



DEPARTMENT OF POLICE SERVICE

255 East Main Street
Waterbury, Connecticut 06702



Neil M. O'Leary
Chief of Police



Michael J. Gugliotti
Deputy Chief of Police
Michael Fischer
Deputy Chief of Police

September 4, 2007

Senate Bipartisan Committee Of Review
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, Connecticut 06106-1591

Re: SENATE RESOLUTION 200 – RESOLUTION APPOINTING A COMMITTEE OF REVIEW TO MAKE A RECOMMENDATION TO THE SENATE CONCERNING SENATOR LOUIS C. DELUCA

Dear Honorable Committee Members,

In response to your August 29, 2007 correspondence and the provisions of Senate Resolution No. 200 concerning the events leading up to Senator Louis C. DeLuca's guilty plea on the misdemeanor charge of conspiracy to commit threatening in the second degree I submit the following responses to your inquiry:

1. I have been with the Waterbury Police Department for 27 years and have been the Chief of Police for 3 years.
2. I have known Senator Louis DeLuca and his family for most of my life, having grown up in Woodbury, CT and attended school with Senator DeLuca's children.
3. In January of 2005 I was contacted by Mary Beth Mecca and Sharon Reilly, paternal aunts of Casey Reilly Colella, who requested that I meet with them concerning their niece, Casey.
4. In January of 2005 I met with Ms. Mecca and Ms. Reilly in Middlebury, Ct. and they indicated to me that their then 23 year old niece, Casey Reilly Colella had a new boyfriend, Mark Colella of Waterbury, and they felt that since she met Mr. Colella she had been distancing herself from her family. Ms. Mecca and Ms. Reilly indicated that Casey Reilly Colella had not shown up at recent family events and they were also concerned that Mr. Colella was 40 years old and that they felt Casey Reilly Colella was too young to be dating him. At no time did either Ms. Mecca or Ms. Reilly ever indicate that they felt that Casey Reilly Colella was in an abusive relationship.

To Protect and To Serve

5. I indicated to Ms. Mecca and Ms. Reilly that I have known Mark Colella for a number of years and offered to contact Mark Colella on their behalf in an effort to re-establish lines of communication between Casey Reilly Colella and her family. Ms. Mecca and Ms. Reilly declined my offer of assistance, expressing a concern that Casey Reilly Colella would be angry if she felt they were getting involved in her personal business. I advised Ms. Mecca and Ms. Reilly to call my office if they felt that I could assist them in the future.
6. In March of 2005 I had occasion to be with Senator DeLuca during the St. Patrick's Day parade in the Washington Hill section of the City of Waterbury. During the parade, Senator DeLuca mentioned that he had heard that I talked to Mary Beth Mecca and Sharon Reilly regarding his granddaughter Casey Reilly Colella. He told me that he was disappointed because Casey Colella had distanced herself from the family and refused to return telephone calls. Senator DeLuca also expressed his disappointment with Casey Reilly Colella because of her relationship with Mark Colella who was nearly twice her age and was divorced with children. At no time did Senator DeLuca indicate that he felt that his granddaughter Carey Reilly Colella was in an abusive relationship or that he was concerned about Casey Reilly Colella's physical well being.
7. I indicated to Senator DeLuca that I know Mark Colella and I offered to speak to Mr. Colella if Senator DeLuca felt that it would help remedy the strained relationship between Casey Reilly Colella and her family. Senator DeLuca declined my offer so I wrote my cell phone number on the back of one of my business cards and gave it to Senator DeLuca and advised him to contact me if he felt that I could be of any assistance.
8. I next saw Senator DeLuca in April or May of 2005 and he advised me that not only was Casey Reilly Colella living with Mark Colella, he also learned that they were secretly married and that she was also pregnant. Senator DeLuca expressed his extreme displeasure with this relationship. Senator DeLuca never indicated to me during the course of this conversation that he felt that Casey Reilly Colella was in an abusive relationship.
9. After speaking with Senator DeLuca in the spring of 2005, I saw him at least 20 times over the course of the next two years. During that time Senator DeLuca never raised the issue of Casey Reilly Colella and her relationship with her family, and I did not feel it would be appropriate to bring the issue up because Senator DeLuca had been so distraught in discussing the matter on prior occasions.
10. I had one conversation with the F.B.I. regarding Senator DeLuca through the time leading up to Senator Louis C. DeLuca's guilty plea on the misdemeanor charge of conspiracy to commit threatening in the second degree. In October, 2006 I received a telephone call from the F.B.I. who advised me that they were doing a confidential investigation. I confirmed to the F.B.I. that I had spoken to Senator DeLuca on two occasions in 2005 regarding his granddaughter Casey Reilly Colella. The F.B.I. requested that I keep this conversation confidential because it concerned an ongoing investigation. The Waterbury Police Department does not have any documents or official records evincing this telephone conversation.

11. The Waterbury Police Department has not received any complaints of an abusive relationship concerning Casey Reilly Colella through the time leading up to Senator Louis C. DeLuca's guilty plea on the misdemeanor charge of conspiracy to commit threatening in the second degree.
12. The Waterbury Police Department does not have in its possession any documents, including official records and complaints, bearing on the relationship between senator DeLuca's granddaughter Casey Reilly Colella and her husband Mark Colella or contacts between the Waterbury Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation for the time period leading up to Senator Louis C. DeLuca's guilty plea on the misdemeanor charge of conspiracy to commit threatening in the second degree.
13. Under separate cover the office of the Corporation Counsel will provide a response to your request from the Waterbury Police Department for any documents and/or official records and complaints in its possession concerning Casey Reilly Colella subsequent to Senator Louis C. DeLuca's guilty plea on the misdemeanor charge of conspiracy to commit threatening in the second degree.

Respectfully Submitted,



Neil M. O'Leary