

Illinois State Police

Case #: 20-11711CC

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6521) Root folder\Top of Personal Folders\Inbox\Re: People v Matthew Brauer 20-CM-82
Comment

From Thomas Bruno <tombruno@tombruno.com>
To Brady Allen - Coles Co State's Atty's Office <BAllen@co.coles.il.us>
Sent 05/06/20 09:00:50 AM
Received 05/06/20 09:00:54 AM
Subject Re: People v Matthew Brauer 20-CM-82

I appreciate personal boundaries.

This was the only phone number included in the information that I received.

So I figured that somehow some member of the public got your cell phone. In fact, the screenshots that I've seen show that you are identified as Brady (DA)

That made me suspicious, since an Assistant State's Attorney would not likely refer to themselves as the abbreviation for a district attorney, an office that prosecute crimes in many other states.

I won't use your personal cell phone number to try to call you or send you text messages.

However, when I called the Coles County States Attorney's office yesterday at 4 PM, no one answered the telephone and no voicemail was available.--Thomas A. Bruno Bruno Law Offices LLC 301 W Green St Urbana, IL 61801-3200 Phone 217-328-6000 www.tombruno.com [http://www.tombruno.com]

On May 6, 2020, at 8:30 AM, Brady Allen - Coles Co State's Atty's Office <BAllen@co.coles.il.us [mailto:BAllen@co.coles.il.us]> wrote:

Mr. Bruno,

I am the attorney on this case. The number you are referencing is my personal number, which I do not use for contact with other attorneys. Just a personal boundary I've established for myself. It was not my intention for Ms. Houck to be given this number, but rather my office number. I can say that Ms. Houck did not receive any call from that number. I did have a brief text conversation initiated by Ms. Houck in which I obtained the name of her professor, in case he was needed to serve as a witness. However, I have no information about any denial by Mr. Brauer, any additional statements regarding the incident, or any additional evidence, exculpatory or otherwise.

Brady Allen
Assistant State's Attorney
Coles County State's Attorney's Office
217-348-0561

Prepared by: DFE Ray Gondek #9684 Initials: _____ Date of Report: 7/22/21

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6522) Root folder\Top of Personal Folders\Inbox\People v Matthew Brauer 20-CM-82

Comment

From Thomas Bruno <tombruno@tombruno.com>
 To Brady Allen - Coles Co State's Atty's Office <BAllen@co.coles.il.us>
 Sent 05/06/20 08:05:00 AM
 Received 05/06/20 08:05:03 AM
 Subject People v Matthew Brauer 20-CM-82

Brady, it is my understanding that you may be handling the above-referenced case. Please correct me if I'm wrong.

One of the witnesses, Elizabeth (Beth) Houck, reportedly has said that she received a telephone call from someone identifying themselves as "Brady," telephone (618)525-1044.

She reports that during the telephone call "Brady", presumably you, told her things that Matthew Brauer reportedly said.

Beth reported that the caller claimed that Matthew Brauer denied posting a photo, claimed that someone else had his phone, and denied being in class on the day in question.

If you believe that to be the case, please share with me your source for that information.

Please disclose to me any statements you believe you have that you believe were made by the defendant.

If there was a text message conversation with the witness, Beth Houck, please disclose that conversation to me, as it would be in writing if done by text message.

Of course, we all know you have a continuing obligation under Brady v. Maryland to disclose to me any exculpatory evidence known to you.

I look forward to working with you to get to the bottom of this case.

--Thomas A. Bruno
Bruno Law Offices LLC
301 W Green St
Urbana, IL 61801-3200
Phone 217-328-6000
www.tombruno.com [http://www.tombruno.com]

6523) Root folder\Top of Personal Folders\Inbox\Re: April 22 Incident

Comment

From Brianna Harshbarger <amiyah62714@gmail.com>
 To Brady Allen - Coles Co State's Atty's Office <BAllen@co.coles.il.us>
 Sent 05/05/20 04:37:15 PM
 Received 05/05/20 04:37:24 PM
 Subject Re: April 22 Incident

Hey I know what your talking about but I don't recall anyone getting charges?

Prepared by: DFE Ray Gondek #9684

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Attachment Flags 0
Attachment Hidden 0
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709) Root folder\Top of Personal Folders\Inbox\Re: People v Matthew Brauer 20-CM-82
Comment

From Thomas Bruno <tombruno@tombruno.com>
To Brady Allen - Coles Co State's Atty's Office <BAllen@co.coles.il.us>
Sent 05/14/20 03:12:46 PM
Received 05/14/20 03:12:50 PM
Subject Re: People v Matthew Brauer 20-CM-82

I certainly wasn't trying to be rude. Please extend to her my deepest apologies.
I'll get right to the point. This case should be dismissed.

In fact it never should have been filed. I was not hired for the purposes of negotiating a plea deal on a class C misdemeanor.

If you call witnesses, I will now be forced to cross-examine them with text messages that you sent suggesting what things you thought I would argue and what answers witnesses should give.

Every time one of your witnesses answers a question, I will ask them if you sent them a text message like the one that appears below with a suggested answer in quotation marks.

This probably results in you being disqualified as an attorney who could try the case because you will be a necessary witness.

No threat to blow up the school was made here. None was intended. Nobody took it that way. No crime was committed.

This young man, an Eagle Scout, was arrested and placed in custody over this matter. He is entitled to have his name cleared.

I'm sure you will agree with me that a prosecutor has a responsibility to not only be zealous to a cause but to do justice.

Matthew Brauer is requesting that this case be dismissed.

IMG [yes]--Thomas A. Bruno Bruno Law Offices LLC 301 W Green St Urbana, IL 61801-3200 Phone 217-328-6000 www.tombruno.com [http://www.tombruno.com]

On May 14, 2020, at 2:51 PM, Brady Allen - Coles Co State's Atty's Office <BAllen@co.coles.il.us

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[mailto:BAllen@co.coles.il.us] > wrote:

Mr. Bruno,

I was just in the process of reaching out to you. I would prefer to correspond by email, so feel free to address whatever it is you're wanting to discuss this way.

On another note, it was brought to the attention of myself and Mr. Danley that you were a bit rude to the administrative assistant you spoke with on the phone. I wanted to assure you that things will run much more smoothly between our offices if you do show our assistants respect. In the future, if you have a frustration, I ask that you take that up with myself or another one of the attorneys in the office and please treat our assistants courteously.

Brady Allen
Assistant State's Attorney
Coles County State's Attorney's Office
217-348-0561

From: Thomas Bruno [mailto:tombruno@tombruno.com [mailto:tombruno@tombruno.com]] Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 2:41 PM
To: Brady Allen - Coles Co State's Atty's Office
Subject: People v Matthew Brauer 20-CM-82

As you may recall, I am the attorney representing Matthew Brauer. This case is now scheduled for a final pre-trial on Wednesday, June 17.

I would like to have a telephone conversation with you regarding this case. It's difficult to arrange because I am working at home without the benefit of receptionist. If you'd like to schedule a time when you might be in your office, I can make it a point to call you then.

If you would prefer to discuss it by email we can do that. I'm not looking for an offer.

--Thomas A. Bruno
Bruno Law Offices LLC
301 W Green St
Urbana, IL 61801-3200
Phone 217-328-6000
www.tombruno.com [https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=http%3a%2f%2fwww.tombr...]

Prepared by: DFE Ray Gondek #9684

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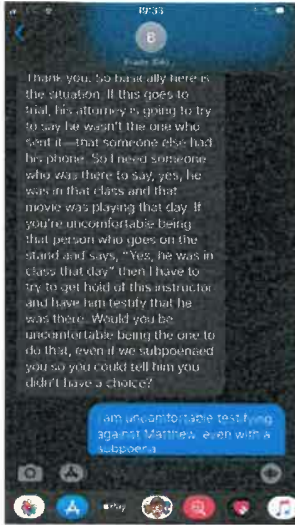
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Attachments

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 Last Modification Time 05/14/20 03:12:46 PM
 Logical Size 514,116
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710) AD81EE6A-6ECC-4869-A66B-2FB6ED314639.png
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 File Created 05/14/20 03:12:46 PM
 Last Written
 Last Accessed
 MD5 85861a6e09602528b5ed79c4240c4bb7
 Comment



711) Root folder\Top of Personal Folders\Inbox\People v Matthew Brauer 20-CM-82
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From: Thomas Bruno <tombruno@tombruno.com>
To: Brady Allen - Coles Co State's Atty's Office <BAllen@co.coles.il.us>
Sent: 05/14/20 02:41:19 PM
Received: 05/14/20 02:41:29 PM
Subject: People v Matthew Brauer 20-CM-82

As you may recall, I am the attorney representing Matthew Brauer. This case is now scheduled for a final pre-trial on Wednesday, June 17.

I would like to have a telephone conversation with you regarding this case. It's difficult to arrange because I am working at home without the benefit of receptionist. If you'd like to schedule a time when you might be in your office, I can make it a point to call you then.

If you would prefer to discuss it by email we can do that. I'm not looking for an offer.--Thomas A. Bruno
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