



BARTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
1416 Kansas Ave.
GREAT BEND, KANSAS 67530



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Sheriff

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BRUCE GREEN
Undersheriff



April 16, 2018

Sheriff Brian J. Bellendir
Barton County Sheriff's Office
Great Bend, Kansas 67530

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

In Re: Burglary of 08/10/2017

It is my understanding you recently received a letter from the Barton County Attorney's Office stating the Sheriff's Office failed to follow up and investigate the burglary at your rural property. This is absolutely false.

As you know we impounded the suspect vehicle and conducted a thorough search of the property and surrounding area. We later contacted the registered owner of the car and interviewed him at the Sheriff's Office. The suspect invoked his right not to talk to the detectives, became angry and left our office. We retained the vehicle in our impound yard. We attempted to contact other suspects but were not able to do so. There is only so much we can do within the law.

During the week of September 10, 2017 my detectives had a meeting with County Attorney Amy Mellor about several cases, yours included. The detective explained the situation to Mellor at which time she indicated there was not enough evidence to file charges. That is her prerogative. She did not request any further investigation. Several weeks later Ms. Mellor ordered the suspect's vehicle to be released back to him. These conversations are well documented by my detective.

I have no explanation as to why Ms. Mellor would release such a statement. It is false and misleading. The Barton County Sheriff's Office is here to serve the citizens of Barton County and make every effort to investigate crime to the extent

possible. We are here to serve. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Most sincerely,

Sheriff Brian J. Bellendir