



**MIKE FLYNN**  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY GENERAL  
5TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

RECEIVED  
MAY 04 2015  
POST

April 30, 2015

Mr. Ray Farris  
Assistant Director  
State of Tennessee  
Department of Commerce  
and Insurance  
P.O.S.T. Commission  
3025 Lebanon Pike  
Nashville, TN 37214

**Re: Oak Ridge Police Chief James T. Akagi**

Dear Mr. Farris:

Thank you for your referral on the above-captioned matter. I have forwarded this to the TBI for investigation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Flynn", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mike Flynn  
District Attorney General

MF/ds

cc: Oak Ridge Police Chief James T. Akagi

ELDRIDGE & BLAKNEY, P.C.  
Attorneys at Law

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June 12, 2015

RECEIVED  
JUN 15 2015  
POST

Steven H. Cook  
Assistant U.S. District Attorney  
800 Market Street, Suite 211  
Knoxville, TN 37902

Re: Oak Ridge Police Chief James T. Akagi

Dear Assistant US Attorney Cook:

Thank you for asking my client and me to meet with you on Friday, June 5, 2015, and this correspondence will confirm the details of our communication.

Specifically, your office through United States Attorney William Killian, received a referral from the State of Tennessee Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Commission with an inquiry as to whether Chief Akagi had violated federal law involving the possession of a firearm during the pendency of his divorce proceedings.

As a result of your research, you have concluded that Chief Akagi violated no federal law and that, specifically, the letter from POST contained factual inaccuracies including, but not limited to, the notion that Chief Akagi possibly violated federal law by possessing a firearm while “under the authority of an active Order of Protection,” and by submitting his “firearms qualifications scores to the Commission which appears to be a violation of the aforementioned Order.” Pursuant to your research, you have determined that Chief Akagi was not the subject of an active Order of Protection which would have, pursuant to federal law, required him to dispossess himself of firearms. Furthermore, based upon your research, you have determined that even if Chief Akagi had been under an active Order of Protection as inferred by the POST correspondence, that a federal exemption applies to law enforcement officers such as Chief Akagi.

Accordingly, to summarize, it is your opinion that Chief Akagi has violated no federal laws as the plain language of the statute does not apply to him with regard to the entry of the ex parte Order and, further, to the extent that any Order of Protection had been entered following a hearing, which in this case, it was not, a statutory exemption would have applied in any event.

†Certified as a Criminal Trial Specialist by the Tennessee Commission on Continuing Legal Education and Specialization

Steve Cook  
Assistant U.S. District Attorney  
June 12, 2015  
Page 2

Because this inquiry was posed to you by Ray Farris, Assistant Director of the POST Commission, I have taken the liberty of copying Mr. Farris on this communication. As you will note, Mr. Farris may be reached at his office in Nashville by phone at (615) 770-3850 or via email at [ray.farris@tn.gov](mailto:ray.farris@tn.gov). I have attempted to reach Mr. Farris by phone but have not been successful in that regard.

I have also taken the liberty of copying US Attorney William Killian on this correspondence, as I have also spoken directly to him this week and he has, likewise, confirmed that it is the opinion of your office that, based upon the facts of this matter, Chief Akagi has violated no federal law and it is inaccurate for anyone to state or to otherwise imply knowledge that Chief Akagi's conduct is under investigation by his office.

If I have made any misstatements concerning the contents of our recent communications, please advise me at your very earliest convenience.

Again, thank you for taking the time to discuss your research with me and for confirming that Chief Akagi has violated no federal laws with regard to this issue.

With best regards,

ELDRIDGE & BLAKNEY, P.C.



TASHA C. BLAKNEY

TCB/anc

cc: Ray Farris, Assistant Director  
William Killian, US Attorney  
Chief James T. Akagi