

**JACKSONVILLE SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**501 E. BAY STREET**  
**JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32202-2975**

**EMPLOYEE COMPLIMENT/COMPLAINT FORM**

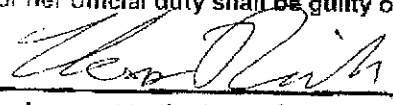
Nature of Incident/Event Subpoenas Issued for Private Internet Records	I.A. # (Administrative Use Only)
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SHERIFF'S OFFICE EMPLOYEE INFORMATION					CITIZEN INFORMATION		
Employee's Name and ID# (if known) Detective Robert A. Hinson					Citizen's Name (First MI Last) Thomas A. Rich		
Race W	Sex M	Height Unk	Weight Unk	Approximate Age Unk	Home Address, Apt#		
Other Identifying Characteristics Unknown					City Jacksonville	State FL	Zip Code 32223
Vehicle or Tag # Unknown	Vehicle Model Unknown	In Uniform Unknown		Race White	Sex M	D.O.B.	
Employee Vehicle Description (Marked/Unmarked, Color) Unknown					Home #	Business #	Cell #
Location of Incident/Event 124 West Ashley Street					Name of Witness (First MI Last) None		
Day and Date of Incident/Event 9/29/08 to 11/13/08				Time N/A	Witness Address None	City, State	Zip Code
Today's Date and Time 4/3/09					Witness Phone Number(s) None		

EXPLANATION OF EVENT: (Also list on the back any additional information, employees, witnesses, etc)

See attached narrative.

F.S.S. 837.06: Whoever knowingly makes a false statement in writing with the intent to mislead a public servant in the performance of his or her official duty shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree.

Signature of Citizen:  4/7/09

All information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Employee Accepting Form	Assignment	Date and Time

## Explanation of Event for JSO Complaint Form 4/7/09

I am filing this report to ensure that Detective Robert A. Hinson acted properly in an investigation involving myself and the First Baptist Church of Jacksonville, under Incident Number 920703.

From Detective Hinson's report for this investigation, he responded to a complaint filed by John Blount of the First Baptist Church of Jacksonville regarding an "internet incident" with "possible criminal overtones". Detective Hinson opened the case on 9/29/08, and closed it on 11/13/08 with no criminal activity found.

I subsequently discovered that as a part of Detective Hinson's investigation he requested at least 4 subpoenas to Google and Comcast to obtain private information on the owner's of the following weblog ("blog") Internet sites:

fbcjaxwatchdog.blogspot.com  
tiffanycroft.blogspot.com  
newbbccopenforum.blogspot.com

The subpoenas were requested between 9/29 and 11/13/08.

I am the owner of the first site listed above. It was a blog in which I write articles concerning the First Baptist Church of Jacksonville, starting in August 2007. For the security of myself and my family, I blogged anonymously and it was my desire to stay anonymous. It was well known among members at FBC Jacksonville that the church administration wanted to know my identity to attempt to shut down the blog as they did not care for the articles I wrote which were calling for more openness and accountability on the part of the church in regard to finances and a number of decisions made by the pastor and church administration.

Two weeks after Detective Hinson received the information requested by the subpoenas and after he closed his report, I received a letter dated 11/28/08 from the church administration at FBC Jax which accused me of owning the blog, and had attached trespass warnings against my wife and me, and the letter included the following statement:

***"You have been positively identified to us, by name and address, as the owner of fbcjaxwatchdog.blogspot.com, a blog site you own, manage, and/or control. We know you have authored and/or permitted to be authored the contents thereof for many months."***

The timing of this letter, just two weeks after Detective Hinson closed his report, makes me believe that perhaps my identity was obtained through the subpoenas and then released by Hinson to the church administration.

I have the following questions of the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office regarding Detective Hinson's behavior in this investigation:

1. Given that Detective Hinson is a long-time member of First Baptist Church of Jacksonville, was it appropriate for him to investigate this matter that involved a website that was critical of his own pastor? Given that this case involved subpoenas used to obtain my federally protected privacy information, it is troubling that these subpoenas were requested by a detective who had a personal connection with the pastor, and who maybe

had, as a member of the church himself, shared a desire for my identity to be discovered and given to the church.

2. Detective Hinson's two reports on this incident contain very little detail. There is no indication of what the alleged "Internet incident" was, there is no description of interviews conducted, no mention that subpoenas were obtained, no information as to what the reason was for the subpoenas. For a case that resulted in the detective requesting and obtaining my federally protected Internet records, and for which his report says there was no criminal activity, I would like to know on what basis he requested my personal information from Google and Comcast.

3. Given that Detective Hinson is a member of the church and serves on the security detail and presumably has a personal relationship with the pastor, who has made it very clear to members and deacons that he desired to find my identity to shut down my blog, I would like to know if Detective Hinson gave my identity, once he obtained it from Comcast, to the church administration. If he did, for what reason did he do this? Is it standard practice for a detective to release the federally-protected privacy information of a person that is part of an investigation, even though that investigation did not involve any criminal activity? This is a very serious matter to me, as I had a right to remain anonymous in my writing, and believe that the release of my identity to the aggrieved party, FBC Jacksonville, has caused my family great harm, and puts the security of my family at risk.

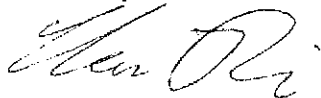
4. Although the other two blogs are not mine, I do know that they are not associated with FBC Jacksonville or my blog, I would like to know why our JSO is investigating Internet blogs and for what reason those blogs were subpoenaed as a part of this investigation involving First Baptist Jacksonville, and if any personal information regarding the owners' of these blogs was given to the administration of First Baptist Jacksonville.

5. I have obtained copies of the Google subpoenas, but have been unsuccessful in obtaining a copy of the Comcast subpoena involving my IP address. I have requested this from the state attorney's office under FI Statute 119, but have received no response. If there is another JSO case currently open regarding me or my blog site, I would like to know. If not, I would like to obtain a copy of the Comcast subpoena which Detective Hinson himself has admitted he obtained.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

I will make myself available for any interviews your office deems necessary in investigating these matters.

Sincerely,



Thomas A. Rich