

December 15, 2011

Colonel Michael Edmonson  
Deputy Secretary, Public Safety Services  
Superintendent, Louisiana State Police

Dear Colonel Edmonson,

I have received your correspondence dated January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011 which was in response to my December 2011 complaint on potential criminal wrong doing by Superintendent Serpas and other members of New Orleans city government. And while I do appreciate the response, I am left wondering if my letters of complaint were read or if Superintendent Serpas himself prepared your response to me.

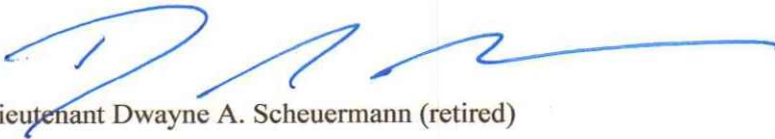
You commented, as it relates to my complaint concerning Superintendent Serpas, that the New Orleans Inspector General had reviewed the matter and found no violations of law or policy. The fact of the matter is that a sizeable portion of the citizens of New Orleans have no confidence in the Inspector General and that was the very reason that I asked for an independent investigation by the Louisiana State Police. If I had wanted a rubber stamp of the Inspector General's report, I would have brought my complaint to Superintendent Serpas for review.

I have read and heard comments from the Inspector General's Office and they either have no concept of the Louisiana Revised Statutes or the definition of criminal intent or they just have not concerned themselves with the law as they go about their duties. My letter, if you have read it, clearly refutes what the Inspector General report stated and points to his lack of knowledge of the law. If you have read my letter and the Inspector General's letter and you agree with his interpretation, I pray for the Louisiana State Police.

You also addressed my request for an investigation into the "Ruiz" incident. You suggested that there is an appropriate body at the local level who could investigate these allegations. I will address this with the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office. However, I was of the opinion that the Louisiana State Police was the better agency to investigate it since there may be violations in both Orleans and Jefferson Parishes. As far as investigations being "forestalled" until the civil suit is settled, perhaps you should review the New Orleans Police Department's administrative investigation into my actions in the "Glover" matter while at the same time I was being sued. To be blunt, there has never been any rule or law, nor is there any rule or law, that postpones an administrative, internal investigation until such time as a lawsuit is settled. To the contrary, if the appointing agency deems an officer to have been in violation of department rules that led to a lawsuit, it is grounds for the authority to refuse to represent them in the suit.

Finally, you responded that the investigation into Chief Defillo's actions was at the request of Mayor Landrieu and Superintendent Serpas and those requests are quite rare. No doubt they are, but rarity of action is not an excuse for failure of action when it is clearly warranted. Hurricane Katrina was a rarity, but the men and women I worked with never failed to act and neither should you. The fact that a request by a mayor and police chief to investigate an administrative violation is somehow acceptable but a request by a citizen to investigate possible criminal wrongdoing by law enforcement is not, is something that I will never understand or accept.

If you have any questions of me concerning this matter, please contact me at your convenience.



Lieutenant Dwayne A. Scheuermann (retired)