

Marshal Pope indicted for paying legal fees with public funds (http://theind.com/articles.sec-75-1-INDReporter.html)

BY LESLIE TURK (BY-AUTHOR-8-1.HTML)



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May 25, 2016

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Lafayette City Marshall Office

ITEMIZED LOG OF TIME ACCRUED

DATE	SERVICE	HOUR	FEE
5/16/2016	Meeting with Clients Re:	1.00	\$200.00
5/17/2016	Prepare for Re:	1.00	\$200.00
5/17/2016	Telephone Conference with Alan Haney Re:	.20	\$30.00
5/18/2016	Attend Clients	3.30	\$645.00
5/18/2016	Conference with Outside Counsel Re:	.50	\$100.00
FEES EARNED			\$1,175.00
TOTAL CHARGES			\$1,175.00
TOTAL RECEIVED			(0.00)
BALANCE DUE			\$1,175.00

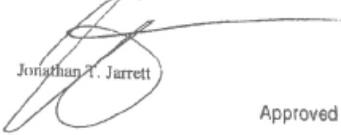
RECEIVED

JUN 3 2016

MARSHAL CITY COURT OF LAFAYETTE, LA

JTJ/ket

Yours Very Truly,


Jonathan T. Jarrett

Approved 


Name

6-13-16
Date

Last week a Lafayette Parish grand jury tacked two additional felony charges onto embattled Lafayette City Marshal Brian Pope, both of which are related to his use of public funds to pay legal bills.

A review of Pope's legal bills shows that the dates listed in the indictment coincide with two payments of legal fees to local criminal defense attorneys Jonathan T. Jarrett and Katherine Guilbeau Guillot.

While he would not comment specifically on the Jarrett and Guillot bills, District Attorney Keith Stutes confirms that the two new charges stem from the "payment by public funds of certain legal bills." Those legal bills are



City Marshal Brian Pope

Image courtesy LPCC

related to Pope's ongoing public records battle with The IND – which has sought to establish that Pope abused his office to advance Chad Leger's campaign for sheriff last year – and the now seven felony counts of perjury and malfeasance lodged against him by the grand jury.

That Pope might be popped on two additional malfeasance charges should come as welcome news to local residents incensed that the city marshal has been draining his office coffers to pay his legal fees, which have swelled to approximately \$150,000 (he still owes The IND

about \$200,000 for legal fees, costs and penalties awarded by the court in the civil case). While there is certainly some question as to whether Pope can legally use his office to pay his legal fees on the civil side, he cannot do so on the criminal side (though he can seek reimbursement if he's exonerated). The latter is where he got himself into more trouble last week with the grand jury, which initially indicted him on five felony counts in August.

The specific date listed on the Nov. 30 indictment for Count 6 is June 13, 2016, the same day the marshal's cost account cut a check to attorney Jonathan Jarrett for \$1,175, according to legal bills obtained by The IND in a public records request. Among the references in the partially redacted bill, dated May 16-May 18 of this year, is "Telephone Conference with Alan Haney." Haney is the assistant district attorney prosecuting Pope, which means Jarrett's legal work is related to criminal case and not the civil case with The IND. Jarrett, whose hourly rate on the invoice is \$200, declined to comment on what other services he provided to Pope.

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May 27, 2016

Mr. Brian Pope
223 Annunciation St.
Lafayette, LA 70508

Re: Brian Pope Writ Application

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED IN THE ABOVE-REFERENCED MATTER

March 28, 2016 – April 1, 2016	Multiple discussions with co-counsel regarding Multiple discussions with co-counsel and the Court regarding same; Presentation of Motions to the Court; arranging for client accompanying client	(10.0)
April 4, 2016 – April 20, 2016	Multiple discussions with co-counsel regarding reviewing application, preparing Motion For Extension	(18.0)
April 21, 2016–April 27, 2016	Preparing multiple drafts of writ application and legal research. Finalizing and filing writ application	(12.0)
Total		(40.0)

My hourly rate for appellant work is \$250.00 an hour. Please remit payment of \$10,000 at your earliest convenience.

Very truly yours,


Katherine G. Guillot

Approved

 7-13-16
Name Date

/kkg

The date for Count 7 is July 13, 2016, the day the marshal's cost account cut a \$10,000 check to Katherine Guilbeau Guillot, another criminal defense attorney who worked on Pope's appeal of 15th Judicial District Court Judge Edwards' decision to hold the marshal in criminal contempt of court, an appeal Pope lost (<http://theind.com/article-24194-SCOLA-denies-city-marshals-appeal.html>). Guillot says in the partially redacted invoice that her hourly rate for appellant work is \$250.

Last week it was also revealed that Pope might even bring a local attorney down with him in what started more than a year ago as a simple public records request from this paper (and would likely have ended there had he just complied). Chuck Middleton, the first attorney Pope hired who later withdrew from the case, was also indicted on a single count of perjury for allegedly lying to the grand jury. And, as it turns out, Pope may have escaped an additional malfeasance charge from a July 2016 Middleton invoice, which also references Haney, the grand jury and District Judge David Smith (who has been assigned the criminal case), because the marshal stopped paying Middleton in May, public records show. Middleton's last bill, which he calls a

demand for payment, says he is due \$10,910 for legal services in May, June and July.

A pre-trial hearing for Pope is set for Jan. 19; a criminal defense attorney has yet to enroll on Pope's behalf.

Read more about the indictments against Pope and Middleton [here](http://theind.com/article-24295-Marshal-Popes-ex-attorney-Middleton-indicted-for-perjury.html) (<http://theind.com/article-24295-Marshal-Popes-ex-attorney-Middleton-indicted-for-perjury.html>).



Attorney Chuck Middleton
Image courtesy LPCC

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(<https://clicking.wehaaserver.com/?keyplane=Woi1AAAI2V69SIQebP91kIpgT8ZHAJpXnptnBeOyDLsDGU1jUgQDkQB%2F5XCruoUYzmMMGdjVyRJEVtkpEn6pK1C%2F55jd4AtiZExFbdIgo%3D>)

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