

'He's lying,' Carlin says of chauffeuring claim

By JAY GROSSMAN
Staff Writer

Onkand County Sheriff's Department Sgt. Gerard Carlin said he never ordered on-duty deputies to chauffeur L. Brooks Patterson, despite a claim by a former Rochester Hills officer that Carlin ordered him to abandon a police stakeout to drive Patterson to a Red Wings hockey game.

Deputy James English told the county prosecutor's office that he was working a stakeout of an armed robbery suspect in 1992 when Carlin ordered him to leave the assignment and pick up Patterson at a nearby hotel to drive him to the game.

On Saturday, Carlin denied the incident ever occurred.

"Anytime Jim English drove, he was supposed to be off duty," said Carlin, the former commander of the Rochester Hills station.

"The fact is, English was paid in cash many times by the people he drove. So if he claims he was on the clock while he was doing this, then he was stealing from someone."

On Friday, the prosecutor's office released more than 5,000 pages of police interviews and witness statements related to the 10-month investigation into the department's work-release program and the Rochester Hills station.

Ten people, including Carlin and Rochester Hills Mayor Billie Ireland, face criminal charges as a result of that probe.

In his statement to the prosecutor's office, English said he was working when he chauffeured Patterson on several occasions in 1992. This was during Patterson's successful campaign for county executive.

Responded Carlin: "If Jim English said that, he's lying."

Patterson has repeatedly claimed he thought the deputies who drove him were volunteering their own time. The county executive also denies knowing that he was being driven in county cars.

Others claim Patterson did know the cars belonged to the county, and that some of the cars even had police radios mounted to their dashboards.

Patterson could not be reached for comment.

Another part of the report said that over the years Sheriff John Nichols has given away more than \$10,000 in county property to his political supporters.

Sheriff's deputy Jim Brook told investigators that in the past few years Nichols has given away more than 300 sheriff's stars, which are normally placed on the side of patrol cars.

The stars cost around \$38 apiece. According to Brook, they were mounted to pieces of county-owned wood by inmates at the sheriff's trusty camp, turned into plaques and then given to supporters.

Nichols could not be reached for comment.

In other developments:

■ Six command officers are appealing a two-day suspension they received after being accused of accepting 10 hours of unauthorized overtime pay while assigned to the Rochester Hills station in 1991. Prosecutor Richard Thompson said in October that the officers were pressured by Carlin to take the overtime. According to Thompson, the officers later worked the 10 hours.

■ Carlin filed a request last week asking Oakland County Circuit Judge David Breck to disqualify Thompson from the investigation and appoint a one-man grand jury to determine if the prosecutor or the sheriff's department broke any laws. Carlin said Saturday that one item he wants the grand jury to investigate is the claim Nichols stole the 300 sheriff's stars.

■ Carlin's legal defense fund-raiser is scheduled for Wednesday at the Rivercrest Banquet Hall in Rochester Hills. For more information, call 375-0725.

Colleges offer career counseling

The Oakland University Career Counseling Center and its companion center in Pontiac will hold open houses Nov. 13 and 23, respectively, to celebrate National Career Development Month.

The parent OU center has helped more than 8,600 people since it opened in 1983.

OU's center open house will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Room 143 of O'Dowd Hall. The Pontiac center, run by OU and Oakland Community College, will celebrate from noon to 3 p.m. on Nov. 23. It is located at 17 S. Saginaw. The Pontiac facility has been open since 1990.

Adults considering a career change or re-entering the job market can receive computer assisted career guidance programs and individual counseling at no charge

at the OU and Pontiac facilities.

The centers use computer programs combined with individual counseling to aid clients in self analysis relating to interests, values, abilities and experiences. The centers also provide job descriptions of careers, including salary ranges and training/educational requirements. Counselors help clients in selection of educational and training programs, resume writing and job interview skills.

The OU center is open six days a week. Interested adults are invited to call O'Dowd facility to set up interview appointments at (313) 370-3092. Hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

Howard Splete, the center's director, is a professor in the OU School of Education and Human Services. Assisting him in the center are graduate assistants Jeff Davis of Royal Oak, Amy Wolf-dron of Rochester, Kathy Hoffman of Grand Blanc and Jennifer Quayhacks of Eastpointe. All of the students are masters candidates in the OU counseling program.

The Pontiac center is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday. Call (313) 340-6793 for information. The counselors at this center are Michele Terbrugge from Oakland University, Clarisse Bolduc and Charlie Kurzer from Oakland Community College.

Abraham to meet with Young Republicans

E. Spencer Abraham will be the first 1994 candidate for the U.S. Senate to address the Oakland County Young Republicans from 7-9 p.m. Monday in the Leslie

Harcourt Green Room of the Bloomfield Township Library, located at the southeast corner of Telegraph and Lone Pine roads. Abraham was chairman of the

Michigan Republican Party from 1983 to 1991 and then served former Vice President Dan Quayle as deputy chief of staff.

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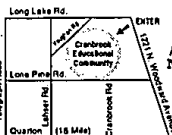
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