

03/18/15

Even knowing full well from the outset that I had done nothing wrong; that policy, procedure, and law all pointed to there not being a case against me; I was charged and prosecuted wrongfully, anyway.

My actions on the afternoon of the 26<sup>th</sup> and morning of the 27<sup>th</sup> of this past January were not wrong and were, in fact, completely consistent with Kanawha County Schools Policy J25 - Student Behavior; Completely consistent with Kanawha County Schools Administrative Regulation G50A - Racial, Sexual, Religious/Ethnic Harassment and Violence; And, above all, completely consistent with: Chapter 49 - Child Welfare; 6A - Reports of Children Suspected to Be Abused or Neglected; 2 - Persons mandated to report suspected abuse and neglect - of the West Virginia Code **(49-6A-2)**. **MAY**, I challenge everyone to read, for themselves, **(Google it)** what these documents say and stop accepting the spoon-fed drivel, propaganda, and pabulum that has contributed to the **'trial by media'** that has been going on for several weeks now which was specifically intended to create prejudice against me before any facts could be established in **the trial that is not going to occur** now!

In a nut-shell, the wrong person was accused; under the wrong part of the statute; with a crime that does not even exist even though an act of the WV legislature this past week during the final days of the regular session amended the statute 'to add clarity.' There never was a case against me. Only through **malicious intent** could this have happened. We should all shudder to think that this was a mere mistake!

On Monday, February 2, 2015 I was informed by the superintendent, Dr. Ronald E. Duerring and Kanawha County Schools general counsel Mr. Jim Withrow that the next day the Prosecuting Attorney would hold a press conference wherein the prosecutor would announce that charges would be brought against me for failure to immediately report an alleged sexual assault that occurred in our school building on January 26, 2015.

On Tuesday, February 3, 2015 that press conference was held and shortly thereafter (11:30) I was suspended **without pay** from my position as principal at Capital High School. That afternoon I resigned my position as principal at Capital High School and retired because I believed that it was the right, proper, and appropriate thing to do under the circumstances. And, was certainly in the best interest of our school. Nothing said in the meeting with the superintendent and the general counsel on the 2<sup>nd</sup> indicated that Kanawha County Schools would be supporting me at all in the forthcoming legal proceedings.

In fact, I was told by the Dr. Duerring near the conclusion of the February 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting: "Clinton, you need to seek legal counsel."

The suspension letter I received from Dr. Duerring dated 02/03/15 states: "Once the charges are resolved, a further decision will be made concerning your status with Kanawha County Schools."

Because of evil, vengeful, mean-spirited, vindictive people in high positions of authority and power, my family and I have been caused to endure a very humiliating, embarrassing, psychologically painful, emotionally draining, and, financially challenging experience – which includes **the abrupt and premature ending** of my 37 year career as an educator.

The obvious rush to judgment against me has been followed by an unprecedented level of character assassination that amounts to **a modern-day witch hunt**. This terrible experience is not quite over yet. And, the question: 'Why the rush to judgment in the first place?' begs an answer not just for me but for every tax-paying citizen in Kanawha County!

I want to thank my wife, my family, my church (Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church); The Charleston Black Ministerial Alliance and other faith based groups; my friends; former students; parents; teachers; and administrative colleagues out there who have been so supportive of me up to this point. My hope is that they all will continue to support me as we move forward.

I especially want to thank my attorney, Mr. James (Jim) Cagle for the outstanding legal representation he has provided me and greatly appreciated moral support. Clearly, he was the smartest man in the room today.

Finally, I continue to be eager for all of the facts in this matter brought against **me** – Clinton H. Giles - to be revealed.

Thank you,

CHG