



NORTH MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL COMPLIANCE

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW CASE No. 19-04

Investigative Summary

Sergeant Michael Gaudio
Investigator
Office of Professional Compliance

August 27, 2019

A.R. Case No. 19-04

Principal Employee: Derrick Corker

INCIDENT FOR REVIEW:

On June 19, 2019, the Office of Professional Compliance was provided with information regarding the purchase of new football and cheerleader uniforms for the North Miami Youth Football and Cheer Program by the City of North Miami. The documents were authored by Lawrence Jones, who is the President of the North Miami Youth Football and Cheer Program and his agent, Donna Bibbins. The information shows questionable findings in vendor transactions.

Allegation: Financial Impropriety

PERSONS INTERVIEWED:

By NMPD Sergeant Michael Gaudio

Recorded

- Willy Exemer

Non-Recorded

- Lawrence Jones
- Donna Bibbins

SUMMARY OF THE INVESTIGATION

June 21, 2019

On this date, based on the information provided, this investigator contacted Ms. Donna Bibbins via telephone to arrange a meeting with her and Mr. Lawrence Jones to discuss the circumstances involving the case. The meeting was planned for June 27, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. at the OPC.

June 27, 2019

Both Mr. Jones and Ms. Bibbins responded as agreed upon. They informed this investigator:

- Mr. Jones stated he was the President of the North Miami Youth Football and Cheer Program and Ms. Bibbins was the Coordinator of the same.
- Mr. Jones advised that their organization had been active in North Miami for several years and played predominately at Benjamin Franklin Park, but recently prior to the 2019 season, they had been requested by the City of North Miami to move the team's activities to Cagni Park exclusively.
- They stated they were requested to change the team's name from the North Miami Redskins to a more socially acceptable name and have the new team reflect the color scheme of North Miami.
- Mr. Jones stated he accepted the terms but the changes requested would be an expense to his organization.
- Mr. Jones stated that the City of North Miami agreed to help him with the costs of the new uniforms.
- He advised that instead of receiving their annual stipend of eight thousand dollars (\$8,000), given by the City of North Miami, they would instead receive a lump sum of forty-two thousand dollars (\$42,000) to cover the expenses for the football and cheerleading uniforms, as well as the football helmets.
- Mr. Jones advised that the Director of City of North Miami Parks and Recreation, Mr. Derrick Corker was responsible for preparing and administering the forty-two thousand dollars.

- Mr. Corker initiated a bidding process for the vendor(s) who would provide the new uniforms. Mr. Jones stated he provided three (3) quotes from different companies that sold quality sporting equipment, but was advised by Mr. Corker he only needed two (2) vendors as he would provide the third vendor.
- The bids received and forwarded to Mr. Corker were rejected as they made out to the North Miami Youth Football and Cheer Program. According to Ms. Bibbins, Mr. Corker had told her the bids had to be made out to him and the City of North Miami.
- The vendor provided by Mr. Corker, **Quick Prints LLC**, was awarded the commission to create and provide the uniforms.
- Mr. Jones and Ms. Bibbins stated they were not involved in the uniform selection process, and had no idea how much the uniforms cost or the quality of the uniforms.
- They both stated that when asked about the uniforms, Mr. Corker began to become difficult and would intimidate them when questioned about the selection process.
- Upon further inquiry, Mr. Corker provide a sample of the uniforms they would receive. The uniforms had a distinctive “79” tag on them with a lion’s head. Research done by Ms. Bibbins revealed the “79” logo was of indicative of Eljefe7NINE, a clothing company owned by Mr. Corker.
- Ms. Bibbins informed this investigator that during the 2018 football season, Mr. Corker had sold “Spirit Packs” to the players that contained socks, tee shirts, shorts and a gym bag in the Team colors, with the “79” logo on them. Ms. Bibbins realized that Mr. Corker had sold his own product to the team.
- Both Mr. Jones and Ms. Bibbins felt that Mr. Corker was not acting in the best interest of their organization and felt his business practices were unethical.

They had no further information to provide.

Further investigation by this investigator revealed:

- Mr. Corker has an internet presence based company called Eljefe7NINE, and sells sport uniforms and apparel. All his items bear the “79” logo with the lion head. In addition he is the listed registered agent for Eljefe7NINE with the State of Florida.
- On Mr. Corker’s website, he displays several images of sports uniforms and clothing designs that he has available. Some of these images can also be seen on the Instagram account of Quick Prints LLC.
- Investigation also revealed that the City of North Miami had paid a total of seventeen thousand, eight hundred dollars, (\$17,800) for the uniforms. Eight thousand, nine hundred dollars (\$8,900) was paid as deposit, and the balance, was to be paid upon completion of the order.

August 23, 2019

On this date, this investigator met **Willy Exemer**, the owner of **Quick Prints LLC**, located at 10247 NW 53 St, Sunrise Florida who agreed to give a recorded sworn statement regarding the case.

Mr. Exemer advised:

- He has done work with Mr. Corker for several years, and his company creates the City of North Miami Parks and Recreation Summer Camp tee shirts annually.
- He stated that he received a phone call from Mr. Corker informing him of the bid for the uniforms, and Mr. Corker advised him to give him a quote.
- Mr. Exemer informed this investigator that he subcontracts the clothing orders he receives to a company in Pakistan. Mr. Corker utilizes the same company, and as a result, have the same designs with only the “79” logo differentiating the two companies’ apparel.
- He further stated that he often uses photos from the public domain to advertise what his company **Quick Prints LLC**, can create. As a result, he used clothing images taken from Eljefe7NINE, and put them on his Instagram website as examples.

- Mr. Exemer advised he received seventeen-thousand, eight hundred dollars (\$17,800) for the complete order of the uniforms.
- In addition, he showed this investigator the deposit copies of the checks provided by the City of North Miami as payment. Both checks were signed by the Mayor and Finance Director of North Miami.
- Mr. Exemer advised he personally went to the Parks and recreation department to deliver the uniforms and receive payment.

See recorded statement for further.

Findings:

“Based on the information gathered during the investigation and observations, no criminal activity was discovered. However the following administrative violations were noted:

- 1. Violation of Section 2-11.1, sub section (t) of the City of North Miami Vendor Guide. “Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance.”*
- 2. Sale of goods from personal business.*

This investigator met with North Miami Police Chief Larry Juriga on August 26, 2019 and informed him of the administrative violations discovered.

Per Chief Juriga this case is closed and will be continued administratively by the North Miami City Manager.

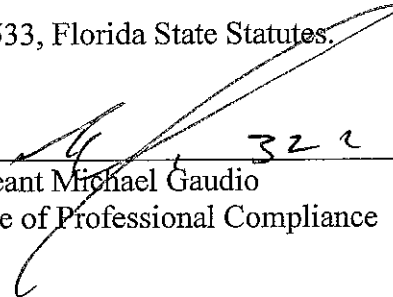
OFFICIAL RECORDS:

(Refer to the Case File Index for location.)

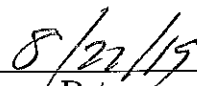
- 1) Authorization to Initiate Administrative Review No. 19-04 Memorandum
- 2) Recorded Statement
- 3) Documentation

4) Photographs

I, the undersigned, do hereby swear, under penalty of perjury, that, to the best of my personal knowledge, information, and belief, I have not knowingly or willfully deprived, or allowed another to deprive, the subject of the investigation of any of the rights contained in SS. 112.532 and 112.533, Florida State Statutes.



Sergeant Michael Gaudio
Office of Professional Compliance



Date