

<b>BEAVER COUNTY DETECTIVE BUREAU</b> COURTHOUSE, THIRD STREET BEAVER, PA 15009	Page	1	Incident Supplement Page	
	Case No.		15-000115	
	Reported	03/16/2016	14:46	Wednesday

Title: **Dennis Nichols Interview**

03/16/2016 @ 09:30 hr.

*On the above date and time, Lt. Robert Chamberlain and this Detective interviewed former commissioner, Dennis Nichols at his residence, about the withdrawals of monies that were transferred to Comprehensive Health Care from Beaver County held bank accounts.*

*Mr. Nichols stated that he was unaware that Treasurer Connie Javens was taking money from the County's Friendship Ridge accounts and transferring the money to Comprehensive Health Care Management, until the story broke about the \$275,000. withdrawal. Until then Mr. Nichols believed only Vince LaValle was handling the money transfers to Comprehensive. He questioned what authority Javens had to release funds from a County bank account, and was going to question Citizens Bank about allowing Javens to withdraw funds on just her signature. He found that the funds could be withdrawn on only one signature and Treasurer Javens was authorized to make withdrawals from the account as per the signature card. Mr. Nichols asked Connie Javens as to why the Comprehensive funding requests were not done as a pass thru transfer by the Treasurers Office. Connie Javens replied by saying, why go through that, it's their money.*

*Mr. Nichols stated he does not recall ever approving or signing an invoice or request for payment from Comprehensive. He stated he never totally read the contract between the County and Comprehensive concerning the sale of Friendship Ridge, but did say the County did have a good cooperative working relationship with Comprehensive. He and the other commissioners relied on Vince LaValle, and the County Solicitor's to facilitate the transfer of Comprehensive funds from the county bank accounts, until Comprehensive established their own accounts. Mr. Nichols said he thought everything was going smoothly as per the contract, and stated that Comprehensive made an \$8 million dollar down payment to Beaver County to before the tax anticipation loan was due, and prior to the purchase of Friendship Ridge. Mr. Nichols stated the financial situation at Friendship Ridge was dire, and without the \$8 million down payment from comprehensive; the County may have had to shut down Friendship Ridge.*

*This Detective asked about the \$1.2 million "loan" that was made to Comprehensive prior to the closing, and I explained there is very little paperwork on the transfer of funds and no loan agreement can be found. Mr. Nichols recalled that Tony Amadio, Vince LaValle, Mordy Lahasky, and possibly Joe Spanik walked into his office and Vince Lavalle said Comprehensive needs \$1 million or a million plus. Mr. Nichols could not remember exactly what the money was needed for, but it was legitimate, and he agreed to the proposal. Vince said the money would be returned at the closing. At the March 2014 closing, the \$1.2 million was returned to the County. Mr. Nichols heard about the controversy involving to \$1.2 Million "loan" to Friendship Ridge and in February 2016, he called Vince LaValle and LaValle stated the \$1.2 Million was returned at closing.*

*Mr. Nichols also recalled the Law Firm of Clark Hill had billed the County \$7,000.00 for a report in the Fall of 2015. He doesn't recall the particulars of what the report was about, however he didn't believe the County owed Clark Hill for another report, and funds were not authorized to pay for this report.*

Officer ID :	Agency :	Reviewed By :	Date :
Tim Staub	TJS BCDB		/ /

