



Chris Comiskey <[REDACTED]>

Mayor Pollino's Threat of Criminal Referral for Protected Speech on 8/12/2025 – Request for Confirmation, Correction, or Agenda Inclusion

Brandon Christian <Brandon.Christian@unioncountync.gov>

Tue, Oct 28, 2025 at 2:24 PM

To: Chris Comiskey <[REDACTED]>

Cc: Bo Caudill <bocaudill@villmercaudill.com>, James Maye <James.Maye@unioncountync.gov>

Dear Mr. Comiskey,

Please see attached the UCSO's response to your communication. Please note that you are to cease communicating with any UCSO personnel other than by calling 911 for emergencies. Should you need to communicate further with any UCSO employee, you may communicate through your attorney to me. UCSO employees are represented in their official capacities by me, and you are not to communicate with my clients directly.

Sincerely,

--

D. Brandon Christian

Chief Legal Counsel



Union County Sheriff's Office

Office of Legal Counsel

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From: Chris Comiskey <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 23, 2025 3:37 PM
To: Jake Stewart <jstewart@cshlaw.com>; Bob Marcolese <bobmarcolese@marvinnc.gov>; Joe Pollino <joepollino@marvinnc.gov>; Bo Caudill <bocaudill@villmercaudill.com>; Nick Williams <nickwilliams@villmercaudill.com>; Brandon Christian <Brandon.Christian@unioncountync.gov>; wilson@sog.unc.edu; James Maye <James.Maye@unioncountync.gov>; david.hodges@wbtv.com; Wayne Deatherage <waynedeatherage@marvinnc.gov>; John Baresich <johnbaresich@marvinnc.gov>; cc: [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; Victoria Comiskey <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Re: Mayor Pollino's Threat of Criminal Referral for Protected Speech on 8/12/2025 – Request for Confirmation, Correction, or Agenda Inclusion

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Dear Lt. Maye and Mayor Pollino,

This letter serves as a **formal Cease and Desist** notice demanding that both of you immediately end your ongoing campaign of retaliation, public disparagement, and coordinated efforts to silence our family's protected speech and political activity.

You both hold positions of public trust. Yet, your conduct toward our family demonstrates a repeated, documented pattern of abuse of power—using your offices and law enforcement authority to mislead the public, distort facts, and discredit private citizens lawfully speaking out about government wrongdoing in the Village of Marvin.

1. False UCSO Report – “Refused to Cooperate”

Lieutenant Maye, you oversaw or approved a false and defamatory UCSO record related to the [REDACTED] trespass and threat of physical violence that occurred next to our home on HOA land—an incident that we reported and cooperated fully on.

After that event, despite our repeated follow-ups asking UCSO to properly investigate the trespass and threat, **no police report was filed for nearly a year.** When a report was finally entered—by Deputy West after his visit to our home—it was falsely marked as “Refused to Cooperate.”

That is a **bold-faced lie**. We did not refuse to cooperate. We sought help and followed through entirely. The question is simple and unavoidable:

Why would you lie about that, Lt. Maye? Whose interests are you serving by marking a cooperating victim as uncooperative—especially after a year of inaction?

The record suggests that you were protecting the HOA, its management company, and Village officials who conspired to bury this incident rather than confront it. If that is not the case, then you owe the public and our family a clear, documented explanation.

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We demand that this false entry be corrected immediately in UCSO's records and that a written acknowledgment of the correction be provided to us within **ten (10) days** of this notice.

2. Public Retaliation and Misrepresentation – August 11, 2025, Council Meeting

At the **August 11, 2025, Village Council Meeting**, you, Mayor Pollino, and you, Lt. Maye, participated in a public exchange aimed at **doxing, discrediting, and humiliating** my wife for lawfully re-reporting what Detective Trull had already told her—truthfully, accurately, and with corroborating audio evidence.

During that meeting, Lt. Maye falsely claimed **multiple times** that he had “requested the audio several times.” In fact, there was **only one request**, which was denied for good reason: your office has made clear through word and action that you are aligned with the Village's political leadership, not acting as neutral law enforcement.

You knew that statement was false, and you made it in a public forum with the Mayor's prompting—an intentional act of retaliation and misinformation.

Mayor Pollino, your role in this exchange was disgraceful. You used the public's podium and your elected position to try to smear a private citizen rather than to govern responsibly. You turned a Council meeting into a political spectacle and used a Sheriff's Lieutenant as your mouthpiece to perpetuate falsehoods about our family.

These acts are not only unethical—they are **unlawful retaliation** against citizens engaged in protected speech under the **First Amendment** and **Article I, §14 of the North Carolina Constitution**.

3. Coordinated Misuse of Office

Your combined conduct forms a clear pattern: using **law enforcement and municipal power as tools of political suppression**.

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- You have targeted our family for raising legitimate
- questions about fraud, misconduct, and misuse of public authority.
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- You have deliberately blurred the lines between
- public office and private political interests, especially in your alliance with Councilmember Kim Vandenberg and her developer-aligned agenda.
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- You have acted in ways that erode public trust and
- put private citizens in danger.
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It is clear to anyone observing that your efforts to “manage” this controversy are not about public order—they are about **silencing the people who refuse to be complicit.**

4. Demands for Immediate Action

We hereby demand the following:

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3. **Immediate correction**

4. of the UCSO “Refused to Cooperate” report to accurately reflect that we fully cooperated with Deputy West and UCSO.

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10. **Written confirmation**

11. that the correction has been entered and any false statements retracted.

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17. **Cessation of all public references**

18. to our family and pending legal matters during Village Council meetings or any UCSO communications.

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24. **Public clarification**

25. from both of you regarding the false statements made at the August 11, 2025 meeting.

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31. **Assurance of non-retaliation**—that

32. neither of your offices will take any further action to intimidate or interfere with our constitutional rights to speak, petition, or advocate.

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5. Reservation of Rights

We are placing both of you and your offices on notice that continued misconduct or retaliation will result in immediate legal escalation. We are prepared to pursue claims under:

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- **42 U.S.C. § 1983**
- for violation of constitutional rights;
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- **Defamation and false-light torts**
- under North Carolina common law;
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- **North Carolina's Open Government and Ethics statutes;**
- and
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- **Referral to the U.S. Department of Justice Civil**
- **Rights Division** for review of coordinated
- retaliation by law enforcement and elected officials.
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We expect a written acknowledgment of this notice within **ten (10) days** and will otherwise assume your non-response as refusal to correct the record or cease the misconduct, which will be used as further evidence in any proceeding.

Respectfully,
Christopher Comiskey

On Mon, Aug 25, 2025 at 11:11 AM Chris Comiskey <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Mr. Stewart and Mr. Christian,

10/29/25, 7:59 AM

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I am writing to request formal clarification regarding a serious matter arising from the most recent Village Council meeting on August 12, 2025—specifically, Mayor Joe Pollino's threat to have me removed by Union County Sheriff's deputies, or even charged with a crime, based on the content and tone of my public comments.

After I concluded my remarks and stepped away from the podium, Mayor Pollino referred to my comments as "unruly," gesturing toward where I had stood and further commenting, "as we saw here today." This followed multiple improper interruptions while I was speaking, despite my comments being calm, lawful, and focused on fraud in connection with the Village's 2020 Land Use Plan and the manipulated word cloud presented as representative community input.

Let me state unequivocally: my comments were within time, delivered with due decorum, and directly addressed matters of public concern.

As such, I respectfully request one of the following:

1. Written confirmation that I am NOT permitted to make the same comments in the same manner, and similar comments in similar ways, at future Village of Marvin meetings without threat of removal or criminal enforcement—as the Mayor threatened on August 12, 2025;

OR

2. A public correction of the Mayor's threat, acknowledging that my comments were protected speech and making clear that no similar threats will be made toward residents engaging in such lawful public comment going forward.

I also request that this matter ("2020 Land Use Plan Fraud Investigation") be placed on the agenda for the next Village Council meeting for an open, transparent discussion of what steps we as a people should take to investigate this fraud committed on us—and not to be silent about it, but to confront and discuss the real implications of building a land use plan on fraud. Because once you do that, all subsequent commercial zoning decisions based on that plan are legally and ethically suspect.

A video recording of the meeting where this occurred can be viewed at the following link:

https://www.youtube.com/live/xd1_AW5x3dg?si=KVg5WTOBjaYOGCky&t=265

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xd1_AW5x3dg&t=1129s

The question is simple: Can a resident of Marvin speak openly about fraud in Village planning processes--as seen in this video--without being threatened with removal or prosecution?

The community deserves an answer.

Sincerely,

Chris Comiskey