

Best-Effort Transcript

Telephone Call with the Story County Attorney's Office

Recording files: Story County Attorney Call - Parts 1 and 2

Approximate length: 7 minutes, 52 seconds

Speakers identified: Sondra Wilson; office intake employee; Assistant County Attorney Mike Ringle

Transcript status: Best-effort; not certified or verbatim

Accuracy notice. This document records the portions of the call that could be identified with reasonable confidence from the available audio review. It is not a certified transcript. Bracketed descriptions identify transitions, uncertain wording, or portions not reliably transcribed. Quotation marks should not be used in a publication without checking the audio against the quoted passage.

Transcript

OFFICE INTAKE EMPLOYEE:

[Answers the Story County Attorney's Office and asks for the nature of the call.]

SONDRA WILSON:

[Explains that she is trying to report suspected fraud involving statements submitted by a local Ames business to the Iowa Civil Rights Commission.]

OFFICE INTAKE EMPLOYEE:

[Asks whether the matter has been reported to police.]

SONDRA WILSON:

[Explains that she previously contacted Ames Police and was referred elsewhere because of uncertainty about jurisdiction over statements submitted to the Iowa Civil Rights Commission.]

OFFICE INTAKE EMPLOYEE:

[Transfers the call to Assistant County Attorney Mike Ringle.]

MIKE RINGLE:

[Greeted Wilson and asks her to explain the matter.]

SONDRA WILSON:

Somebody committed fraud - a business owner committed fraud - against me, and probably against the state as well.

SONDRA WILSON:

[Explains that the statements at issue were made by a local Ames business and submitted to the Iowa Civil Rights Commission.]

SONDRA WILSON:

[Describes the sequence of referrals: Ames Police directed her to the Iowa Civil Rights Commission; the Commission indicated that no one had jurisdiction but suggested the Iowa Attorney General's Office; the Attorney General's Office then directed her to the county.]

SONDRA WILSON:

[Explains that Ames Police had not opened an investigation because Officer Schaefer wanted to determine whether the department had authority to examine statements submitted to a state agency.]

SONDRA WILSON:

He said if it came back to him that they would absolutely look into it. He just wanted to make sure that they had authority to look at those statements.

MIKE RINGLE:

Let me follow up with Officer Schaefer and see what the state of that investigation is.

SONDRA WILSON:

[Clarifies that Ames Police had not opened an investigation and that the issue remained jurisdictional.]

MIKE RINGLE:

[Acknowledges the clarification and says he will speak with Officer Schaefer about what Wilson has reported.]

MIKE RINGLE:

Let him know what you're telling me here and just get a sense of where he is.

SONDRA WILSON:

[Further explains her effort to identify an agency with authority to receive and investigate the report.]

MIKE RINGLE:

As soon as I have an opportunity to talk to Officer Schaefer, I will get back in touch with you ... and hopefully give you some information about what the next steps are going to be.

SONDRA WILSON:

It's been a runaround.

MIKE RINGLE:

[The call concludes after confirming that he will follow up.]

End of best-effort transcript.

Editorial Use Notes

1. Statements attributed to Officer Schaefer are Wilson's contemporaneous account of what he told her; Officer Schaefer is not heard on this recording.
2. Ringle's phrase "the state of that investigation" should not be presented as proof that an investigation had already been opened. Wilson immediately clarified that Ames Police had not opened one.
3. The recording most strongly documents Wilson's attempts to report suspected fraud and the jurisdictional referrals among Ames Police, the Iowa Civil Rights Commission, the Iowa Attorney General's Office, and Story County.
4. Any passage quoted publicly should be checked against the source audio, especially where this document uses bracketed summaries instead of verbatim dialogue.