



STONE COUNTY *SHERIFF LANCE BONDS*

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Statement to the Citizens of Stone County

From Sheriff Lance Bonds:

06/04/2021

In February of 2020, I began suspecting my chief deputy Zach Alexander, being involved in suspicious activities including internal theft. After suspecting this activity, I contacted my investigator and within 24 hours realized that my suspicions were correct. I immediately contacted the County Judge, Stacey Avey and the Prosecuting Attorney, Eric Hance. I then submitted a letter to Prosecutor Hance requesting that the Arkansas State Police look into these allegations. On March 2, 2020, Prosecutor Hance sent a letter to the Arkansas State Police requesting the investigation. I terminated Zach Alexander at the beginning of March, 2020. I immediately requested an audit. At the end of March and first part of April, the Legislative Auditor began looking into these allegations. Due to Covid Restrictions the case was prolonged. This case was turned over to the Arkansas State Police for further investigation. I cannot comment on the status of the case due to the fact, it is a State Police Investigation. However, I will not tolerate any corruption or theft within my department or anywhere else.

Respectfully, Sheriff Lance Bonds

Stone County Sheriff