To: Capt Christian Hur (619-524-6784)
From Capt Kristopher Knebel
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AFFIDAVIT

5 pages in cluding lover page

AFFIDAVIT

AFFIANT, being first duly sworn, deposes and says of his/her own personal knowledge:

What is your opinion of Maj Scarselli as a Marine Officer? As the Provost Marshal? Please explain in great detail.

I have a lot respect for Major Scarselli, he is one of the best Marine Officers I have worked with. I have never worked with or seen another Marine Officer work so hard to improve the work life of his Marines. An example of this was his efforts to get the sun shade and misters installed at the main gate. The sun shade had been in planning for years, but as soon as he began to coordinate for its construction, it went up very quickly. He was just as aggressive in getting a mister system for the sentries.

On a daily basis he would walk out of his hatch and find Marines in the PMO court yard and talk to them. I have heard several Marines talk about how much they respected Major Scarselli, because they said they rarely saw the prior Provost Marshal, and Major Scarselli would stop what he was doing just to say hi to a Corporal. He would also spead to the Marines as a group during training days with no other staff members present to ensure they would not be shy about bringing up issues/suggestions. He sets the bar for "knowing your Marines and looking out for their welfare" for the Marine Corps.

What is your opinion regarding Mr. Gill's interview/investigation technique and process (please elaborate)? Was the IG investigation objective in your opinion or subjective? Explain.

When I was interviewed after I returned from Iraq, the interview did not have much substance, and was not questioned about the specific allegation against Major Scarselli. I was very surprised when I read the investigation.

I do not think it was subjective. My interview did not have much sustenance, and Capt Beck was not interviewed at all before he PCS'd. The two Marine Officers that worked the closest with Major Scarsell. should have been prime witnesses. I was also shocked to learn that no one from the K-9 section had been interviewed. After SSgt Baker's NJP, they brought up things he did that were worse than any of the other allegations in the investigation.

According to MSgt Scamman, Mr. Gill told him that I am a mini-Scarselli and just as dirty, and that MSgt Scamman needed to keep an eye on me. I was surprised to hear this because LtCol McGowan had told me that I was not mentioned in the investigation, and in no danger of being relieved. Mr. Gill's statement had a negative impact on the environment at PMO and my ability to lead as MSgt Scamman would tell me that everyone suspected of being dirty should have been relieved.

What is your knowledge regarding adultery allegations against MGySgt Humberston and other Marines and Maj SCarselli's duty or failure to investigate those allegations?

There were "rumors" about MGySgt Humbertson and Chastity Begg committing adultery. This one was first brought up when one of the dispatchers told HSSI (the contractor) she had heard this rumor. MGySgt Humbertson said that the rumor was ridiculous, and had to be based upon the fact that they talked a lot. Chastity said the same thing. There were never any specific instances brought up.

Cpl Crowder claimed that Sgt Elestad had slept with his wife. Sgt Elestad denied it, and Mrs. Crowder did not come in to make a statement.

What is your knowledge regarding any loyalty oaths issued by Maj Scarselli?

I have never seen Major Scarselli give a loyalty cath to anyone. I was his deputy, so I think I would have been one of the people he would have wanted to be loyal.

What is your knowledge of Maj Scarselli upholding height and weight standards at PMO? Rifle qualifications?

Major Scarselli was always concerned about how people look in uniform. Whenever I was with him and he saw an over weight Marine, he would make a comment to me about how he did not understand how they did not have enough pride in the uniform to lose weight. There was a time at the chow hall he saw an over weight Marine with a bunch of junk food on his tray, and Major Scarselli told him that he should not be eating all of that. Sgt James Potter was over weight, and his warrant for SSgt came and his promotion was withheld pending him meeting the standard.

Rifle and pistol qualifications were conducted at the ranges in Barstow. It had been that way before Major Scarselli got to 29 Palms. Transportation and support had always been coordinated through HQBN S-4, and to my knowledge the HQBN S-3 ran the scores. The fact that pur qualifications were taking place in Barstow was never hidden. There was an instance where one of the K-9 Marines popped for speeding in a GOV while transporting the ammo up to Barstow, and such instances always receive the attention of at least the BN CO. PMO had less than half the manpower it currently has, and was understaffed as opposed to overstaffed. There was a significant turn over rate of the FAPs, and the best way to get them all qualified was to do it for 2 sides of the house in Barstow. One side of the house would be at the range, while the other side would be working the road.

What is your knowledge of Maj Scarselli taking a P3T in December 08"

One morning in December 08, I went to the PFT field to run, and said hi to Major Scarselli, MGySgt Humbertson, SSgt Baker, and I can't remember who else while they were by the pull up bars. I started to run the PFT course, I did not run the whole course, they had started as I was almost done with my run.

What is your knowledge regarding Maj Scarselli tolerating or promoting the hazing of Marines at PMO?

He was absolutely against any kind of hazing. Everyone knew that during a promotion ceremony the backings for the chevrons had to be on

before the Marine pinning walked away. He did not allow anyone to pat the chevrons.

If he knew any of the Marines were getting hazed, he would have been upset. He worked hard to improve the work life of his Marines.

What is your knowledge of Maj Scarselli debriefing Marines after any IG interviews? Please explain.

I did not see this, and he did not debrief me.

What is your knowledge of Maj Scarselli doing MCMAP training with SSgt Baker?

I was in Iraq when this occurred.

What is your knowledge of Maj Scarselli trying to arrange for a PMO/Big Bear Cabin trip?

Every quarter Major Scarselli would organize a unit event, and put a significant amount of his own money towards it. The Big Bear trip had been brought up several times as one of those events. He had planned on renting cabins up there on two consecutive weekends for "both sides of the house." There was one instance in particular that I remember this being discussed in Major Scarselli's office. I was there, along with MGySgt Humbertson, SSgt Baker, and possibly Chastity Begg. Major Scarselli had said that he wanted to pay for it himself, but myself, MGySgt Humbertson, and SSgt Baker all said that they wanted to contribute.

What is your knowledge regarding how family nights were conducted? Were proper customs and courtesies regarding ranks observed? Were the events professional?

The family nights were a by product of right hand mans night, boss's night, and warriors night. Often PMO was the only organization that had a showing at these events, and sometimes the club staff did not know that it was on the schedule, so we started having equivalent functions at PMO. Tuesdays are PMO training days and eventually it became a unit event that the Marines were invited to. There would be hamburgers and snacks, as well as beer available to the "of age" Marines. There were games played such as "beer pong", "wash-shoes" and "corn hole". Beer pong was not played how it is usually played people were not forced to "chug" beer, and it was also made clear that you could play with just water. Wash-shoes is a game where washers are thrown into holes, and corn hole is a game where been bags are thrown into holes. As was typical for Major Scarselli, he would usually contribute all the money for food and beverages.

Proper customs and courtesies were always followed. The Marines always referred to myself and Major Scarselli as "sir". I would hear junior Marines pay proper respect to the NCOs and SNCOs.

The events were professional, and part of building unit cohesion. It was always treated as a unit function and not a "party".

What is your knowledge regarding Maj Scarselli allowing underage Marines at PMO to drink alcohol?

I never saw Major Scarselli allow underage persons to drink. an underage person would not have been allowed to have alcohol. I do not know why an underage Marines would want to break the law in front cf their whole chain of command.

What is your knowledge of Maj Scarselli fraternizing with any enlisted Marines at PMO?

I never saw any fraternization between Major Scarselli and any enlisted Marines. He is a very charismatic leader that the Marines loved and would go out of their way to talk to him. In fact, Marines would introduce their parents to him when they came to visit.

Major Scarselli had moved out of his apartment in Joshua Tree and into a house in 29 Palms. He told me that MGySgt Humbertson was having issues with his wife, and he was letting him stay with him just while they were working things out. I do not consider this fraternization, because it falls into the category of helping out a fellow Marine. MGySgt Humbertson always referred to Major Scarselli as "sir", and Major Scarselli always referred to MGySgt Humbertson as "Master Guns".

What is your knowledge of Maj Scarselli ever borrowing money from Marines at PMO?

I never saw Major Scarselli try to borrow money from anyone. I am a single officer with roommates, so I think that I would have been the ideal person to borrow money from. Major Scarselli often paid for peoples meals when going to the chow hall, and would contribute significant sums of money toward unit functions. It appeared to me that he was in a good financial position, since he was always spending money on other people.

Kristopher J. Knobel
Print Name
Signature

11 Dec 2007
Date

Subscribed and sworn to before me on _____ at MCRD, San Diego, California.

C. P. HUR Captain, USMC

Authorized to administer oaths and act as notary by 10 USC 936 and 10 USC 1044a. No seal required.