

From: Dana Johnson [mailto:djohnson@dixieclerk.com]

Sent: Tuesday, August 5, 2014 5:43 PM

To: Mary Cannon

Cc: Greg S. Parker

Subject: Grand Jury

Mary,

Attached please find the "Bill of Information" which was filed in my office this afternoon. Please forward to State Attorney Jeff Seigmeister at your earliest convenience. I am sending a copy to Chief Judge Parker as well.

Thank you,

Dana Johnson
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From: "Greg S. Parker" <parker.greg@jud3.flcourts.org>

Date: August 5, 2014 at 6:52:08 PM EDT

To: Dana Johnson <djohnson@dixieclerk.com>, Mary Cannon <mary.cannon@sa3.state.fl.us>, Jeff Siegmeister <jeff.siegmeister@sa3.state.fl.us>

Subject: RE: Grand Jury

Thank You. Please forward a copy of this email to Mr. Trussell, Foreperson of the Grand Jury. I do not have his address or email.

A copy of my order, executed in my capacity as the Chief Judge of the Third Judicial Circuit assigning myself to preside over matters regarding the Grand Jury of Dixie County that are appropriate for the Court's attention and direction as set forth in Florida Statutes and the instructions is being forwarded by separate email.

The main and limited observation the Court makes at this point is that the instructions given by the Court and Florida law provide that it "is the duty of the judges of this court not only to initially charge a grand jury concerning its duties but also to be available at all reasonable times to advise the grand jury in the event it becomes necessary.

Further the Grand Jury is instructed that "If any time during your term you feel it necessary, you may call upon the court for any assistance it can render you".

Finally, the instructions also state that the "state attorney will counsel, assist, and advise the grand jury; however, should any irreconcilable conflict arise between the state attorney and the grand jury, the court is available to assist in resolving the problems".

As is required by law, I was available last Friday to perform the functions as set forth in the instructions. It is regretful that I was not called upon despite being available, and despite what appear to be irreconcilable differences between at least the Grand Jury Foreperson and the State Attorney. While it is not the Court's province to invade or interfere with the proceedings of a grand jury, the law clearly contemplates the Court acting in the role of an advisor. On the other hand, unless requested, or otherwise required by law, the Court will not inject itself into the Grand Jury proceedings.

As before, I will be available when the Grand Jury reconvenes for the purposes set forth in the law and the court's instructions, and will perform the functions set forth in the instructions if requested.

Thank You.