



David L. Marshak
Sheriff

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Jefferson County, MO



Timothy S. Whitney
Undersheriff

City of Byrnes Mill

5-4-2023

141 Osage Executive Drive

Byrnes Mill, Mo. 63051

Attention, Adam Thompson

Adam,

On Thursday, March 2nd the Sheriff's Office was requested to conduct a criminal investigation into the City of Byrnes Mill Police Department when a victim/witness presented evidence that Byrnes Mill employee(s) altered court documents. It was specifically alleged that the Chief voided traffic/criminal summonses for others before they were examined by the municipal Prosecuting Attorney, along with some other improprieties and/or criminal violations. After the witness signed the Affidavit of Cooperation, the investigation was assigned to Captain Nic Forler and Corporal Mark Nardoni.

The investigation was isolated to the criminal complaints outlined in the affidavit. Investigators conducted interviews and forensically examined digital evidence including deleted emails and messages. At the conclusion of the investigation, the report was sent to the Prosecuting Attorney's Office to determine if they believed there were criminal violations worthy of prosecution. A copy of the investigation was also sent to the Missouri Attorney General's Office as there were allegations the City of Byrnes Mill's processes were in violation of Missouri Supreme Court Rule 37, which outlines the separation of powers for municipalities that have their own municipal court system.

During the criminal investigation, however, officers shared concerns about some non-criminal observations. It is recommended that the City of Byrnes Mill hire an outside firm to conduct an audit and internal review beyond the criminal investigation conducted by the Sheriff's Office. Internal investigations focus on policy, procedures, and practices. Understanding accepted standards and implementing them will provide long-term benefits to the city and its residents. Early communication with city leadership indicated that an internal investigation was not likely. However, absent improvements, the city should expect additional challenges in the future.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Marshak'.

Dave Marshak – Sheriff of Jefferson County