

# CALUMET COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Complaint No.  
05-0157-955

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File Number

**TYPE OF ACTIVITY:** Interview of Thomas E. Pearce

**DATE OF ACTIVITY:** 11/04/05

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Inv. John Dederling

## DOCUMENTS

**GENERATED:** None

On Friday, 11/04/05 at 1558 hrs., Inv. WIEGERT and I did interview the following individual regarding this matter:

THOMAS E. PEARCE

DOB [REDACTED]48

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Home Phone [REDACTED]

The interview took place at his place of business, PEARCE PHOTOGRAPHY, located at [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

PEARCE indicated that TERESA HALBACH and he have known one another four to five years in total. He indicated TERESA interned at his studio during her last year of school at UW GREEN BAY. He stated that once TERESA graduated, she stayed on first as a payroll employee of his and then he and TERESA actually set up two separate businesses under one roof. He stated this has gone on almost two years. He stated TERESA is a very helpful and responsible individual, and stated that the business arrangement is that they will take care of each other's appointments and bookings, etc. He stated that he has never discussed how well TERESA is doing financially because he believes it is none of his concern.

He stated that they became good friends as well as coworkers.

He indicated that he was not aware of TERESA dating anyone. He stated TERESA would perhaps go to movies with individuals but he is not sure with whom. He stated that she does have three or four male friends who are motorcycle racers and she would on occasion accompany them to ROAD AMERICA to watch motorcycle racing there. He stated that he believed that if TERESA was only seeing one person in particular, THOMAS would know about it.

PEARCE indicated that invariably TERESA would notify him if she would be gone for an extended period. He did indicate that her employment with AUTO TRADER has been taking up quite a bit of her time.

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He stated that the photo studio is closed on Mondays, and he did not believe that TERESA had any bookings on Tuesday. TERESA did mention to him that she would see him on Tuesday, 11/01/05. He stated that TERESA had plans to attend a business marketing meeting on Wednesday, 11/02/05, and indicated that she would be in between 11:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon on Wednesday. He stated that when she did not appear at the studio or go to the business marketing meeting on Wednesday, he became concerned for her.

He stated when TERESA did not appear at the studio on Thursday, 11/03/05, he became extremely concerned and after lunch, he became really worried. He stated he called TERESA's cellular phone and learned that her mailbox was full. He stated that this was extremely concerning to him as she invariably will check her messages numerous times throughout the course of the day.

THOMAS indicated that he then called TERESA's mom, KAREN, who indicated that she would begin calling TERESA's friends in an attempt to locate her.

PEARCE indicated he does not have a fax machine on his premises. He indicated TERESA was provided with a fax machine by AUTO TRADER. He stated TERESA would fax in the amount of work or contacts she had in the course of a business day to AUTO TRADER; and she would be paid according to the contacts from the faxes.

PEARCE went on to indicate that recently TERESA had been receiving a lot of telephone calls that she would not answer. THOMAS indicated that these phone calls would have no message and apparently were coming from a phone number she did not recognize. PEARCE indicated that TERESA told him that someone keeps calling and not leaving a message. TERESA stated, "I won't call them back." THOMAS indicated that it appeared as though TERESA did not know who was calling. He stated that this began in early to mid summer, there was a break in this routine and then approximately three weeks ago, this started again. THOMAS believed that the phone calls were always originating from the same number.

THOMAS indicated if TERESA was upset by these calls, she didn't let on that it did upset her. THOMAS indicated that she had told him that she had had a problem during the time she was working for AUTO TRADER. He stated that she had told him she had gone to photograph a car and the individual who owned the vehicle invited her in and made some verbal comments, which she found made her uncomfortable, and at this point she left.

THOMAS indicated he did not know whether TERESA would give out cards to AUTO TRADER clients with her cellular phone number listed on it. He stated that she would get calls from the AUTO TRADER who weren't necessarily satisfied with the AUTO TRADERS performance. THOMAS indicated that she would usually tell the clients not to call her but to call the AUTO TRADER about this.

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PEARCE went on to indicate that TERESA began working with AUTO TRADER during the summer of 2004.

TOM indicated that he was unsure as to whether TERESA possessed a gazetteer but stated that she knew about a lot of short cuts and back roads. He states TERESA also keeps very current maps of the area in her vehicle because of the amount of travel she does for AUTO TRADER in addition to the travel she does for photographing weddings.

I did notice that THOMAS PEARCE, from time to time, would speak about TERESA in the past tense.

THOMAS PEARCE indicated that TERESA appeared to be doing "okay" with her photography business, given the amount of experience she has in the photography business.

THOMAS was asked about places that TERESA mentioned that she would like to go. He stated that he could not think of any other than perhaps going to Milwaukee or Chicago. He did state, however, that she would let THOMAS know before she went on any trips like this.

TOM PEARCE indicated that he doesn't know TERESA to carry large amounts of cash. The interview with Mr. PEARCE terminated at approximately 1650 hrs.

Investigation continues.

John Dederling, inv.  
Calumet Co. Sheriff's Dept.  
JD/ds