

Hello Andrea,  
Could you please share this with the committee and include it as a submission from me in relation to my testimony Friday?  
Thanks very much,  
Anne

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Anne Donahue** <[annedonahue1@gmail.com](mailto:annedonahue1@gmail.com)>  
Date: Sat, Sep 5, 2020 at 11:20 AM  
Subject: Re: Testimony in Committee  
To: Helfant, John <[John.Helfant@vermont.gov](mailto:John.Helfant@vermont.gov)>  
Cc: Ken Goslant <[kgoslant33@gmail.com](mailto:kgoslant33@gmail.com)>

I disagree that my brief overview misrepresented the substance of our discussion, although clearly I did not include specific details that might have created greater context. I think you were quite clear that you did not see a supervisory role in changing the ways in which the officer in question addresses interactions with citizens, which was the underlying point of my testimony. I left our meeting quite distressed by your apparent inability to hear some of what was being said, and I think I expressed some of those concerns during the meeting. I respect your disagreement with your perceptions about what I said, and will share your comments with the committee so that it is articulated on the record.  
Anne

On Sat, Sep 5, 2020 at 10:21 AM Helfant, John <[John.Helfant@vermont.gov](mailto:John.Helfant@vermont.gov)> wrote:  
Starting at about 27:25 for about 3 min.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aczn8wQkM\\_E](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aczn8wQkM_E)

I believe that you have some of what I said correctly, but also left out qualifying comments. Such as I clearly said that it is almost impossible for ME to change someones character once they are 35, BUT I also said that THEY could and told you a story about myself and how I changed because I wanted to. I also told you that I had spoken with the officer about a different or better way of doing things before and that I would again. You mischaracterized what I said and then testified those mischaracterizations to the committee in a very public way and it is slanderous. I am asking you to cease misrepresenting the conversation we had in my office. PS: I body cam interviews per our policy, especially those concerning a person claiming to be the victim of a crime.

Secondly, the Hepburn case was again reviewed by SA Thibault with the body cam and he has again declined to prosecute the case. SA Thibault also went on to comment about Tuckers performance on scene and agrees with me that there may have been a better way, listening more, to interview the subjects. He went on to say that he DID NOT believe that Tucker was "unprofessional" or "rude". So every entity in the process Chief of Police, Town Manager and States Attorney has looked at this situation and it has passed muster.

Lastly, Officer Tucker did not have a biased encounter earlier this year, that's your opinion based on hearing half the story. You have not heard from Ofc Tucker or me in detail concerning the incident. The incident was reviewed by me and Jeff Schulz. The Town Manager agrees with my assessment that this was not a biased incident. Though, you stated it as fact in your hearing that Ofc Tucker was involved in a bias incident. Do you know that the young man admitted that he looked suspicious while hovering over Ofc Tucker's personal vehicle? Did you know that the subjects mother said that Ofc Tucker was not racist? Did you know it was dusk/dark outside and Ofc Tucker was inside a lit inner office? Did you know that the subject was wearing a hood which completely obscured his facial features? Did you know that Ofc Tucker had no idea that the subject was black until she was outside and about to talk to the subject? This was another slanderous statement by you in the hearing.

After seeing this testimony by you, I am now very uncomfortable with discussing further issues with you. Words Matter. Context Matters. Trust and truth are critical moral characteristics in my judgement of a person. I do not believe that you and I will be discussing issues in the future.

Chief John Helfant  
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