



Bill Federice <federicebill@gmail.com>

Fwd: Letter to Editor

2 messages

stinson <stinson@midtel.net>
To: Bill Federice <federicebill@gmail.com>, mayor@cobleskill.org

Sun, Dec 20, 2020 at 2:58 PM

Friends, FYI WRS

----- Forwarded Message -----

Subject:Letter to Editor
Date:Sun, 20 Dec 2020 14:52:45 -0500
From:stinson <stinson@midtel.net>
To:TJ <tjournalnews@yahoo.com>

20 December 2020

To the Editor

The Times Journal

The two local law enforcement agencies in Schoharie County, the Sheriff's Department and Cobleskill Village Police, continue their Law Enforcement Review efforts mandated by Governor Cuomo. Through that process we learned that both agencies have contracted with Lexipol Corporation to develop policy and procedure manuals.

Lexipol is a Texas based company founded by a former law enforcement officer and an attorney with the specific purpose of assisting police agencies and municipalities develop policies and procedures which will protect them from liability. It is instructive that the county's Lexipol contract is financed in part by a grant from the county's insurance carrier. We must recognize that Lexipol is working for the municipalities and police agencies, not the citizens of Schoharie County.

Of course it is entirely proper for local government and police agencies to be concerned for litigation exposure and the loss of public funds to satisfy judgments. However, we as citizens must be alert for proposed policies and procedures which would be injurious to the public: A particular policy might protect a police officer or municipality from litigation but in doing so reduces a citizen's ability to challenge police or municipal conduct.

In light of this reality such proposed policy or procedure manuals must be subject to public review. Ideally, adoption of such documents should be conditioned upon public acceptance, perhaps via referendum. Additionally, police union contract provisions, to the extent they restrict a citizen's ability to challenge police/municipal conduct, must also be subject to public acceptance.

Wayne R. Stinson

Summit, NY

Bill Federice <federicebill@gmail.com>

Sun, Dec 20, 2020 at 3:44 PM

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Check out the official Town of Conesville Website at:
<http://www4.schohariecounty-ny.gov/government/town-of-conesville/>