing and concerning culture of gross inmate mistreatment and even murderous threats. I am claiming lost revenue and wages of four hundred fifty seven thousand two hundred twenty-five dollars (\$457,225) which is one-half (1/2) of our annual gross revenue as we were before the civil rights breaches and malicious prosecution.
33. Attached as well is a handwritten complaint that I filled out after one of the Deputies threatened to take the life of an inmate if there were any problems and literally said he would lie about it.
 34. So not only did I have to endure a false arrest, false charges, unbelievably unprofessional officers who battered and assaulted me, I had to undergo 12 days in Jail because of a bond revocation for charges that should have never even been brought. I also endured no less than a twelve (12) hour jury trial for which I am grateful as jurors seem to be our primary defense against this pattern of big government systematic encroachment.
 35. While an inmate awaiting trial my life was threatened three (3) times with two (2) I find to have been legitimate and not just "jail bird talk".
 36. One of the death threats was by a man in Marion County Maximum Security. I was placed there despite the charge being a simple DUI because of the revocation. I was transported in a contracted van like an animal with full shackles again having been a pastor just months before and having no violence alleged and subsequently being found "Not Guilty". The murderous threat was by one of the Guards in the Pinellas County Jail who threatened to kill an inmate if there were problems. I consider the later to be a real, but general threat. The threat in maximum security was real and required me to firmly grip a broom handle and in responsive self-defense: "I have 5 children. If you try to kill me, I will kill you first using this broom handle". These experiences were all because of a false arrest and the abuses, poor training and just general unprofessional ways of the Pinellas County Sheriff's Department.
 37. I am currently and was at the time a practicing lawyer. Although from July 2016 to November of 2018 I was a part-time pastor and lawyer. Seeing the inhumane and "mob" or "goone" like treatment of a citizen with his children taking a nap just trying to rest after picking them up and seeking to arrive home refreshed to friends for a parenting groups solidifies in my mind the inadequate training and/or gross breaches of policy, procedure and Law that Pinellas County Sheriff's Department has been routinely criticized for.
 38. Sheriff Gulatires from what I understand has a policy that Deputies do not wear body cameras at the same time is pushing a research institute to try and prove

there is a higher link to violent crime when drug charges are involved. I do not know him from Adam. But it is very clear that the Department is not capturing footage intentionally. The Deputies were physically and verbally abusive during the arrest which lead to absolutely nothing but a "Not Guilty" and revealing just how badly Pinellas County Sheriff's Department has implemented a *de facto* monetization of "Justice". I hope for the safety of each Deputy. But I primarily hope and pray for the safety of the citizenry if they encounter what I encountered and other have reported.

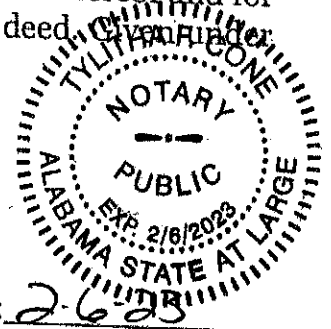
39. I was also greatly defamed and disparaged because of the arrest and treatment. It caused an infliction of emotional distress and was used as the primary basis for my removal from my position as a pastor which I really enjoyed. Because of the torts, civil rights breaches and general impairment of my rights, I have been forced to suffer mental anguish, emotional distress, physical pain and suffering while being forced to sleep on a metal bed with a degenerative disc and vertebrae issue in my cervical region.
40. My family and I moved to St. Petersburg on behalf of a non-profit organization and were leaders with a group that fed over 3,000 meals in a single day in downtown St. Petersburg. Glenn Davenport co-owner of GE Foods which is a multi-million dollar corporate in Pinellas County attended our church and can bear witness to the meals we distributed as an organization given his company donated them. And we did this twice along with other service projects in the county and city all of which were done voluntarily. Then, here I encountered some goon deputies who arrested a lawyer, lawfully and safely parked with his kids on the side of the road in an air conditioned van. And they mock, scorn, batter and assault me. 100% breach of my civil rights and human dignities.


TRENTON GARMON

STATE OF ALABAMA
COUNTY OF ETOWAH

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned authority in and for the aforesaid County and State, Trenton Garmon, who acknowledged that he signed, executed and delivered the above and foregoing instrument on the date thereof and for the use and purposes therein mentioned as her voluntary act and deed, given under my hand and official seal, this the 15th day of May, 2020.

Tylitha J. Cone
NOTARY PUBLIC



My commission expires: 2-6-23

PREPARED and/or REVISED BY:

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