



Yamhill Advocate <yamhilladvocate@gmail.com>

Complaint against James Wolfer

3 messages

Yamhill Advocate <yamhilladvocate@gmail.com>

Mon, Feb 6, 2023 at 11:20 AM

To: PoliceAdvisoryBoard@sherwoodoregon.gov, policeinformation@sherwoodoregon.gov

My name is Carey Martell and I am the editor of the Yamhill Advocate local newspaper. My reporting has been cited by numerous other media outlets including KATU2, the Daily Wire, National Review, The Daily Beast, Fox News, The Lars Larson Show, KSLM's Political Coffee with Keff Kropf, Newsmakers @ Noon on 1430 KYKN-AM and several other radio programs.

I am writing to file a complaint against one of your officers who I believe is using his reputation as a school resource officer to slander myself and my publication for his own personal political gain.

First of all, James Wolfer is a member of an extremist social activist group. The evidence for this is his participation in threads within the Newberg Equity in Education (NEEd) group. As detailed in the articles <https://www.yamhilladvocate.com/2021/10/meet-the-newberg-oregon-mafia-led-by-elected-officials-and-other-community-leaders/> and <https://www.yamhilladvocate.com/2021/10/part-2-meet-progressive-yamhill-the-parent-group-of-the-need-mafia-seizing-control-of-the-county/> NEEd was created for the specific purpose of organizing Indivisible political activism in the Newberg public school district with the stated purpose of introducing Critical Race Theory based policies to the school district. This is beyond dispute as it is stated as the goal in the mission statement for the Facebook group,

https://www.yamhilladvocate.com/2021/10/meet-the-newberg-oregon-mafia-led-by-elected-officials-and-other-community-leaders/#Newberg_Equity_in_Education_Exists_For_Teaching_Critical_Race_Theory_to_Kids

Both James Wolfer and his wife were members of the NEEd Facebook group during the time that the group organized harassment against Newberg school board directors Dave Brown, Renee Powell, Trevor DeHart and Brian Shannon. Evidence for this harassment, which included collecting personal information about them and using that information to harass their employers, friends, familie and even churches, is contained in the following links,

https://www.yamhilladvocate.com/2021/10/meet-the-newberg-oregon-mafia-led-by-elected-officials-and-other-community-leaders/#Evidence_of_Stalking_Newberg_School_Board_Members

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I regard this harassment to also include the organizing of multiple lawsuits against the school board directors, as evidenced in this section

https://www.yamhilladvocate.com/2021/10/meet-the-newberg-oregon-mafia-led-by-elected-officials-and-other-community-leaders/#NEEd_Encouraging_Members_to_Get_the_ACLU_to_Sue_The_School

Proof of Wolfer's participation in the group is contained in the following thread, where he posted using the account 'Jay Wolf'. Wolfer has since publicly admitted he used this account to post in the group so it is not in dispute that he was a member and that he made these posts where he espoused CRT aligned ideologies,

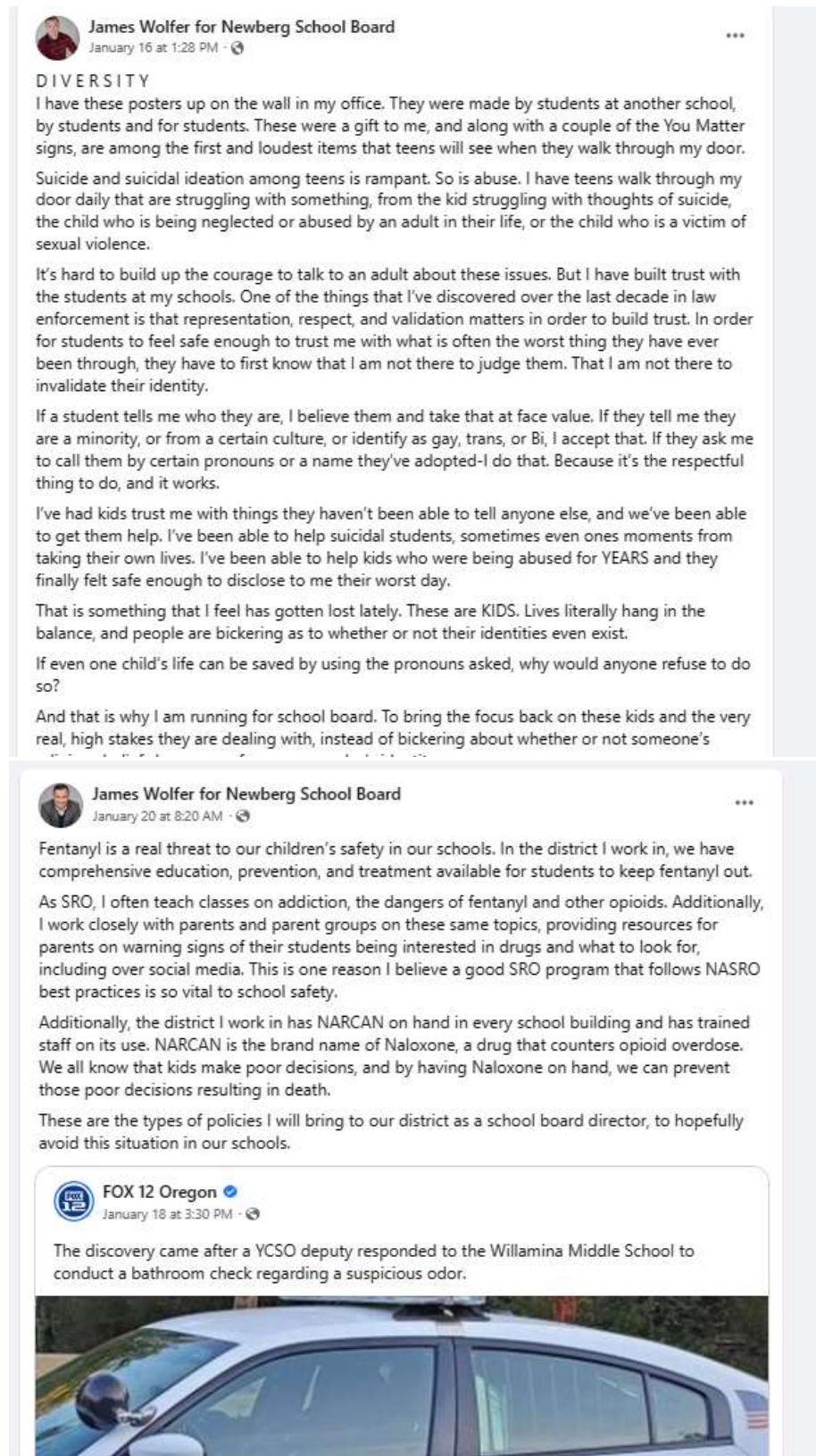
https://www.yamhilladvocate.com/2021/10/meet-the-newberg-oregon-mafia-led-by-elected-officials-and-other-community-leaders/#Members_Involved_With_NEEd_Who_Are_Veterans

This brings me to my complaint. The screenshots I attach to this email show Wolfer using his Facebook Page for his school board director campaign to make defamatory and false claims that I organized death threats against Newberg City Councilor Elise Hollamon by sharing my story of the attempts by Hollamon to have me arrested on false charges of violating electronic surveillance laws, which I did not do as Hollamon was recorded at a public event she participated in her capacity as a public official.

While I find it unsettling that Wolfer is a member of this extremist group and sympathizes with its agenda to indoctrinate children into extremist political agendas using the public schools (often against the wishes of parents) what I find more alarming is that Wolfer is using his reputation as a police officer to accuse myself and others of crimes such as

encouraging death threats. Wolfer has no evidence for this accusation and I can say this bluntly because I never have organized nor encouraged any such type of harassment against anyone. The entire reason I started the Advocate was to expose the NEEd group for the organized harassment they do against others as part of their activism.

It is also a fact that Wolfer is using his position as a school resource officer in his campaign materials, as he mentions his role as one several times in prior posts made to his Facebook page, some of which I have also attached to this email.



As such this is a situation where one of your officers is using his status as an officer to publicly accuse myself and others of organizing death threats against a public figure (Hollamon), which is a crime. He is accusing me and others of crimes

and he has no evidence for this, which is not only defamatory in nature but is also I understand an ethical violation for an officer. If Wolfer believes I have committed a crime he should be providing that evidence to local law enforcement, not making social media posts to slander my reputation.

Consequently I would like to file a complaint against James Wolfer for abusing his position as a police officer to falsely accuse me of a crime, knowing that others will add credibility to his claims because he is a police officer. He is not merely sharing his personal opinions as a private citizen when he makes posts on his campaign page about how he is a police officer, he is representing himself as a police officer of your department.

It is also my understanding this is not the first time Wolfer has had complaints filed against him for lying, and in my research about him it appears he has been discharged from other police departments for this kind of behavior in the past in addition to having a complaint seeking his certification to be revoked. It would appear this kind of thing is a pattern of behavior with him and so I think it's important for the department to be aware about his statements because his judgement as a law enforcement officer is clearly compromised by his political activities with the Indivisible movement. I personally consider his run for school board director just another way for him to gain clout with the group as he runs against Dave Brown, who the group loathes and which he thinks will allow him to freely defame the character of Brown as part of their agenda to retake the school board back into their control.

Carey Martell
Editor, Yamhill Advocate

2 attachments



wolfer defamation1.jpg
73K



wolfer defamation2.jpg
203K

Yamhill Advocate <yamhilladvocate@gmail.com>

Wed, Mar 15, 2023 at 8:40 PM

To: PoliceAdvisoryBoard@sherwoodoregon.gov, policeinformation@sherwoodoregon.gov

I have not had any response to my complaint. It has been well over a month.

Furthermore it has come to my attention that on his personal political campaign page on Facebook, James Wolfer has used information he obtained from his position as a police officer to make a post on his campaign Facebook page that defames me. I have attached screenshots of that post.

I also would view this as a form of intimidation and retaliation for filing a public records request. Is it common for your department to have officers disparage journalists on social media in response to a public records request? That does not seem to be particularly professional in the least and at the worst only serves to prove the legitimacy of the complaint I have filed against him, that his judgement has been compromised by his association with the extremist group Progressive

Yamhill that commonly uses harassment as a means of intimidation, in addition to their active support and participation in Antifa cells.

It is highly irregular for a police officer to go on Facebook and defame a journalist in response to filing a public records request. This is clearly designed to be retaliatory.

Also importantly, Wolfer admits in his post that he views my public records requests as 'threats' against him. I find that to be an unusual over reaction. His over reaction could imply that the reason he finds my completely lawful public records requests to be threatening to him is because he has something about this incident to hide and does not want to be looked into.

If I do not receive a response concerning my complaints I will be going to the district attorney offices and other regulatory bodies to file a complaint against your department for failing to take this matter seriously.

Carey Martell
Editor, Yamhill Advocate

James Wolfer for Newberg School Board's Post



James Wolfer for Newberg School Board

9h · 🌐

I was informed by my employer yesterday that Carey Martell and his publication, the Yamhill Advocate, had filed multiple public records requests in what appears to be an effort to try and "dig up dirt" to discredit me.

This is not the first time he has attempted to harass me at work. A little over a month ago, the day I filed for candidacy with the County Clerk, Martell filed a defamatory, false and frivolous complaint against me at work. The focus of Martell's complaint were accusations of me being part of a "mafia," among other ridiculous things. He ended his complaint with what could reasonably be construed as a threat - that if I did not withdraw my candidacy, he would drag me through the mud.

Newberg ought to be the kind of place where someone can run for a nonpartisan district office without having his or her character assassinated. Where City Councilors can do their jobs without death threats. Since the summer of 2021, that has ceased to be the case, and the vitriol and division that has gripped our town lately is one of the things I'm hoping to change with my candidacy.

In that spirit, I'd like to be completely transparent.

Every single police officer I know has faced some form of complaint at work. Less than 10% of Officer complaints are found to be sustained. These complaints come with investigations, sometimes from multiple agencies. That is exactly what happened to me.

In 2011, I reported several instances of misconduct by fellow officers in the Warm Springs Tribal Police Department. Instead of investigating my reports, one of which included a supervisor dealing narcotics, I was terminated. I was later cleared after taking a polygraph on my own time, and the State cleared me for further police work. For the record, the officer in question was later convicted of the very crime I reported to my superiors:

https://www.oregonlive.com/.../fired_warm_springs...

In 2017, at the Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department, I was falsely accused of excessive force and falsifying a police report after I used a Taser on a dangerous fugitive. It turns out that this fugitive had significant tribal political ties and I was asked to resign. Afterwards, independent investigations

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In 2017, at the Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department, I was falsely accused of excessive force and falsifying a police report after I used a Taser on a dangerous fugitive. It turns out that this fugitive had significant tribal political ties and I was asked to resign. Afterwards, independent investigations by four different agencies, including the Oregon State Police, the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) Police Policy Committee, my current department, and the District Attorney's Office in the county where I currently work, each came to the same conclusion: that I did absolutely nothing wrong. That I was honest and forthright. That I did not use excessive force. This was after extensive review of body camera footage, security footage, and multiple witness interviews from the gathered public who witnessed the event.

I am now in my fourth year with my current police department. I am almost finished with my second year as a School Resource Officer. I have received multiple awards, including multiple Meritorious Service Awards, and recently, a Lifesaving Award. I have received no sustained complaints and zero discipline. The coverage I've gotten from the mainstream press generally looks like this:
<https://nbcmontana.com/.../fbi-arrests-suspect-accused-of-...>

The vast majority of our community understands that the Newberg School Board race should be about students and schools. Attacks like this have no place in our town.

I hope others will join me in condemning any attempt at political intimidation by Mr. Martell and anyone in our community who supports him in that destructive effort.

Thank you.

Mr. Carey Martell,

I recently learned that you have submitted several public records requests to my current and previous employers. Specifically, that you have requested information regarding incidents I've been involved with as a part of both my current job as a School Resource Officer and previous employers. Since you purport to be a journalist, I will give you my statement on what occurred, as journalistic ethics would require you to quote from my statement in any article you may publish.

In 2017 the Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department asked me to resign after I

[Quoted text hidden]

Police Information (Shared Mailbox) <policeinformation@sherwoodoregon.gov>
To: Yamhill Advocate <yamhilladvocate@gmail.com>

Thu, Mar 16, 2023 at 3:35 PM

Hello,

Your email has been forwarded to the appropriate individuals for review.

Juliet Chiamulera

Police Records Specialist

Sherwood Police Department

20495 SW Borchers Drive

Sherwood, OR 97140

Main Phone #: 503-625-5523

Direct Phone #: 503-925-7100

Fax#: 503-925-7159



From: Yamhill Advocate <yamhilladvocate@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 8:40 PM
To: Police Advisory Board <PoliceAdvisoryBoard@sherwoodoregon.gov>; Police Information (Shared Mailbox) <policeinformation@SherwoodOregon.gov>
Subject: Re: Complaint against James Wolfer

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you are expecting this email and/or know the content is safe.

I have not had any response to my complaint. It has been well over a month.

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**James Wolfer for Newberg School Board**

January 16 at 1:28 PM · 🌐

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DIVERSITY

I have these posters up on the wall in my office. They were made by students at another school, by students and for students. These were a gift to me, and along with a couple of the You Matter signs, are among the first and loudest items that teens will see when they walk through my door.

Suicide and suicidal ideation among teens is rampant. So is abuse. I have teens walk through my door daily that are struggling with something, from the kid struggling with thoughts of suicide, the child who is being neglected or abused by an adult in their life, or the child who is a victim of sexual violence.

It's hard to build up the courage to talk to an adult about these issues. But I have built trust with the students at my schools. One of the things that I've discovered over the last decade in law enforcement is that representation, respect, and validation matters in order to build trust. In order for students to feel safe enough to trust me with what is often the worst thing they have ever been through, they have to first know that I am not there to judge them. That I am not there to invalidate their identity.

If a student tells me who they are, I believe them and take that at face value. If they tell me they are a minority, or from a certain culture, or identify as gay, trans, or Bi, I accept that. If they ask me to call them by certain pronouns or a name they've adopted-I do that. Because it's the respectful thing to do, and it works.

I've had kids trust me with things they haven't been able to tell anyone else, and we've been able to get them help. I've been able to help suicidal students, sometimes even ones moments from taking their own lives. I've been able to help kids who were being abused for YEARS and they finally felt safe enough to disclose to me their worst day.

That is something that I feel has gotten lost lately. These are KIDS. Lives literally hang in the balance, and people are bickering as to whether or not their identities even exist.

If even one child's life can be saved by using the pronouns asked, why would anyone refuse to do so?

And that is why I am running for school board. To bring the focus back on these kids and the very real, high stakes they are dealing with, instead of bickering about whether or not someone's

**James Wolfer for Newberg School Board**

January 20 at 8:20 AM · 🌐

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Fentanyl is a real threat to our children's safety in our schools. In the district I work in, we have comprehensive education, prevention, and treatment available for students to keep fentanyl out.

As SRO, I often teach classes on addiction, the dangers of fentanyl and other opioids. Additionally, I work closely with parents and parent groups on these same topics, providing resources for parents on warning signs of their students being interested in drugs and what to look for, including over social media. This is one reason I believe a good SRO program that follows NASRO best practices is so vital to school safety.

Additionally, the district I work in has NARCAN on hand in every school building and has trained staff on its use. NARCAN is the brand name of Naloxone, a drug that counters opioid overdose. We all know that kids make poor decisions, and by having Naloxone on hand, we can prevent those poor decisions resulting in death.

These are the types of policies I will bring to our district as a school board director, to hopefully avoid this situation in our schools.

**FOX 12 Oregon** ✓

January 18 at 3:30 PM · 🌐

The discovery came after a YCSO deputy responded to the Willamina Middle School to conduct a bathroom check regarding a suspicious odor.



[Quoted text hidden]