



**OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
15TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
KEITH A. STUTES
DISTRICT ATTORNEY**



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May 17, 2018

Mr. Robert Edwin Burns
4155 Essen Lane, Apt. 228
Baton Rouge, LA 70809-2152

- Re: Complaint against Lafayette Parish School System Board Members,
Past and Present (Malfeasance in the handling of matters regarding
Former Superintendent Pat Cooper)
- Re: Complaint against the W.D. Smith Career Academy (Lafayette Parish School
System) and Director Kevin Martin (in the administration of its cosmetology
program)

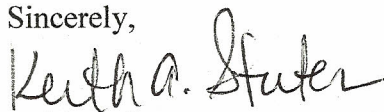
Dear Mr. Burns:

I did receive your letter of March 28, 2018 wherein you relate, generally, factual allegations regarding each of the matters referenced. In the first matter, you report that an Assistant District Attorney may be called as a witness regarding advice provided to the LPSS which may be the basis of alleged criminal conduct of certain "present board members and past board members" in not following that advice. As such, you request that this office "recuse itself from an investigation of the matter." You request that I refer this matter to Attorney General Jeff Landry's office for investigation. I will comply with your request.

In the second matter, you report that criminal activity may be occurring in the handling of the cosmetology program at the W.D. Smith Career Center (within the Lafayette Parish School System), which receives funding through the "Louisiana's Jump Program". You likewise suggest that a further investigation be referred to the Attorney General. I will also comply with your request.

I will forward to the Attorney General's Office a copy of your letter of March 28, 2018, along with my request for his assistance with the investigation of your complaint.

Sincerely,


Keith A. Stutes

KAS/md
Encl



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May 17, 2018

Honorable Jeff Landry
Attorney General
State of Louisiana
Department of Justice
P. O. Box 94005
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Mr. Patrick Magee
Director, Criminal Division
State of Louisiana
Department of Justice
P. O. Box 94005
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

- Re: Complaint by Robert Edwin Burns against Lafayette Parish School System Board Members, Past and Present (Malfeasance in the handling of matters regarding Former Superintendent Pat Cooper)
- Re: Complaint by Robert Edwin Burns against the W.D. Smith Career Academy (Lafayette Parish School System) and Director Kevin Martin (in the administration of its cosmetology program)

Dear Jeff & Pat;

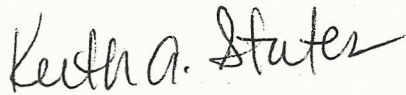
I am enclosing, regarding the above referenced matters, the letter/complaint of Mr. Robert Edwin Burns of March 28, 2018, along with a copy of my return letter to Mr. Burns of this date. Mr. Burns has in his possession more extensive information regarding each referenced complaint.

To my knowledge, no local law enforcement agency has been called upon to investigate these matters as complained of. Mr. Burns requests that I refer his complaint and any investigation arising therefrom to your office, as there appears to be a possibility of a conflict with this office.

I would respectfully make this written request to you (in accordance with La. Const. Art. 4, section 8(2)) for your assistance in the review, investigation, and handling, if appropriate, of Mr. Burns complaints. It would appear that there is a distinct possibility of a potential conflict, though not admitted or conceded, between the Lafayette Parish School System and this office, which would form the basis (out of an abundance for precaution, adherence to mandated ethical standards, and the fulfillment of a duty to public responsibility) of my election to recuse this office from the further review, investigation, or handling of any charges which arise from the referenced complaints and this request for your assistance.

Please advise at your earliest convenience receipt of and acknowledgment of this referral and request, favoring Mr. Burns with your response as well.

Sincerely and with personal and professional courtesies,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Keith A. Stutes". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Keith A. Stutes

KAS/md

CC: Mr. Robert Edwin Burns

Encl