

Giorsetti, Megan

From: Glen Lineberry <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, July 8, 2024 6:04 AM
To: Giorsetti, Megan; Yanez, Karen
Subject: Re: Trial Issues & Concerns

Good morning and thank you again for the help with travel arrangements.

Please forward this to Ms Evans ahead of our call tomorrow.

In addition to the questions from my prior email below, I thought it might help to list out the encounters with Pettitt during my tenure as principal.

Spring 2015. My first year as principal, we had a kid with an extreme case of senioritis, and sent him a certified letter indicating he would not graduate unless he caught up his current classes. He initially claimed that he had turned in all of the work in question. Assignments do occasionally go missing but seldom for the same student in multiple classes, and those students are always able to do at least some of the math and to describe the subject of the missing term paper. Half a dozen family members showed up to see me, including Pettitt (the student was either her nephew or cousin). They repeated the work-turned-in argument first, but we dispensed with that. They then claimed that students had graduated previously under the circumstances, which I explained was probably true but that the Board had hired me to put a stop to it. Then they threatened to have me fired as their grandmother was on the Board. They did not know that she had already talked with me and told me to do the right thing. They left making threats. The kid finally turned in the work and legitimately graduated.

Fall 2018. Pettitt's older son was in 8th grade and failing social studies because he refused to learn to label a map with the states. The grades imperiled the boy's participation in sports and Pettitt filed a formal complaint accusing the teacher of bullying. She claimed that because the state's 8th grade standards did not include labeling the map, the teacher was violating the law with the requirement. Standards, of course, are minimal expectations, teachers are expected to go beyond them, and knowing where states are is pretty important when you're learning US history. After several meetings that included the teacher and the superintendent, the boy learned his states and completed the class successfully. The teacher later came to me to say that he was being careful to not hold the process against the kid. That hadn't occurred to me and, after discussion with faculty and admin, we added a line to our student handbook, "we are careful never to hold a parent's actions against a student."

Sometime in 2019. I have a distant cousin who is a principal in the Valley. He phoned to say that Pettitt had made a sales pitch to his district to provide certain medical services to their employees and had said that she worked with Miami Unified. He was asking for a reference. I checked with the district office and let him know that we had no such arrangement with Pettitt and had never discussed it with her.

Sometime in 2020. Pettitt phoned with concerns about her older son. He had moved out of her house to live with his father (Pettitt and the boy's dad shared custody.) Pettitt was concerned about a lack of supervision and that the boy had taken up with some new friends. I shared that we had not seen any negative impacts at school but would watch closely. She asked why he was being allowed to attend hybrid instruction on his old schedule rather than his new one, and I explained our 2-part decision

process – the student was not utilizing school transport or lunches, so wasn't harmed by the schedule, and it actually left him in smaller classes which improved instruction and social distancing. She then asked if the boy could be prohibited from playing sports since he was out of his natural district for hybrid attendance during the pandemic. I said no.

Dad came to visit not long after because Pettitt had asked the court to order the boy back to her house. Dad and the student were concerned about his living in a different attendance zone and that it would affect his sports. I reassured them with the same explanations provided to Pettitt. Dad asked if I would write a reference for the student when the court hearing came up and I explained that I routinely did that, and asked him to let me know when he needed it and to whom it should be addressed. He later emailed and said an email to him would suffice, and I sent the reference.

The court did not order the boy back to Pettitt's house and she began to attack both me and the judge.

Sometime in 2021. Pettitt and her husband went to the superintendent and said that I had written the court and intervened in the custody battle. I had not written the court but dad. Both the superintendent and I sent Pettitt the district's complaint form but she never completed it.

The pace of abusive emails picked up and Pettitt began posting on Facebook. The complaints covered a wide range of items:

- Poor hiring and management.
- Poor coaching decisions.
- She claimed that school leaders did not turn confiscated drugs into the Sheriff. Not only was this false but we involved the Sheriff in every single drug case.
- She claimed the district had not investigated a dozen or more claims of sexual harassment. This was equally false. The superintendent took every complaint seriously, investigation was a statutory requirement, and investigations were confidential so that Pettitt could not have known anything about them. This was dangerous because students and parents need to know the school will support them, and hearing that we didn't care may have kept folks from coming to us. Stories of kids who did come to us include a senior whose mom's live-in significant other had removed the bathroom door and was watching her shower, as well as a 6th-grader whose uncle was molesting her but "it's okay because mom put me on birth control".
- At some point Pettitt posted documents from the lawsuit I was involved in nearly 15 years previously. She was not the first person to post this public information, but she was the first to post it repeatedly and to keep escalating the amounts involved and the nature of the lawsuit.

February 2021. I emailed Pettitt in an attempt to clear the air. She responded that she was dropping a complaint off at DOE. We assumed that meant the District Office but nothing every appeared.

Summer 2021. Pettitt began posting the lawsuit information constantly and then in August emailed to several hundred students (minors who were not part of her family; who does that?). At this point the district's attorneys imposed the Parent Contact Management Plan to protect her rights while limiting the amount of contact she had with the school/staff/students, and the IT department blocked her email from sending to anyone other than the superintendent and me.

A few weeks later we received a call from the State Board of Education that Pettitt had reported me for violating privacy laws. We assumed this was retaliation for the Contact Plan. Turned out that Pettitt had

filed with ADE back in late February or March. ADE doesn't handle such reports and forwards them to SBE, but this was the beginning of the pandemic and the papers had sat in boxes for some time. We had a conference call with the district's lawyer and the SBE investigator who asked if I had sent a letter to the court (no), sent a letter to dad (yes), did dad have custody (yes). The investigator said I had done exactly as required. She eventually sent Pettitt a letter that what she alleged would be an offense but that it hadn't happened.

2021-2022. The Contact Plan required Pettitt to obtain permission to attend school events. She began emailing requests every week, as was her right, but then gradually increased the number of emails. We figured out from time stamps and identical wording that she was automating the emails and they were coming at all hours of the night. When she continued to request permission to attend her older son's events after he graduated, our attorneys filed for an Injunction Against Workplace Harassment. She continued to send the emails and was charged. There was a hearing in Phoenix when she asked the IAWH to be canceled at which she said she'd sent "an obscene amount of emails"; the hearing officer let the injunction in place.

The online harassment continued through my time at Miami and continues today. Just last month she posted on Facebook a series of things about my current project. She has attempted to reach out to my former wife, to the people I work with now, and who knows what else.

I think that brings us up to date.

On Tue, May 28, 2024 at 4:46 PM Glen Lineberry <glenlineberry@gmail.com> wrote:
Good afternoon. Can you please forward this to Ms. Evans? Thank you.

Three general things.

1. I am scheduled to speak at a conference in Tucson 19-22 July, and wanted to get that on the list before you finalize trial schedules. It's a longstanding commitment but I'm sure we can coordinate if the trial actually takes place.
2. I believe Pettitt is trying either to intimidate me ahead of testimony or hopes to claim that I'm retaliating. As you've likely seen she posted about my rural education project on Facebook last week, though it doesn't appear to have generated much response. She got nearly everything in her post wrong. This weekend she reached out via Facebook direct message to an employee at the Yavapai County Superintendent of Schools, which is the host for my project. This seems like a very direct attempt to place me in a difficult situation. I'd appreciate advice on how to handle it or, if you can, for you to shut her down.
3. After reflecting on our conversation about my testimony, I'm curious if we can add some things, specifically:
 - Is it possible to include the stories of her prior abuse of school staff? This would include her son's junior high social studies teacher, her posts that the district ignored sexual harassment claims,

her posts that school leaders didn't turn illegal drugs into the authorities, her email to the board secretary that she just wanted the superintendent and me to cringe when we saw her name come up.

- Can we work in the story of how I did not interfere in a custody case, as she accused, but simply followed the law?
- Can we work in her filing a professional responsibility complaint with the state because I followed federal law and provided her son's father with information (as required by FERPA and state law)?
- And should we include in direct testimony my lawsuit history? Seems like it might be easier to explain on direct than cross, and to get it upfront as something nearly two decades ago and entirely unrelated to her issues.

Thanks. You're the attorney and I'm not, so just tell me if I'm off base.

Glen