



Believe It or Not: Part II

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At Commercial Investigations, we hear and see many interesting things from the subjects of our background investigations. Sometimes we pause and think, "Wait...what did I just read?" It is not every day you get to know the reason behind someone's convictions, or his or her explanation as to why such crimes were committed. In this issue, we are sharing some intriguing, thought-provoking, and just plain hilarious disclosures. It is up to you to determine what is fact and what is fiction! You can see the answer, true or false, by checking the bottom of the article after reading. No cheating!

Disclaimer: Some names and identifying details have been slightly altered to protect the privacy of individuals.

- 1. A subject disclosed they opened a cop car for their friend so he could escape, while at a Jimmy Buffet Concert.
2. A subject disclosed, "Somebody took stuff from me so I went to go get it back and it turns out that was wrong."
3. A subject disclosed that while going out to the bars one night, they ended up trying to fight someone. They later found out it was not a person they fought, but a lamppost...they were charged with public intoxication and property damage.
4. A subject disclosed while they were backing out of their driveway, they accidentally hit their wife. Luckily their charges were dropped but their wife was left with a fractured arm.
5. A subject disclosed they tried to rescue chickens that were trapped on an egg farm; at the time, they did not know it was a crime.
6. A subject disclosed that while they were working at a grocery store, the manager was stealing random items throughout the day for months. When law enforcement reviewed the video footage for the investigation, the subject was also caught on tape, eating deli meat over multiple shifts which they did not pay for. The subject was charged with stealing \$40 worth of meat.
7. A subject disclosed that many years ago, they were charged with Petit Larceny for going into a grocery store, intoxicated and stole over \$100 worth of rotisserie chicken. She later stated, "I am not proud of what I did when I was young."
8. A subject disclosed on their consent form, "WILL EXPLAIN". The Statewide criminal search returned with 15 cases she was convicted of. This subject has a lot of explaining to do!
9. A subject disclosed multiple charges on their consent form, then stated "I was drinking very heavily and acting pretty stupid...on all occasions."

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## Meet The Parents

### **Meet Due Diligence...**

#### **Last Scene From Due**

*Prue had her mind set on improving her client relationship with Fancy Valley and the Four Seasons since Rob Berry's date destroyed equipment at the holiday party. To make amends, Prue has done immense damage control including providing them with a copy of her background investigation completed by Commercial Investigations LLC. The Fancy Valley team seems to have accepted her apology and Duey could not be happier to be working alongside Prue...*

Over the last several months, the relationship between Fancy Valley and COPS had grown tremendously. Business was going well for both companies and the personal relationships of their employees had well, developed. It seems as though in Prue's attempts to maintain Fancy Valley as a client, she and Duey had become very close.

"Duey?" Prue sang as she entered the Fancy Valley office. Prue had been bringing Duey lunch every day since they met. At first, it was just another way to smooth over the mess Rob Berry created but they soon realized they had a ton in common and Prue really enjoyed Duey's company.

"Hi, Ms. Fict" Truly said from behind her computer screen. "Mr. Diligence is on a call, he should be done shortly." She paused, and added "You and Mr. Diligence are certainly very good friends, as of late." Truly mused, quietly. Prue was not sure if Truly meant for her to hear that. Prue blushed. Is that what they were, good friends? Do friends eat lunch together every day and spend most evenings sharing their dreams and inner, most deep thoughts? Was this a relationship?



"What are we?" Prue accidentally said aloud. "What?" She looked up to see Duey standing before her with a puzzled look on his face. She paused for a moment and thought, maybe now would be a good time to have this conversation...

"What are we?" Prue repeated to him. Duey looked around nervously before saying, "Let's go into my office."

"Prue," Duey started as he shut his office door. "We can be, whatever you want us to be. I certainly see you as more than a friend and I hope that feeling is mutual."

"It certainly is." Prue confirmed, most professionally. She felt butterflies in her stomach.

"Great!" Duey said, cheerfully. "This is great. Great, great, great..." He trailed off.

"That's too many greats, Duey. What's going on?"

"My parents are in town and well, I want them to meet you but also, I don't want you to meet them...they are interesting to say the least," he blurted out.

"Oh Duey" Prue hushed him and planted a kiss on his cheek. "Don't be silly, I would love to meet them!"

A few days later, Prue and Duey went to meet his parents at a nice restaurant. It had been a while since Duey had seen his parents, never mind how long it had been since he had seen the two of them in the same room together. He was not sure what to expect of this evening. Prue and Duey were brought to their table and waited patiently for his parents to arrive. It was not long before Duey heard his father's voice and he stood up to greet him. He turned around and saw a shocking sight. Both of his parents were there, together, holding hands and giggling as if they were teenagers!

"Mom? Dad? What are you doing here?" Duey said, in a state of utter surprise.

"What do you mean, son? You invited us here" Due said. "Yes, to meet your lovely girlfriend!" Duey's mother chimed in. "Hello! I'm Coco, so very nice to meet you!" she said to Prue.

"I mean, I did not expect you to come together, to be together. What is going on?" The next hour was filled with stories of how Due traveled the country in search of meaning for his life. His release from prison had given him a second chance and he was determined to make the most of it! Due had been traveling for months when he came upon a small town in Arizona and decided that he would spend a few nights in a small Bed and Breakfast off the highway.

"Come to find out, your mother was running the place! Can you believe it? Of all the people to run into!"

"And the rest is history!" Coco said, smiling at Due. This re-kindled relationship between his parents gave Duey a sense of safety he had never felt before. He felt warm and fuzzy inside. He looked over at Prue who was engulfed in another one of his dad's crazy stories. She looked so beautiful.

"Prue" Duey said, clearing his throat. She turned and smiled at him. "Will you marry me?"

*Will Prue accept Duey's marriage proposal? Stay tuned!*

## CI: Caring Investigators!

Innovation...Quality...Positivity...Fun...Respect...Education...Honesty...Opportunity...Compliance...Integrity...Team...Openness...Growth. These are the values that guide us here at Commercial Investigations. Plus one more – Community. As do many small businesses, we strive to be a strong community partner. Allow us to take this end-of-year moment to look back at what we have contributed and ask you, our clients, partners, and friends, how we can join forces in the coming year to improve our communities.

We were honored to join SEFCU twice this year in charitable events that they sponsor. In May, we played in the annual Monopoly tournament. No, we did not win the tournament but, ever the dedicated investigators; we all went undercover in jail at the same time. It is sufficient to say that conditions were a tad overcrowded. In the end, the Center for Disability Services came out the clear winner!

The second SEFCU-sponsored event was Trivia Night in September, benefiting Changing Lives Every Day. Your fearless team of investigators came ready to do battle. Sports? Check. History? Check. Music? Check. Fish? What?! Poker? What?! Real Housewives of New York?! No!! Maybe we were not quite as ready as we hoped, but we held our heads high and had many good guesses!

During the crisp autumn days our team ran and/or walked two 5K events. First, at the annual Bassett 5K in Cooperstown, we gathered on the grounds of The Clarke Sports Complex (home of the Hall of Fame induction ceremony). We sped off – or not – through lovely Cooperstown. If you have not been, it is a wonderful opportunity to stroll through quiet streets lined with Victorian homes. The opportunity raised by skirting The Hall of Fame itself can prove almost too much for a dedicated baseball fan, but skirt we did. Whether walking or running, we know that our efforts help support an integral partner in the Cooperstown community.

Just one week later, we sent another strong contingent to the National Saratoga Battlefield to participate in a 5K benefitting The Kaitlin Bowman Foundation. This new foundation, formed just this past May, aims to ease the financial burden on families who have lost a child and cannot afford burial and related expenses. Our own Craig, Rachael, Patricia, and Yahzmine completed the course on hallowed ground. Lover of history that he is, Craig acted as a tour guide during the walk, pointing out various heroic acts performed by soldiers. This charitable event was fun and historically educational!

Additionally, sometimes contributing to the community often involves fun, games, and activity, sometimes includes shopping for someone else. Your investigative team here at CI truly loves our four-legged friends. We collected food and toys for dogs. We know both the vulnerability of animals and the comfort and protection they provide to vulnerable populations. And, hey, our reason for being is to protect!

As we go to print, we have collected food for Thanksgiving to deliver to the area food bank. We are also gearing up to shop for families in need, for the holiday season. What a wonderful year of giving back it has been! What events do you hold near and dear? Let us know how we can collaborate for a cause with you in 2020.

### Spotlight: Introducing Guardian's Travels

Guardian, a background investigation expert and adorable little eagle, had been flying around for quite some time now. Soaring high, Guardian thought to himself, "Where is my next adventure? Who should I help protect?" This made him think back to how he came to be and why it has been his mission to assist organizations with their background investigations!



Guardian thought fondly of his home in Latham, NY and his creator, Michelle Pyan, President of Commercial Investigations LLC. She had instilled an important set of values in him and he always thought of these values whenever assisting others!

"We are here to protect!" Guardian sang as he flew over some trees. "Where am I?" Guardian thought to himself, as he glided over vast valleys and fields with beautiful foliage. He was in the Berkshires of Upstate, New York! Guardian started to float to the ground and as he did, he heard a disturbance.

Dolcini, a Human Resources Associate at Healthcare Unite, gasped in surprise as the eagle flew down to meet her. Guardian greeted her and introduced himself, "I can help you with all your background investigation needs!" She was so happy to listen to the knowledge Guardian shared with her, it was exactly what she needed!

Pleased with his assistance to Healthcare Unite, he was about to take flight, when he heard an ominous noise. Fearing it was the dreaded Clement Bard, he turned. His eyes widened, and a gasp escaped his beak....

Stay tuned for more of Guardian's Travels, coming to a CI Times near your soon!



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Latham, NY & Harmony, FL USA  
Phone: (800) 284-0906  
Fax: (212) 937-3858  
info@commercialinvestigationsllc.com  
www.commercialinvestigationsllc.com

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