



Frank Canarecci  
Sheriff

## Saint Joseph County Police

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### Press Conference

Date: 10-23-07

Time: 10:00am

Place: South Bend Police Dept.

Ref: Federal Indictments

I too want to thank and praise hard work of our local FBI Office and to the agents assigned to this investigation. There was a tremendous level of cooperation between all law enforcement agencies involved.

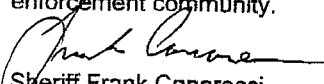
Andrew Taghon had been a member of the St. Joseph County Police Dept. for almost eight years. He was hired 08-04-1998. Mr. Taghon's employment was terminated on July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

Ryan Huston had also been a member of the St. Joseph County Police Dept. for almost eight years. Mr. Huston was hired on 11-10-1998. His employment was also terminated on July 5<sup>th</sup> 2006.

In the spring of 2006, I was contacted by agents of the local FBI office in regard to an investigation they were conducting that involved the above named individuals. During our first meeting, I was advised of the serious nature of the investigation. I immediately placed both Officers on administrative leave and initiated an internal investigation.

Both individuals did not cooperate with the internal investigation. Refusal to cooperate with an internal investigation is a violation of The St. Joseph County Police Merit Rules and Regulations. Their refusal prompted me to charge them with the Merit violation and to request a Hearing. I made a disciplinary request to the Merit Board for their termination. The Hearing was conducted on July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2006. It was at this Hearing that the Merit Board made their ruling and terminated employment for both Andrew Tagon and Ryan Huston.

No one is more upset with the alleged actions of these individuals than those of us in the law enforcement community.

  
Sheriff Frank Canarecci