

## Cannatelli Law Offices

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City Clerk  
City of Meriden  
City Hall  
142 East Main Street  
Meriden, Conn.  
06450

February 13, 2012

*Blaine J. Beane*

2012 FEB 15 PM 2:56

CITY CLERK  
MERIDEN, CONN.

Dear City Clerk:

RE: NOTICE OF INTENT TO SUE PURSUANT TO C.G.S. SECTION 7-465

I represent Police Officer Donald Huston, whose badge number is 410. Officer Huston is about to Commence a Civil Action against the following city officials: Personnel Officer, Caroline Beitman; Chief Jeffry W. Cossette; Deputy Chief, Timothy S. Topulos; Det. Lt. Walerysiak; Capt. M. Zakrzewski; Sgt. Leonard Caponigro; Lt. Michael Milslagle; Det. Michael Siegle,, President-Local 1016; John Williams, Union Steward.; Police Officer Evan Cossette.

On or about October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011, an internal affairs complaint was initiated against Officer Huston based upon charges of untruthfulness, dishonesty, neglect of duty, and violation of his oath. The complaint was one of many bogus internal affairs complaints which was not-sustained on or about January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

Officer Huston alleges a course of conduct going all the way back to November of 2010 which illustrates a course of conduct which violates Section 1962 of the Federal RICO Statute. Officer Huston alleges injury to his business or property by the above-named persons, who all have engaged in a Pattern of Racketeering connected to creating, controlling or acquiring an enterprise used for Racketeering Purposes, to wit: the Union Officials have tampered with witnesses to protect illegal police conduct, stemming from the Pedro Temich incident in May of 2010 to the present; they have obstructed justice by obstructing official investigations stemming from the Temich and Methvin incidents of May of 2010 and October of 2010; All Police Officials named have created an atmosphere of hostility and asked fellow-officers to withhold evidence pertaining to those incidents mentioned. They have used the police Internal Affairs Division to hurt Huston and other officers who have co-operated with official investigations, and have created a corrupt Internal Affairs Division that acts based upon favoritism, and nepotism. Officer Cossette was never properly prosecuted by the police or internal affairs for unjustified and illegal force used against individuals Temich and Methvin. Huston was charged many times with excessive force, by the Chief and Deputy Chief, for using less force than officer Cossette used. Houston makes a disparate treatment claim for many grievances and internal affairs complaints filed against him and prosecuted without

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Probable Cause from 2010 through the present. When Huston used appropriate force, he would be singled out, while the chief's son would receive little or no investigations or discipline. This relates to an incident on November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010 when Officer Huston had to use force to subdue a suspect. Sgt. Milslagle improperly placed Huston on Administrative Leave.

Huston has been singled out for disciplinary action, and marked by the Chief and a majority of the other police officers for inquiring into the Temich and Methvin cases. When Letters of Intent to sue were filed on or about March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011, and Officer Huston sought Freedom of Information regarding these matters, the administration retaliated against Officer Huston from that day forward. This includes some of the following:

The Chief has used the Internal Affairs Division to unlawfully harm Officer Huston, and used the Division in an arbitrary and capricious way to reward those officers who disagree with Huston. Officer Huston is a victim of unlawful police conduct, despite the fact he is a Police Officer.

Officer Huston alleges a pattern of abuses which include obstruction of justice, see Section 1961(1)(B); He also alleges obstruction of Criminal Investigations, and tampering with witnesses, and retaliation for co-operating with authorities to correct illegal, police conduct. See, Section 1961(1)(B). All this occurred while in his capacity as a police officer working for the Meriden Police Department from 2010 to the present. It is still occurring.

Officer Huston alleges a 42 USC Section 1983, 1985, 1986 and 1988 action also. Officer Huston alleges that he has in fact whistle blew when he wrote a letter to City Hall on or about April of 2011. He has utilized his First Amendment rights to communicate POLICE CORRUPTION to the proper authorities. As a result, he has been threatened by officers continuously since that date, and harassed by police officers in front of supervisors, who have also played a role in said harassment. Officer Huston has been tormented by the union, encouraging other officers to single him out, and to file Internal Affairs complaints against him for coming to the aid of Criminal Defendants who have been brutalized by fellow police officers. He has been punished for telling the truth continuously until the present.

Officer Huston has had his requests for Investigations ignored. He has been singled out for not protecting the Chief's son, Evan Cossette. He has been retaliated against for communicating Police Abuse in the Meriden Police Department and for co-operating with federal law enforcement. He has been treated differently from other similarly situated officers. He has been singled out for discipline when others have done much worse from 2010 until the present.

Officer Huston places the town on notice that each officer above will be named in a Civil Rico Suit, and will also be named in a 42 USC 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986 and 1988 action for violations of his civil rights.

Dated at Wallingford, Connecticut, on this 13<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2012.

Yours, very truly,  
Frank P. Cannatelli  
