



**South Carolina
Law Enforcement Division**

P.O. Box 21398
Columbia, South Carolina
29221-1398

*Henry D. McMaster, Governor
Mark A. Keel, Chief*

Tel: (803) 737-9000

June 11, 2020

INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

TO: 33-20-0059
FROM: Special Agent Kyle Radford
RE: Larceny
Craig Davis (Victim)
Calvin Hastie (Subject)

County: Sumter

Introduction

On May 20, 2020, the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) received a written request (**Attachment 1**) from Sumter Police Department (SPD) Chief Russell Roark, to investigate allegations that City Councilman Calvin Hastie removed several items from the yard of Craig Davis, located at [REDACTED] Sumter, SC. SLED Captain (Capt.) Johnnie Abraham assigned Special Agent (S/A) Kyle Radford to conduct the investigation.



An Accredited Law Enforcement Agency



Summary

On May 26, 2020, SLED Lieutenant (Lt.) Tina Carter and S/A Radford met with SPD Chief Roark and were provided with details of the allegation. On April 30, 2020, SPD Patrolman (Ptl.) Kevin Sargent responded to [REDACTED] Sumter, SC, in reference to a larceny complaint. After arriving, he was met by Craig Davis that reported to him that a stone table, two stone animals, and an antique stone bell were missing from the property. In a follow up with Craig Davis, he provided copies of e-mail correspondence between himself and Hastie. In the e-mails Hastie acknowledged that he had the items and offered to pay for them or have someone return them. The bell was returned and Craig Davis sent another e-mail correspondence telling Hastie that the bell that was returned was not the same bell that was on the property before. S/A Radford was provided copies of the SPD incident report, SPD Lt. Report, and e-mail correspondence between Hastie and Craig Davis (**Attachment 2**).

On May 29, 2020, S/A Radford and S/A Mike Gifford interviewed Craig Davis at [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Sumter, SC. The interview was audio and video recorded (**Attachment 3**). A Memorandum of Interview (MOI) was completed by S/A Radford and is included in Attachment 3. Craig Davis provided the following information: His family had inherited the property at [REDACTED] Sumter, SC and sought legal counsel to assist in the estate. He contacted Hastie, a local attorney, and met with him at his office to discuss the paperwork portion of acquiring the property. A week later, Hastie called Craig Davis and asked if he could have the furniture that was in the yard at [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. Craig Davis told Hastie no and that he (Davis) would have to discuss the issue with his family due to that being their inherited property. Hastie told Davis if he changed his mind, he would offer to buy the items in the front yard. Some days after, Craig Davis was at the home on [REDACTED] doing yard work and saw GMC Sport Utility Vehicle (SUV), with tinted windows, parked on the corner of Warley Street and Palmetto Street for about twenty minutes. After finishing the yard work, Craig Davis drove past Hastie's home and saw the same SUV parked at his home. The next day, Craig Davis went back to the house on [REDACTED] and discovered the antique bell that was posted on the

front yard was gone. The bell once belonged to the old Manchester School in Pinewood, SC. Craig Davis went to Hastie's house and attempted to call him multiple times to ask about the bell but received no answer. A few weeks later, Hastie called Craig Davis and told him that he had the property, including the bell, from [REDACTED] and that he would have someone return it later that week. After the bell was returned, Craig Davis examined it and did not believe it was the same bell that had been there previously. The bell that was returned looked smaller, did not ring, was only seven to eight feet high, and had a chain pull cord. The original bell was at least twelve feet high, rang, and had a leather pull cord. Craig Davis e-mailed Hastie and asked about the bell that was replaced at the property. Hastie told him that the bell that was returned was the same bell. Davis had pictures of the original bell and the one that was replaced by Hastie. *Agent's Note: In a follow up e-mail between S/A Radford and Davis (Attachment 4) Davis provided photographs of the bell before it was taken from the property and after it was returned.*

S/A Radford went to [REDACTED] took pictures of the Bell (Attachment 5) and tested the bell by pulling the cord. The bell rang.

On May 29, 2020, S/A Radford and S/A Gifford interviewed Hastie at his law office in Sumter, SC. The interview was audio and video recorded (Attachment 6). A MOI was completed by S/A Radford and is included in Attachment 6. Hastie provided the following information: Craig Davis came to his office to have a Power of Attorney and also a Will for his (Davis), mother prepared. Hastie learned that Craig Davis was related to the family that owned a home at [REDACTED] that was over grown with weeds and grass. Hastie asked Craig Davis about borrowing benches and items in the front yard that could be returned when Craig Davis requested they be returned. Craig Davis gave him permission and seemingly implied that he did not care about the items on the property. Hastie took the items to his house, located at [REDACTED] Sumter SC. One of the items Hastie took was a bell and post which he placed in a hole at his house. Craig Davis contacted him and asked about the items, specifically the bell. Hastie told Craig Davis that he would pay for the bell or return all the items. Craig Davis requested that all the items be brought back to [REDACTED] On May 15, 2020, Hastie

had Dennis Davis return all the items. Afterward, Craig Davis contacted Hastie and said the bell that was returned to the property was not the same bell that was in the yard originally. Hastie believed that when Dennis Davis returned the bell, he dug the hole deeper and it was now closer to the ground than before. The bell sounded the same as it did before. Hastie does have photographs that he took of the bell after it was returned on May 16, 2020 (**Attachment 7**). He does not have any photographs of the bell before it was removed from [REDACTED]. Hastie and Craig Davis communicated through e-mail. Craig Davis accused Hastie of sitting in his car, on the corner of Warley Street and Palmetto Street, and watching him (Craig Davis) while he was in the yard. Hastie denied the allegations.

On June 2, 2020, S/A Radford interviewed Dennis Davis [REDACTED] in Sumter, SC. The interview was audio and video recorded (**Attachment 8**). A MOI was completed by S/A Radford and is included in Attachment 8. Dennis Davis provided the following information: He originally met Craig Davis when he (Craig Davis) asked him about doing yard work at a home on [REDACTED]. After Dennis Davis provided Craig Davis an estimate for the work, he was never hired to do the work. A few weeks later, Craig Davis came to his home and asked him if he had taken anything out the yard on [REDACTED] specifically a bell. Dennis Davis told Craig Davis that he had not. Around the end of April 2020 or the beginning of May 2020, he was contacted by Calvin Hastie and instructed to take some items from his (Hastie) house back to the house on [REDACTED]. Dennis Davis returned a bird bath, a chair, two stone benches, a windmill, and two flower pots. A week or two later Hastie called Dennis Davis and told him that he had a bell that needed to be returned to the house on [REDACTED]. Dennis Davis went to Hastie's home, got the bell and post out of the hole it was cemented into, took it back to [REDACTED] and placed it into the hole. Dennis Davis was told the bell would not ring, so he went back to [REDACTED] fixed the problem, and made sure the bell rang. Dennis Davis had seen the bell before it was removed from [REDACTED] and he believed the bell he returned was the same bell.

On June 1, 2020, S/A Radford met with Sumter County School District Records Clerk Rusty Gullede at the Sumter County School District Office in Sumter, SC. Clerk Gullede stated that the School District has no record of a bell being sold from Manchester School and he did not know anyone that would have been employed or alive at that time that would have knowledge of the bell.

Agent's Note: The antique bell was reported to have been purchased from the Manchester School in Pinewood, SC.

The following documents were obtained pertinent to this investigation:

- SPD Ptl. Sargent Body Worn Camera (**Attachment 9**).

Conclusion

The following statements are based on facts obtained during the investigation:

- Craig Davis' family inherited the property at [REDACTED] Sumter, SC, and he sought legal counsel from Calvin Hastie. (See Attachments 2, 3, and 6)
- Calvin Hastie took a bird bath, a chair, two stone benches, a windmill, two flower pots, and an antique bell from [REDACTED] Sumter, SC. Calvin Hastie said Craig Davis gave him permission to take the property. Craig Davis stated he did not give Calvin Hastie permission and he took the property without consent. (See Attachments 2, 3, 4, 6, and 7)
- Calvin Hastie had the items he took returned to [REDACTED] Sumter, SC. Craig Davis alleged that the bell that was returned was not the bell that was taken from the property. (See Attachments 2, 3, 4, 7, and 8)

This report will be submitted to the appropriate prosecutorial authority.



S/A Kyle Radford

Attachments

1. Request for SLED Assistance
2. SPD Incident Report, Lt. Report, and E-Mail Correspondence
3. Recorded Interview – Craig Davis
4. E-Mail Correspondence & Photographs of Bell(s)
5. SLED Taken Photographs of Bell
6. Recorded Interview – Hastie
7. Photographs of Bell Provided by Hastie
8. Recorded Interview – Dennis Davis
9. BWC – SPD Ptl. Sergeant

Note: The Agent's Case Management History is maintained in the case file.