



STATE OF ALASKA
DEPT. OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Reporting Officer SGT. RON WALL	Perm ID RJV1	Investigating Agency AST	Case No. AI 05-04	Date Investigated 5-1-05
			Detach "N"	Unit ID FAIM

INTERVIEW: CHRIS WATCHUS CONTINUED:

didn't think that it was a big deal because it was a husband and wife with a tag. Watchus stated that Molly first cried when the moose was shot and then was happy that the tag was filled. Watchus believed the game management unit hunted is 14A. He stated that the moose was actually shot on the slough between Mudd Lake and the boat launch.

Watchus also advised that a private investigator had called him and wanted information regarding the moose hunt. He advised that he provided the information to the PI regarding the hunt. Watchus believed the PI was hired by Todd and Sarah Palin.

INFORMATION:

Following my interview with Inv. Watchus I responded to the Todd and Sarah Palin residence in Wasilla for an interview with the Palin's.

RE-INTERVIEW: SARAH PALIN

Palin was re-interviewed on 8-18-05, at 1510 hours at her residence in Wasilla by Sgt. Wall (recorded, transcribed).

Palin was questioned about the email that she had forwarded to Colonel Grimes. Palin confirmed that she had sent the email and that she was concerned Wooten was not representing AST in a positive manner.

Palin was asked what she personally knew about the Mug Shot Saloon incident involving Wooten. Palin stated that her sister Molly had told her about the incident. Palin further advised that Mike was at a friend, Paul Cossette's home and that he called Molly. She said Mike told Molly about the conflict at the bar and that he was stopped on the way driving home because of a REDDI report. Palin stated that the PI hired by them had talked to the bartender involved in the conflict at the Mug Shot. Palin further related that the bartender avoided contact with this investigator because he is a hunter and fisherman and was afraid of Mike. Others at the bar were afraid that they would upset a trooper and didn't want problems at the bar.

Palin was questioned about her report that Wooten was intoxicated when he left the Mug Shot Saloon. She advised that she didn't have any personal knowledge that he was intoxicated and only believed it because of what Molly and the bartender (Christopher Britebill) had told her. Palin was not aware that Molly's attorney had stipulated in court that Wooten was not intoxicated when he was stopped by Trooper Herrel.

Sarah Palin stated that she had no personal knowledge that Angie Johnson had been stopped and was intoxicated. She stated that this information was provided to her by Steven Menard. Palin further related that Menard related to her that Wooten was bragging to him about the incident.

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RE-INTERVIEW: SARAH PALIN CONTINUED

Sarah Palin was asked about her numerous reports that Wooten was driving intoxicated. She stated that the dates she provided were based on information she received from her sister Molly. She again related that she had no personal knowledge of Wooten being intoxicated and operating a vehicle. Palin also advised that Payton had made comments to her about Wooten putting alcohol in the Power Aide drink bottle and taking it in to the Professional Wrestling event.

Palin advised that she had no personal knowledge of Wooten driving while intoxicated on February 12, 2005. She stated that she had seen Wooten at an Iditarod party and that she believed he had driven there. Palin did advise that Wooten was at the party with Molly and friends prior to her arrival. She stated that she believed that Wooten was intoxicated and was told by Molly that Wooten wouldn't let her drive on the way home. Palin also stated that Molly told her they stopped off to another bar on the way home from the Iditarod party.

Palin stated that after the party Wooten and Molly were several hours late getting to her parent's to pick up the children. Palin was not aware if her parents had contact with Wooten when they picked up the children.

Palin was again asked about Wooten drinking while he was driving his vehicle back from Glennallen. She again stated that she had no personal knowledge of the incident and that the story was told to her by Molly. She advised that Molly told her she counted three beers that Mike drank on his way home from Glennallen while driving. Palin also advised that Molly said he toasted the trooper with his beer and said "good day officer" as they passed. Palin also stated that Mike bragged to her husband that he had put a chip in his truck and that he had driven 100 mph through Wasilla. Palin again had no personal knowledge of this incident.

Palin was asked about Wooten drinking and driving in his patrol vehicle when he left the Lane residence. Palin stated that she was not there and that the Lanes are long time friends of her parents. She further indicated that Adrian Lane was a student of her father's when Adrian Lane was a child in Idaho. Palin related that it was embarrassing to her when the Lanes stated that Wooten had stopped by their residence and left with a beer in his hand and operated a marked patrol vehicle.

Palin outlined in the email that Wooten had been abusive and had undergone mandatory alcohol counseling and anger management as a result of his first divorce. Palin advised that this was documented in court records. Sarah Palin stated that Wooten underwent mandatory anger management to get visitation with his son from a previous marriage. She stated that she doesn't have copies of the paperwork but that Molly may have them. Palin was questioned about Wooten's first wife testifying for him in court and advised that she believed Wooten might have made a deal with her to testify in exchange for visitation with his son Dalton.

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RE-INTERVIEW: SARAH PALIN CONTINUED

Sarah Palin was questioned about Wooten's dislike for Alaska Natives. She advised that this is based on negative inferences Wooten has made about how Alaska Natives milk the system regarding hunting and fishing. Palin also stated that Wooten made comments that Alaska Natives are given too many rights regarding hunting and fishing. Palin said this is further compounded because her husband Todd is Native.

Sarah Palin stated that she doesn't have any personal knowledge of Wooten shooting the moose two years ago. She did advise that she was told by Wooten that Chris Watchus, Mike and Molly had gone hunting. She stated that Mike had shot the moose without giving Molly a chance. Palin was unclear as to who cleaned the moose but stated that Wooten dropped the moose off to her father's house and never returned to process the meat. Palin stated that Wooten told her father that it wasn't his tag and that he was proud of it. Palin was not sure if Wooten told her father that he had shot the moose or not but believed he probably had.

Sarah Palin advised that Wooten would talk about how he was not going to the "bush." She further advised that he bragged after his transfer to Wildlife Investigations about his Cabella's credit card and free hunting trips. Palin advised that she doesn't know about Wooten misusing the card but stated that he made comments about how he never had to pay for gas. Palin was not aware of any misuse of his vehicle gas cards either. Palin did comment on Wooten showing up in orange snowmachine gear and that it was expensive stuff. Palin advised that he began wearing the clothing last year or the year before. She didn't know if it was his or issued equipment. Palin was asked about reporting that Wooten bragged about free hunting trips but was not aware of any free trips or what Wooten may have referenced.

Palin advised that she didn't have personal knowledge regarding Wooten's "illegal hunting techniques" while wolf hunting. Palin stated that Wooten was hunting with her father and unknown friends of her father. Palin was not sure when or where the hunt took place but stated the friends of her father's that were hunting didn't feel the way Wooten took the wolf was right.

Sarah Palin was asked about the incident involving Wooten utilizing a Taser on Payton McCann. Palin stated that she did not have any personal knowledge about the incident and that her daughter Bristol was a witness.

Palin was asked about her allegations of Wooten physically assaulting her sister and again she had no personal knowledge. Palin advised that Molly told her Wooten had pushed her down and further believed it was substantiated because the judge issued a restraining order. Palin was asked if she was aware that the order had been dissolved by a judge and she stated that she was unaware. Palin stated that she is also aware of a no contact order issued by the current judge. Palin stated that she has seen Wooten verbally angry at Payton and Molly over insignificant issues, and telling Molly to quit nagging at him, wait until we get home and I will chew you out, etc.

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RE-INTERVIEW: SARAH PALIN CONTINUED

Palin stated that on February 17, 2005, Molly called her and advised Wooten called and said that he was on his way home and was in a rage. Palin advised that Sarah called her on her regular phone and left the line open so she could overhear. Palin then had her son Track Palin pick up the other extension and also listen.

Sarah Palin advised that she listened to Wooten and Molly and heard Wooten tell Molly that "your dad will eat an f'ing bullet if he gets you an attorney." Palin then went to make sure that her son also heard the comment. Palin advised that she felt she needed to be a witness and feared for Molly's safety because things had been "bad before." Palin stated she then telephoned Molly's neighbor and she went to the Wooten's neighbors and they watched from the driveway.

Palin advised that she was afraid for Molly because Wooten always has his gun on when she has seen him. Palin could not give a reason why the gun would bother her other than it being in Wooten's possession. Palin was also questioned as to why it took her two weeks to advise her father of Wooten's threat. Palin then stated that it was because Wooten had no reason to shoot her father. Palin also advised that she had hoped Wooten wouldn't find out that she had listened to his conversation because he would be angrier with her for listening.

Palin was asked why she didn't call 911 and report Wooten to the troopers. She stated that she would have called if he became angrier. Palin stated that as the conversation went on things calmed down. She also stated that Paul Page was there to call 911 if needed.

Palin was questioned about hiring a private investigator. Palin stated that Todd (her husband) and she had hired the PI because Wooten had accused Molly of being temperamental. She advised that they then used the PI to investigate these incidents for the divorce hearings. Palin was asked about Wooten being involved in an argument at the landfill. She advised that she doesn't have any first hand knowledge of the incident but thought that her husband had information about it.

Sarah Palin was asked about Wooten making comments to her husband about "bringing her down." Palin advised that she had listened to Todd's side of the conversation while he talked to Wooten on the telephone. Palin did could not hear what Wooten said and advised that Todd would be the one to ask.

Palin also advised that Wooten was no longer allowed to coach football. Palin advised that part of the reason was because he lies about numerous things. Palin stated that coaches talked to Wooten and Wooten said that things were fine between Track and himself. Wooten also advised the coaches that he had just seen Track in the hallway and gave him a hug. Palin advised that the coaches then called in Track and he told them that Wooten was lying.

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RE-INTERVIEW: SARAH PALIN CONTINUED

Palin also advised that a friend of hers, Deane Monk, told her a few months ago Wooten came up and challenged her husband, stating if he ever caught him spinning his tires again he would get him. Palin also advised that she again had no first hand knowledge of the incident.

INTERVIEW: TODD PALIN

Palin was interviewed on 8-18-05, at 1705 hours at his residence in Wasilla by Sgt. Wall (recorded, transcribed).

Todd Palin stated that on April 4, 2005, he telephoned Wooten to advise him to get the divorce over with and resolve the issues. Palin stated that he had been told by Molly about Wooten's claims to bring his wife down and he asked Wooten about the comments. Palin stated that Wooten denied making the comment to him. Palin stated that the remainder of the conversation related to divorce issues.

Todd Palin was asked about Wooten shooting the moose in September 2003. He advised that Wooten had told him that he shot the moose. Wooten also related to him that Molly drew the permit and that Mike had dropped off the moose at Chuck Heath's. Palin further related that he did not know if Molly had taken a gun to shoot the moose or not. Palin stated that Wooten told Chuck Heath that he would be back to take care of the meat and never showed up. Palin did not know if Wooten had told Heath that he shot the moose. Palin further related that he was aware that Molly had been drawn for the permit hunt.

Todd Palin advised that he didn't think that Wooten displayed good judgement. Palin supported this by using the incident where Wooten argued with the land fill employee. When questioned about the incident, Palin stated that he did not have any first hand knowledge of the incident and that he had been told that Wooten was upset over a \$5 fine for an unsecured load. Palin advised that the boss was then called into the central station and Wooten used his badge and argued about the fee. Palin stated that more details could be obtained from the employee but both he and the PI talked to the employee on separate occasions.

Todd Palin was asked about witnessing Wooten make disparaging comments regarding Alaska natives. Palin advised that he has witnessed Wooten say "fucking Native" to Payton when he was upset. Palin stated that this could have been the spring of 2004. Palin advised that he had only seen this one time but doesn't know how often it may have happened.

Todd Palin was questioned about his knowledge of Wooten drinking and driving. Palin advised that the bartender of the Mug Shot Saloon indicated that Wooten threw out his badge and got involved in another couple's business. Palin advised that the bartender told Wooten that the patron was a friend of the owner and Wooten still wanted him removed. Palin stated that the bartender was afraid to disagree with Wooten and removed the patron. Palin advised that Molly

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INTERVIEW: TODD PALIN CONTINUED

was told the same story with the only exception being that when Mike threw out his badge he said, "let me introduce myself." Palin also stated that the bartender stated he served Wooten a beer while he was there and that he didn't know how many drinks he had before he arrived at the bar.

Palin was asked about hiring the PI and stated that he had done so without telling Molly. Palin further advised that he felt that Wooten doesn't have the character to be a state trooper. He advised that this is demonstrated by taking a moose out of season, the issue with the \$5 fee at the landfill and drinking a beer while driving after being on the DUI team and MADD commercials.

Todd Palin also advised that he had just found out about Wooten using a Taser on Payton this year. Palin stated that this also brings Wooten's judgment into question.

INFORMATION:

Following the interview with Todd Palin I contacted Chris Brightbill at the Mug Shot Saloon in Wasilla where the following interview was conducted.

INTERVIEW: CHRIS BRIGHTBILL

Brightbill was interviewed on 8-18-05, at 1750 hours by Sgt. Wall (recorded, transcribed).

Brightbill advised that he was familiar with a disturbance at the Mug Shot Saloon involving Wooten. Brightbill stated that there was an argument between a guy and his girlfriend. Brightbill advised that Wooten then became involved. Brightbill didn't feel that it was Wooten's place to get involved in their argument. Brightbill advised that he believed Wooten was interested in the female but only said that it was an assumption.

When asked what action Wooten took, Brightbill advised that Wooten told him that he needed to remove the other guy from the bar. Brightbill stated that he told Wooten that it was his choice who was removed from the bar. Brightbill stated that Wooten then advised him, "Let me introduce myself," and displayed a badge. Brightbill stated that he didn't care if Wooten was a trooper, he felt that it was his determination who to remove. Brightbill further advised that Paul was holding Wooten back and that he held the other guy. Brightbill felt that if either one of them let loose they would have been fighting. Brightbill stated that both were yelling back and forth and that the other guy whose name is Brad was egging Wooten on.

Brightbill stated that Wooten and Paul sat down and that he then got a cab for Brad. Brightbill advised that Paul and Wooten left a short time later. When asked what happened to the female, he advised that she left following the argument and was arrested for DUI. Brightbill was not sure what the female's name was.

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