

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 16, 2004

TO: Z [REDACTED], Lieutenant

FROM: D [REDACTED], Deputy #7 [REDACTED]

VIA: Chain of supervisory & management personnel, err ... command

SUBJECT: Action, adventure and danger at the B [REDACTED] Superior Court

About 1540 hours on Monday March 15, 2003 the B [REDACTED] Courthouse and surrounding buildings lost power for an unknown reason. According to BPD Sgt. J [REDACTED], this outage might have been caused by an abundance of people using their air conditioners and was not the cause of any suspicious activity, unusual circumstances or threats of terror.

Deputy C [REDACTED] and I discussed the option of putting Deputy R [REDACTED] on standby just in case we were to need a tactical response or an additional calm levelheaded deputy. It was quickly decided that R [REDACTED] probably would not be needed, since when he comes to B [REDACTED], he has an unusual ability to get parking tickets in county cars and I am sure he didn't have his passport¹.

As a matter of prudence, the Commissioner did not take the bench. Dedicated to the very end and wise to leap on the opportunity to leave early, the Commissioner exited to a place of safety, only to leave behind a frightened mass of people who were being devoured by their own senseless fears.

At the time of the outage, the courtroom was full of people eagerly awaiting the start of the traffic trial calendar. When the lights went out, panic swept over the room and pandemonium erupted. Deputy C [REDACTED] was quick to leap into action and soothe the masses (he is a hostage negotiator you know) and prevent carnage, looting and general nefarious criminal acts that might occur in the dark. In a tone of voice, which really did not betray his panic, fear and sense of impending doom, Deputy C [REDACTED] told the room-o-people to exit in an orderly fashion.

Proving to be more useful than Deputy C [REDACTED] (or anyone for that matter) has given me credit for, I boldly stood in front of the exiting crowd (stampede really) and directed them toward the staircase of safety and away from the elevators of death.

With the public out of the way, Deputy C [REDACTED] was able to liaison with Nancy [REDACTED] the closest thing to a supervisor we had at the time (since Sgt. S [REDACTED] was off for the day and we are otherwise lost

¹ Its an inside joke, ask R [REDACTED] ... go ahead, I dare you, ask R [REDACTED].

without his calm, benevolent and commanding guidance²) to formulate a game plan which would allow the court staff to leave early for the day. Being as clever as she is and clearly not afraid to make snap decisions, Nancy called someone else for advice, Ben [REDACTED], the Court Administrator. He promptly told her to let everyone go home. Not one to argue with authority, the remaining staff completed their work and left for the day.³

In yet another example of our dedication and selfless sense of duty (mainly me, as Deputy C [REDACTED] just stood around and raided the candy supply), we stood by in accounting to wait for the Loomis Armored truck to arrive. I feared (well honestly Deputy C [REDACTED] did but I am taking credit for this) the power outage might provide to be an opportunity for evildoers to overtake accounting and steal the daily cash they receive from the fine paying public⁴.

With the Loomis dude safely away and accounting locked up all safe and sound, it was time to call the mother ship and notify a supervisor of our situation. Naturally Deputy C [REDACTED] wanted me to use my cell phone, but I quickly informed him that with my cell plan, the free minutes do not start till 7pm. Being the trooper that he is, Deputy C [REDACTED] made the call. We were instructed (by competent authority I assure you) to clear and secure the building. After completing that task, we were to dress out and go home.

Mission accomplished.

D [REDACTED] / d [REDACTED]

² See B [REDACTED], you are fondly remembered in a memo (as promised) and your name is spelled correctly-for a change.

³ Ironically everyone completed their duties in record time and left without complaining about having to leave early-such troopers they are.

⁴ Naturally we were mindful of the current budget issues and felt obligated to secure every tidbit of money for the cash strapped county.