
FW: Youth Gun Incident email 10

1 message

Edward Haberek <EHaberek@stonington-ct.gov>

Wed, May 16, 2012 at 3:47
PM

To: "rich@connecticutcarry.com" <rich@connecticutcarry.com>

Cc: Kristine Bell <kbell@stonington-ct.gov>

Edward Haberek Jr.

First Selectman

Town of Stonington

152 Elm St.

Stonington, CT 06378

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www.TownofStonington.com (*Town Website*)

www.StoningtonEDC.com (*Econ. Dev. Website*)

<http://ehaberek.wordpress.com/> (*Blog*)

From: Thomas Londregan [mailto:TLondregan@clsmlaw.com]

Sent: Thursday, March 08, 2012 8:28 AM

To: Edward Haberek

Subject: RE: Youth Gun Incident

Excellent points and response.....

Thomas J. Londregan, Esq.
Conway, Londregan, Sheehan & Monaco, P.C.
38 Huntington Street
New London, CT 06320
[860-447-3171](tel:8604473171)
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tlondregan@clsmlaw.com

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From: Edward Haberek [<mailto:EHaberek@stonington-ct.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 07, 2012 5:34 PM
To: Susette Tibus; Masterjoseph, Leanne
Cc: Thomas Londregan; Darren Stewart; scott bates; Jerry Desmond; Diana.Urban@cga.ct.gov
Subject: RE: Youth Gun Incident

Suzette:

Sorry for my delay in responding as I was in Hartford all day. I don't want to belabor the issue but as a Parent, Elected Official and former educator, I am puzzled by your "protect our children discreetly" comment. You can't educate youth on the perils of the dangers of firearms quietly. In any event, I am going to request that the Chief, yourself, Leanne, Gail and I schedule a time to sit down and discuss communication protocol regarding "critical incidents" that occur in the town. We have an excellent Emergency Management Plan that *includes a proper communication protocol* with various Departments and Officials. We have utilized this several times with our natural disaster events. I feel we should also have a written protocol regarding "critical incidents" that occur in town and rise to such a gravity and possible press attention. This will provide proper communication mechanisms(*excluding law enforcement details that must be maintained privately*) to pertinent town leaders and applicable departments. Also, this will provide an opportunity for assessment and/or improvements that may be needed. Such a review would provide insight to the response, actions, and follow up initiatives to be implemented. Many towns and cities have such a communication mechanism in place. I will reach out to each of you to find convenient dates and times. Thank you again.

Edward Haberek Jr.

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From: Susette Tibus [<mailto:isusettet@sbcglobal.net>]

Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2012 6:16 PM

To: Edward Haberek; Masterjoseph, Leanne

Cc: Thomas Londregan; Darren Stewart; scott bates; Jerry Desmond; Diana.Urban@cga.ct.gov

Subject: Re: Youth Gun Incident

Ed,

We are missing the point here ! I want to personally Thank the Chief, the Captain, Senator Maynard, State Rep. Urban and Superintendent Masterjoseph for working together to create legislation that empowers our officers, teachers, and administrators to protect our children discreetly.

Susette

From: Edward Haberek <EHaberek@stonington-ct.gov>

To: "Masterjoseph, Leanne" <Imasterjoseph@stoningtonschools.org>

Cc: Susette Tibus <isusettet@sbcglobal.net>; Thomas Londregan <TLondregan@clsmlaw.com>; Darren Stewart <DStewart@stonington-ct.gov>; scott bates <scottbates1966@gmail.com>; Jerry Desmond <JDesmond@stonington-ct.gov>; "Diana.Urban@cga.ct.gov" <Diana.Urban@cga.ct.gov>

Sent: Tue, March 6, 2012 5:16:21 PM

Subject: FW: Youth Gun Incident

Leanne:

I certainly understand your caution with language and am only going by the language in the email from our Town Attorney (*as you can see below*). I have not made any public comments in regard to this incident, except being questioned about when I learned about it. Thank you

Edward Haberek Jr.

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From: Thomas Londregan [<mailto:TLondregan@clsmlaw.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2012 3:45 PM

To: Edward Haberek

Subject: FW: Youth Gun Incident

We deleted the word "assignment" from the report. I understand that it was a school project....obviously unsupervised.....

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From: Masterjoseph, Leanne [<mailto:lmasterjoseph@stoningtonschools.org>]

Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2012 3:39 PM

To: Edward Haberek

Cc: Darren Stewart; Susette Tibus; Thomas Londregan; scott bates; Jerry Desmond; Diana.Urban@cga.ct.gov

Subject: Re: Youth Gun Incident

Ed,

Thank you for copying me on your email as well. I am wondering where in this officially released report there is mention of the item I have highlighted in yellow below? It is my belief that caution is warranted in this conversation going forward.

Leanne

On Tue, Mar 6, 2012 at 2:43 PM, Edward Haberek <EHaberek@stonington-ct.gov> wrote:

Darren :

Thank you for the email. Tom did send me a copy right away. Joe Wotjas did come in and ask if I was alerted of the incident when it occurred and I answered truthfully (*as I do*) that I was not. I learned of the incident in the press as others did who contacted me. I did speak with a Board of Education member this weekend who told me they were briefly alerted of the incident.

I am going to send Tom Paige an appreciation email. In reading the report, his professional work saved the town from a second tragedy this year. Personally, I still have a lot of questions and concerns of this incident. Also, it is distressing this incident was in relation to a **school project**. I think there needs to be an increased effort on the “consequences of guns” as a result of the incidents this year. Unfortunately, you can only legislate so much and that doesn’t always solve the issue. As U.S. Rep. Zack Wamp states “You can't legislate or litigate good, healthy behavior but we must be willing to educate people at an early age about the affects of unhealthy living.” Again, I appreciate the officers work in this incident and look forward to expressing my appreciation.

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From: Darren Stewart

Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2012 2:17 PM

To: Edward Haberek

Cc: Susette Tibus; Thomas Londregan; Masterjoseph, Leanne; scott bates; Jerry Desmond

Subject: RE: Youth Gun Incident

Ed:

I just received Tom's response in today's mail a few minutes ago (Tom-thank you for your quick reply and handling of this!). Please find it attached. If you are receiving any inquiries (including the press), please refer them to Jerry or myself. I am also sure that Leanne will want to answer any inquiries concerning school matters. Also respectfully please do not release this report third hand and again refer anyone wishing a copy to the PD as they will get the same information as Joe Wotjus. We have spoken with numerous parents and continue these dialogs. The biggest concern on parents part was that the press was going to publish the kids names. This was not provided to the press (privileged juvenile information) and in speaking with Joe he has no intention of publishing such. He knew he would not get this information anyways. As you will see in the report, there was no ill intent on the part of these kids, so there was no police action (arrest) otherwise Joe would have known much quicker. We were actually quite surprised by the lack of inquiries as the school did put out a notice to all High School parents of an incident that was quickly determined not to criminal and the police handled it. I think with Christmas week no one pick up on this or even asked.

Our focus on even coming forward was to educate the public (safety of the kids) and also in support of police officers that are placed in situations like we faced and get legislation that supports this. As it stand, there is a gap in legislation dealing with this issue; hence our trip to Hartford. Police Department's around the State and country are now regularly dealing with this and some quite tragically (ie Brownsville Texas in January where a police officer shot and killed an 8th grader waving a realistic looking handgun that was later identified as a pellet gun). We were not sure if a bill would get off the ground and sure enough it did. I hope this clears up any questions you may have.

From: Edward Haberek

Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2012 10:57 AM

To: Darren Stewart; Jerry Desmond

Cc: Susette Tibus; Thomas Londregan

Subject: Youth Gun Incident

Darren:

Please copy me on the FOI request information that you release. I received several concerning calls from parents and community resident regarding this incident. I would like to apprised of the facts and information as these concerns are discussed. Thanks

Edward Haberek Jr.

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--

Leanne Masterjoseph
Superintendent of Schools
Stonington, Connecticut

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