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Andrew Choisser, Esquire/Kaylee Taylor, Esquire
Office of The State Attorney
2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Bldg. D
Melbourne, FL 32940

VIA E-Mail

Re: STATE V. JAFET SANTIAGO
Capias Request

Dear Mr. Choisser and Ms. Taylor:

Good Afternoon. I wanted to touch base with someone on this case and wasn't sure which of you this would be assigned to. The case is coming from TPD, but I have been led to believe that they may be submitting a Child Abuse charge as well. Mr. Santiago has retained me to assist him with an Injunction and with a Dissolution of Marriage, as well as any potential criminal case. I am hoping that we can resolve this case quickly and appropriately. I am asking that you take my input into consideration before making a filing decision in this matter. To that end, please consider the following:

1. Mr. Santiago is a well-respected Deputy without any prior criminal charges or even sustained IA's. Mr. Santiago's wife is employed as an officer with Titusville Police Department, hereinafter TPD. The parties' marriage has been deteriorating for some time. Mr. Santiago came home and found his wife engaged in extra marital relations with a supervisor at TPD. This is the second confirmed relationship that Ms. Santiago has had with a coworker at TPD. While I pass no judgment on this personally, it is important for you to consider when making a filing decision in this matter.
2. After Mr. Santiago's discovery, Ms. Santiago filed a Petition for Dissolution of Marriage, hereinafter Petition, and Mr. Santiago moved out to his own residence. The parties have a **REDACTED**-old daughter in common and they began exercising timesharing with her. Ultimately, Ms. Santiago indicated that she wanted to salvage the marriage and she voluntarily dismissed the Petition. The parties remained living separately.
3. Mr. Santiago originally obtained the residence that they lived in together as a security apartment and they paid a very reduced monthly rent. When Mr. Santiago moved out, he arranged with the management to allow Ms. Santiago to stay there and he moved into another unit where he paid the full price. In other words, Mr. Santiago is on the

lease to Ms. Santiago's residence and he resided there. **Ms. Santiago is not on the lease of Mr. Santiago's unit and she never lived there.**

4. Even though Ms. Santiago voluntarily dismissed her Petition, she did not end her other relationship. On Saturday April 18, 2020, Mr. Santiago had a discussion about this with his wife.
5. After that conversation, Mr. Santiago believed that his Wife was going to cause a problem the next day when he was supposed to have timesharing with his daughter. He even discussed this with his supervisor that night, expressing his concerns about her behavior.
6. The next day, Sunday, April 19, 2020, Mr. Santiago's fears were confirmed. His wife indicated that she would not follow the timesharing agreement and would not make the minor child visit with her Father if she didn't want to.
7. Mr. Santiago ultimately encouraged his daughter to walk across the courtyard to his unit with him. Unfortunately, Mr. Santiago was alone. His wife had her sister with her.
8. His wife followed him and forced her way into his unit. When Mr. Santiago attempted to keep her out, Ms. Santiago's sister helped her breach the door. Mr. Santiago sustained bruising and a bitemark on his arm. Mr. Santiago called 911 to report the burglary and to obtain assistance from law enforcement.
9. Not surprisingly, when the TPD officers arrived they did not assist Mr. Santiago in any way; they did not arrest his wife for entering his residence and battering him without permission, or his sister in law for helping her.
10. They did not photograph Mr. Santiago's injuries or immediately canvas the area.
11. Not only have they determined that they will not charge Ms. Santiago with anything despite her behavior on that date, but it has been brought to our attention that they are pursuing a Capias against Mr. Santiago for defending himself in his own residence. Again, this a residence that Ms. Santiago has never lived in and had no legal right to force her way into.
12. Ms. Santiago now claims that my client "dragged her through the courtyard," but this is not possible given that Mr. Santiago had his daughter's hand and was carrying a cell phone.
13. Apparently, the TPD is pursuing battery charges and charges relating to the child.

While it appears as though Ms. Santiago has been placed on leave, it is clear that TPD's main interest in this matter is in protecting one of their own. In any other case involving timesharing issues and similar facts, the party that entered the residence would have been

charged. Mr. Santiago has now been suspended without pay and will not be able to resume working until this matter is resolved. I am hopeful that after your review, you will No File this case as soon as possible, so that Mr. Santiago does not suffer any further negative effects from this incident. Again, by all accounts Mr. Santiago is an exceptional deputy, well liked and appreciated by his coworkers and his superiors. It would be a true injustice for him to lose his career based on the TPD's decision in this matter. I appreciate you taking the time to review this case. Please call me with any questions or concerns; I look forward to working with you on this,

Jennifer Mostert

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