

PHILLIP BOUGHTON
2008 WINDMILL LANE
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22307
(703) 768-3567

Fairfax County Chief of Police
Colonel Edwin C. Roessler Jr.
4100 Chain Bridge Road
Fairfax, Virginia 22030

January 30, 2014

Dear Colonel Roessler,

About seven months ago I was attacked in my home by some of your officers. I have had some time to think about this and discuss this with community members. Since this attack instead of feeling safe because of the Fairfax County Police I feel endangered. If an officer who has limited command of the English language (my name was misspelled several times in the warrant and my home was not accurately described) can go to a magistrate who appears to just endorse anything that comes by his desk and obtain permission to enter my home with guns drawn none of us are safe. I was not mentioned in the search warrant except as the home owner. My son had not been in my home for 3 weeks prior to this day and was here so that I could drive him to New Beginnings for a 90 day treatment program.

Because I did not receive a response to my letter (attached) to the Mt Vernon commander I want to ensure that the senior police officer in Fairfax County knows what some of his officers are doing to citizens of this great county. I believe a small number of your officers violated my 4th Amendment Rights and performed as thugs with badges. I do not like feeling that whenever the police feel like it they can come charging into my home with their guns drawn when there is no reason to support this action.

Let me provide some background so you know that I am not some "end of the roader" trouble maker:

- I have not gotten a parking ticket or any other violation in over 15 years.
- I flew F-4's and F-14's in the Navy for 24 years during which I was awarded 8 Air Medals and 1 Meritorious Commendation Medal. I have more than 1000 carrier landings.
- I have known several of your officers from the Mt Vernon Station for a very long time. In particular Detective Daryl Davis has helped me out numerous times and is a wonderful person and officer. I have written the Mt Vernon commander three letters detailing the great service that Detective Davis has provided to me. There are several other very professional officers at Mt Vernon also including PFC Ferguson. I have always been impressed with these officers and hold them in very high regard.

If Detective Davis would have called me and told me I had to get my Son to turn himself in I would have immediately complied. My Son had a failure to appear warrant out since April for a parole officer violation and I had been giving Detective Davis and several other officers a weekly status of my Son's progress at attending the Substance Abuse Program in Chantilly and his status at getting a place in the New Beginnings program for treatment of his Oxycodone addiction. On the day of my attack I was actually getting ready to take my Son to New Beginnings for enrolment in their program for 90 days.

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At about 1:00 PM I was working at my desk when I saw about 15 officers most in full combat gear approaching my house. One officer called my cell phone but I did not get many words out when a loud knock came from my front door. I have a Husky who loves to run out of the front door so I said to the people knocking just a minute I need to put my dog in the back yard. When I turned around from my back door my front door was open and several officers who I did not know were entering my house. One said they had a warrant to search my home for my son. I asked for a copy of the warrant but was ordered to stand in one place near my front door. This is when I notice that one officer had his pistol drawn and was pointing it at me. When I said what is this about one of the more mature officers told me to calm down they were after my son David. I told them he was in the basement. It now became clear that there were 4 officers that were not from Mt Vernon and I later noticed all rode up in a black Impala who were the attack dogs. One of these officers asked if anyone else was in the house. I said no but he insisted in going through every room and even getting the key to my locked bedroom to look in there for what I do not know.

Then one of the attack officers said he wanted to look in my back yard. I told him I needed to get my Husky and put him in the laundry room so he did not bother any of them. The same officer then told me if my dog barked at him he would kill him. I got my dog and put him in the laundry room without incident. It is a very good thing that this officer did not kill my dog. One can go through life being a legal thug but sooner or later you will piss off the wrong person. I have landed on a aircraft carrier more than 1000 times in all kinds of weather and flown over 350 combat missions over Vietnam so not much is going to scare me any more. You need to counsel your officers that there are some of us out here who are not going to take much shit from them when we do not deserve it.

They took my son out the door and then proceeded to tear up my basement. It appeared that they just wanted to make as big a mess as possible. They gave me a list of things they took that was unreadable. I had to go to the courthouse to get a copy that I could read. They did not take anything of value except for my son's passport so that was a relief. What were they looking for anyway? It appeared to me that they did not find anything that was mentioned in the search warrant.

On at least one other occasion when the police were looking for some stolen groceries a friend of my son had stolen from Safeway I let the officers look any place they wanted voluntarily. They did not find what they were looking for however they were polite and had a reasonable request so I did not have any problem letting them look around my house.

In thinking about this whole very disgusting day I have several suggestions:

1. First try calling the owner of the house to see if you can get what you want easily without massing a hit squad. If Detective Davis came to my door I would be happy to let him go wherever he would like in my home.
2. Check to see if the owner has had any problems with police officers and if the check comes up negative do not come into the persons home with guys drawn.
3. Do not threaten to kill the home owners dog when the dog has not done a thing to anybody.
4. Give a copy of the search warrant to the owner to read before you go crashing through his home. The owner may help your officers find what they are looking for.

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5. Have someone with a good command of the English language write up the search warrant and then leave the owner a legible copy of what you have taken.
6. I have been following the discussion about having a citizens supervisory committee involved with the Fairfax County Police. At first I thought that because of all the great officers I have met this was not necessary and was probably going to attract malcontents and give them a way to harass the Police. After this attack I am much more supportive of this citizens group.

I absolutely know that your very large police force has many different personalities. Before this assault I had met many of them and found them to be very professional in every way. I hope my note to you will assist you in controlling some of the officers who are way too aggressive.

I would like to get a very simple note from you that just says I got your letter, nothing more.

Sincerely,