

TIM LANE
Scott County Sheriff



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THE SENATE Ethics Complaint Form Re: Chris Cournoyer (Senator/Candidate for Senate/Lobbyist/Client of Lobbyist), of 35th Senate District, LeClaire, Iowa. I, Sheriff Tim Lane (Complainant), residing at 6362 200th St., in the City of Walcott, State of Iowa, hereby complain that Chris Cournoyer (Senator/Candidate for Senate/Lobbyist/Client of Lobbyist), whose address is 21932 Great River Rd. LeClaire, IA 52753, has violated the Senate Code of Ethics or Joint Rules Governing Lobbyists in that: (Explain the basis for the complaint here. Use additional pages, if necessary.)

As the Sheriff of Scott County, Iowa, I am making a formal ethics complaint against Senator Chris Cournoyer, who represents the 35th Senate District of Iowa. My complaint is based on her actions as an Iowa Senator in which I accuse her of: Harassment of a citizen, Use of confidential information to further her own interests or the interests of another person, disclosing confidential information, and improperly or illegally obtaining confidential information.

In September of this year, Scott County Sheriff's Office Sergeant Josh Wall was terminated following a Scott County Civil Service appeal hearing in which it was determined that Wall had conducted an unauthorized and rogue criminal investigation into Probation/Parole Officer Jennifer McAndrew. Jennifer McAndrew is my wife and an employee of the Iowa Department of Corrections, and his investigation centered around her actions supervising a probationer. His report recommended federal and state criminal charges and a civil rights lawsuit against Jennifer McAndrew.

His investigation began without a citizen complaint in June of 2023 and was completed in July of that year. Wall testified that he was the only person who knew about his investigation and that he kept a flash drive of investigative information at his home. Wall testified that he waited to write his investigative report until March of 2024 because he was busy. He testified that he turned the report and flash drive over to Senator Chris Cournoyer to take to the Iowa Attorney General. Wall testified that he was the only person who knew about the investigation and that he did not grant permission to Senator Cournoyer to access the report, make copies of it, or to disseminate those copies and make the contents of the report public. It was determined in the hearing that Senator Cournoyer had accessed the investigative report, made copies of the report, and disseminated the copies prior to turning it over to the Iowa Attorney General.

In January of 2024, Senator Cournoyer introduced Iowa SF2277 which contained language requiring the Iowa Department of Public Safety and the Iowa Attorney General to investigate anyone who is related to a Sheriff within the 3rd degree. When that bill passed out of

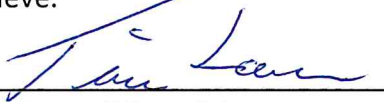
subcommittee, I received a call from the *Iowa Capitol Dispatch*. The reporter told me that based on an interview with Senator Chris Cournoyer, the purpose of the bill was to solve a problem within the Scott County Sheriff's Office. He asked me what the problem was, and I told him that I was aware of the bill but was not aware of what problem it was intended to solve. I also told him that it was the first that I knew that the bill was directed at the Scott County Sheriff's Office since me and my command staff had not requested this bill and that she had not talked with us about it.

In May of 2024, a letter signed by Senator Chris Cournoyer was printed in the *Quad City Times* in which Cournoyer stated, "I fully endorse Chris Laye in his bid for Scott County Sheriff..." and "The citizens of Scott County deserve someone who enforces the law who doesn't think he or his family members are above it." This statement speaks publicly to the content of Wall's criminal report. Senator Cournoyer was heavily involved in the Chris Laye for Sheriff campaign and Sgt. Josh Wall was the campaign manager and accountant.

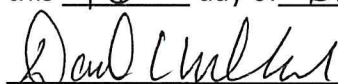
It has been determined that no laws were broken by Jennifer McAndrew and she is entitled to file her own ethics complaint on Senator Cournoyer. I would like to request an independent special counsel be appointed to determine, but not limited to, how she accessed the report, who received copies of the report or the information contained in the report, who Senator Cournoyer was introducing SF2277 for, whether the introduction of SF2277 was part of a conspiracy between Cournoyer and Wall to force the DCI to further the criminal investigation on Jennifer McAndrew, harass her, and put her job at risk, and whether the investigation was put on hold for 8 months waiting for a law change under SF2277.

Supporting documents upon request.

Under penalty of perjury, I certify that the above complaint is true and correct as I verily believe.


Signature of Complainant

SUBSCRIBED AND AFFIRMED to before me
this 16th day of December, 2024.

 Notary Public in and for the State of Iowa

