



COMPTROLLER'S INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

Town of Monterey Police Department

November 7, 2024

Jason E. Mumpower
Comptroller of the Treasury



DIVISION OF INVESTIGATIONS



JASON E. MUMPOWER
Comptroller

November 7, 2024

Board of Mayor
and Alderman
P.O. Box 97
302 East Commercial Avenue
Monterey, TN 38374

Town of Monterey Officials:

The Office of the Comptroller of the Treasury conducted an investigation of selected records of the Town of Monterey Police Department, and the results are presented herein.

Copies of this report are being forwarded to Governor Bill Lee, the State Attorney General, the District Attorney General of the 13th Judicial District, certain state legislators, and various other interested parties. A copy of the report is available for public inspection in our Office and may be viewed at <http://www.comptroller.tn.gov/ia/>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jason E. Mumpower", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Jason E. Mumpower
Comptroller of the Treasury

JEM/MLC

INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

Town of Monterey Police Department

The Office of the Comptroller of the Treasury investigated allegations of malfeasance related to the Town of Monterey Police Department. The investigation was limited to selected records for the period July 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022. The District Attorney General for the 13th Judicial District was recused, and the results of the investigation were communicated with the District Attorneys General Conference, serving as *Pro Tem* in this matter.

BACKGROUND



The Town of Monterey (town) is located in Putnam County, Tennessee and operates a police department whose members serve a population of approximately 2,800 residents. The Monterey Police Department (department) follows the leadership of its Police Chief (chief) while employing officers to fulfill roles in criminal investigations, patrol, and evidence maintenance.

Members of municipal law enforcement are required to maintain 40 training credit hours per year, in training fields such as child sexual abuse, emergency vehicle operation, and eight hours of firearms proficiency. The Tennessee Peace Officers Standards and Training (P.O.S.T.) Commission regulates Tennessee law enforcement. Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 38-8-104, the Tennessee P.O.S.T. Commission is responsible for developing and enforcing standards and training for all local police officers, and for establishing standards for educational and training programs for police officers. Training programs that may seek P.O.S.T. certification include the basic police training required of all new officer recruits and continuing education training programs for police officers to fulfill the 40 hours of in-service training each year required by P.O.S.T. rules.

RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION

1. MONTEREY POLICE CHIEF BILL RANDOLPH MISAPPROPRIATED AT LEAST \$2,387.95 AND IMPROPERLY RECEIVED 36 TRAINING CREDIT HOURS FOR TRAINING NOT ATTENDED

Monterey police chief Bill Randolph misappropriated at least \$2,387.95 and improperly received 36 training credit hours for training he did not attend. Randolph enrolled in the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Officer's Association (TLETOA) 2022 Fall Conference. The conference was held at the Park Vista Hotel in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, from November 14th to November 18, 2022 (**Refer to Exhibit 1**). The conference registration cost was \$400 for members of law enforcement within the State of Tennessee. The town paid Randolph's conference fee as well as his \$25 annual TLETOA membership.

Exhibit 1



Digital flyer for 2022 TLETOA fall conference

Prior to the conference, Randolph asked one of the department's officers which classes the officer signed up for, and Randolph then enrolled in the same classes. The 2022 TLETOA conference required attendees to log their attendance by scanning a Quick Response (QR) code. Randolph did not attend any of the classes, but he scanned his attendance QR codes sent to him via text message by one of the two other department officers who attended the conference classes. Instead of attending the conference, Randolph and his wife visited restaurants and went shopping during conference hours. The two other department officers who attended the conference told investigators that they did not see Randolph in any of the classes. The town paid Randolph regular wages, overnight accommodations, and fuel reimbursement for this training, which he did not attend. Randolph received 36-training credit hours for the following conference classes he did not attend:

- 2022 Legal Updates & Opening Ceremony
- Designing Exceptional Training Programs

- Glock Basic Armorer
- General Department Instructor: ACADIS
- Child Sex Abuse (CSA) / Emergency Vehicle Operation (EVOC) / Mental Illness (MI)

Randolph advised investigators that in at least one instance one of his officers who attended the training sent him a copy of the QR codes via text message to improperly log his attendance. Randolph abused his position as chief by having a subordinate send him QR codes to log attendance, which is a violation of ethics. Randolph then submitted documentation of 36 training credit hours to the department’s General Department Instructor (GDI). The department’s GDI, one of Randolph’s subordinates, was responsible for maintaining the training histories of all officers in the department (**Refer to Exhibit 2**).

Exhibit 2

NAME OF COURSE COMPLETED OR CLASS COMPLETED: T.L.E.O.T.A. 2022 Conference	
NUMBER OF HOURS: 36	TEST SCORE: Pass
SPONSORING AGENCY: Training Officers Association <small>(Agency that provided the training)</small>	
TRAINING SITE: Gallinburg TN	
DATE(S) ATTENDED: 11/14/2022	To 11/18/2022
SIGNATURE OF AGENCY HEAD: <i>Bill Randolph</i>	
TITLE: Chief of Police	
A copy of the Certificate of Completion must be attached. No credit will be given without documentation confirming successful completion. Child Sexual Abuse, EVOC and Firearms Qualification must also be met.	

Documentation submitted to POST for TLETOA conference

Although he did not attend conference classes, Randolph improperly received training credit hours for the classes he was enrolled in. Randolph informed investigators that he felt he did nothing wrong but noted he would be willing to pay back any amount spent during the conferences he did not attend.

Randolph received the following payments and benefits from the town for his TLETOA membership and scheduled attendance at the 2022 fall conference, which he did not attend:

Category	Amount
Per Diem	\$275.00
Membership Dues	\$25.00
Conference Dues	\$400.00
Hotel	\$432.96
Payroll (Time)	\$1,200.00
Fuel	\$54.99
Total	\$2,387.95

On November 4, 2024, the Putnam County Grand Jury indicted Bill Randolph on one count of theft of property over \$1,000, three counts of official misconduct, one count of forgery over \$1,000, one count of false entries in governmental records, and one count of violation of Tennessee Personal and Commercial Computer Act of 2003.

The charges and allegations contained in the indictment are merely accusations of criminal conduct, and not evidence. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt and convicted through due process of law.

[Investigation Exhibit](#)

INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE DEFICIENCY

Our investigation revealed the below deficiency in internal control and compliance:

Deficiency 1: The General Department Instructor of the Monterey Police Department failed to maintain accurate training histories

The department's GDI failed to maintain accurate training histories by allowing Randolph to obtain credit hours for training not attended. The GDI reported directly to Randolph and was responsible for maintaining accurate training histories for each officer employed by the department. The GDI told investigators that he accepted training records from Randolph that he knew to be false because he feared professional retaliation. The GDI allowed false documents to be submitted and maintained as government records, and the town disbursed funds based on the falsified documents. Because the GDI served among the top leadership in the department, his acceptance of false records could damage the public trust in the management of the department and in law enforcement as a whole. Additionally, the acceptance and submission of false training records could increase the risk of legal liabilities.