



DODGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Dale J Schmidt Sheriff Chad Enright Chief Deputy

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Follow up to Arrest of Dodge County Supervisor Daniel Siegmann

On Tuesday, March 11, 2025, the sheriff's office was made aware of a video which Dodge County Board Supervisor Daniel Siegmann had produced, which made false allegations against Sheriff Dale Schmidt. This video was in response to the Ozaukee County Sheriff's Office arrest of Mr. Siegmann following his illegal entry into HoNoR Elementary School, 201 Center St in Neosho. The Ozaukee County Sheriff's Office was asked to investigate at the request of Sheriff Dale Schmidt to avoid a conflict of interest. Dan Siegmann was ultimately arrested and booked into jail by the Ozaukee County Sheriff's Office. The case was also prosecuted out of county in Washington County Circuit Court.

According to the Wisconsin Circuit Court Access website, Mr. Siegmann was charged with the Possession of a Firearm on Grounds of a School, a class I felony. The charge was pled down to a charge of Trespass to Land while Carrying a Firearm, a class B forfeiture of \$263.50. Most often, these plea bargains are made in cases like this due to a prior criminal history, acknowledgment of wrongdoing, and a comfort level by the prosecutor that the defendant has learned their lesson and there will be compliance with the law in the future. To be clear, Mr. Siegmann on more than one occasion, including in his video, admitted to violating the law.

In the video, that features Dan Siegmann and others, they try to allege that Sheriff Dale Schmidt had falsified a police report in violation of state statute. The video also features a former police officer who tries to imply that the investigation was completed inappropriately and who also alleges that Sheriff Schmidt had falsified his report, both allegations are false and without merit as shown below.

After this video was released publicly, Sheriff Christy Knowles of the Ozaukee County Sheriff's Office saw the video and ordered that a clarifying investigation be conducted by her staff to confirm or deny these allegations. In an email to the Dodge County Sheriff's Office, Sheriff Knowles writes:

"After seeing the video, it was determined that several witnesses needed to be re-interviewed based on the conflicting information being presented in the video. On March 14, 2025, after interviewing Honor Elementary School staff members Christopher Nesemann and Carrie Smithyman, it was determined their statements were consistent with the statements they initially provided to Dodge

County Sheriff's Office. The investigation illustrates that Sheriff Schmidt's accounts of the incident are accurate. It's unfortunate the release of misinformation can be done so easily and without being verified. I hope the verification of these witness statements can now put an end to any speculation that false information was provided by Sheriff Schmidt, as that was not the case."

To further clarify this issue, the Dodge County Sheriff's Office is releasing all reports generated in this incident for the public to review to make their own decisions.

Finally, the video questions Sheriff Schmidt's involvement in this case, implying that while the investigation was requested to be done by the Ozaukee County Sheriff's Office, the sheriff allegedly conducted an interview of the school administrator improperly. To be clear, proper investigation into an incident like this requires that initial information be gathered to determine if the activity being alleged could have occurred. If the administrator had provided information that the incident had not occurred and provided a reasonable explanation, no additional investigation would have been warranted.

After receiving information from concerned citizens who were not part of the original interaction between Mr. Siegmann and school officials, Sheriff Schmidt called the school administrator and asked if there was any validity to the complaint being made. When that phone call was made, the administrator confirmed the incident and provided a brief overview. As a result of the phone call, the sheriff confirmed that there was an investigation that needed to take place, and he determined that it needed to be done by another agency. At that time, he requested that the Ozaukee County Sheriff's Office conduct the investigation, not a neighboring county but one a bit further away, conduct the investigation to ensure no allegations of conflict of interest could be made.

To be clear, simply because the sheriff made the decision to request another agency, does not mean that the sheriff relieves himself of the responsibility to report any information which has been reported to him and as such, the sheriff documented all information brought to his attention for review by the Ozaukee County Sheriff's Office. The sheriff has the final authority to make this decision and the decision in this case was prudent and handled appropriately.

It is unfortunate that the sheriff's office must put out this release, but these allegations made by Mr. Siegmann and others involved in this video simply can't go unanswered. It is clear in the attached documents that these are false allegations and there are numerous misrepresentations of the fact.

Questions may be directed to Sheriff Dale J. Schmidt

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