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Kingsport officer arrested on sealed federal indictment, resigns from force

Rain Smith, Kingsport Times-News

Posted July 27, 2011 at 11:12 a.m.

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KINGSPORT, Tenn. - A federal indictment originating in Louisiana has prompted the arrest and resignation of a Kingsport police officer.

On Friday Richard Chandler was booked into the Washington County Detention Center in Jonesborough, Tenn. He remained jailed at the facility Tuesday, with Kingsport Police Department Deputy Chief Dale Phipps reporting Chandler resigned the day of his arrest.

Gregory Bowman, Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Tennessee, says he's familiar with the case, but could not comment on specifics as the indictment is sealed. He added Chandler is the only Northeast Tennessee man arrested through the indictment, which was filed in the U.S. District Court's Western District of Louisiana.

See full story on [The Kingsport Times-News](#).

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July 27, 2011
1:25 p.m.

R_U_10-87 writes:

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Seems the disturbing trend with local law enforcement officers getting caught breaking the law continues. The sad part is, if they are guilty they will resign and if they are innocent they will refuse to resign and get fired instead. The ones who get fired will lose their certification and never get another job as a LEO. The ones who resign can go to another agency and be an officer there. This keeps the bad apples in uniform while ousting the good ones. It's about time we consider going with a Metro Police Department like Nashville did and clean house. It will also save a ton of money not having to fund two administrations.

July 27, 2011
1:45 p.m.

forumgoblin writes:

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Proof that all cops are not good..the several in east tn that have had lawsuits filed or questionable practices documented..could very well be wrong..of course no one believes the citizens could be right.

July 27, 2011
4:51 p.m.

LeftLaneDRVR writes:

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It seems interesting that, with the frequency of such articles increasing, LEO commenters/sympathizers often use this section to work as Public Relations for their particular agency, with the excuse that the questionable increase in stress and/or danger is carte blanche for any indiscretion. Let's hope this is a trend on it's way out, or if that isn't the case, for an explanation.

July 27, 2011
5:08 p.m.

glockhead writes:

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in response to **R_U_10-87:**

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You know as well as I do, except in very rare circumstances, if you resign under duress, during an IA investigation or have criminal charges filed against you, you will never work as a LEO again...whether your POST cert is pulled or not, that is really just a technicality as hardly any department would be willing to pick up that baggage.

July 27, 2011
5:17 p.m.

glockhead writes:

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in response to **forumgoblin:**

Proof that all cops are not good..the several in east tn that have had

Three in custody in N. Knoxville double slaying, fire

Updated 8/18/2011 at 9:28 p.m. 73 comments

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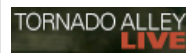
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lawsuits filed or questionable practices documented..could very well be wrong..of course no one believes the citizens could be right.

On average less then .1% of 1% of LEO run bad (better average then clergy, and congress members)...it is the bad apples that gave LE a bad name...you don't hear the thousands of good calls and good deeds...just the very few foul incidents.

We have over 1600 officers in Knox County alone between KPD and KCSO...how many of them have run afoul of the law in the last year? 3 I can think of off the top of my head which is .12% of the 2 agencies...

Almost every officer will be sued at one point or another...that is basically a given.

July 27, 2011
5:57 p.m.

LeftLaneDRVR writes:

oh, speak of the devil.

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July 27, 2011
10:36 p.m.

jturner2709#652024 writes:

in response to [glockhead](#):

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That is only because you protect your own. I have witnessed several bad cops and called on a few. There are beatings at the detention facility on a regular basis people are just to scared to pull those tapes and take it to court because it is a fact that our officers use intimidation on the citizens. But like i said you all protect your own weather they are right or wrong. Just stating the facts.

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