

Cook, Scott

From: Bob Michalson <bob@townofstevensville.com>
Sent: Friday, May 10, 2024 9:12 AM
To: CPP Compliance
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Kessler III v. Michalson COPP-2024-CFP-012
Attachments: Pardon letter.pdf

To Chris Gallus,

I have received your letter regarding the Complaint filed against me by Dave Kessler regarding my Pardon of a local citizen in Stevensville stealing a political sign. I did in fact Pardon a Sue McCreary on April 25th and read her pardon in front of the council on my executive report. After much thought and a legal opinion, I realized I did NOT have the authority to do so. At a special Town Council meeting on May 2nd, 2024, I had our Clerk read a prepared statement by me to the council stating that I did not have the authority to Pardon the said person for a theft of a political sign. I returned the original citation to our Chief of Police, and he served the citation to the person who allegedly took the sign. Her court appearance will be on May 22nd. I have attached my statement that the clerk read into public record at the May 2nd meeting. I realize I do not have authority to pardon anyone except for local ordinances and misdemeanors and learned a valuable lesson. After being a Council member for 8+yrs and now a Mayor for 6 months I am realizing the responsibility and role I have is huge and bears much more responsibility. I have learned from my action, and I hope by giving the citation back to the Police Chief and the person going before a judge on the 22nd, closes this matter. If you have any further questions feel free to contact me at bob@townofstevensville.com or 406-274-1946.

Regards,

Bob Michalson
Mayor
Town of Stevensville

May 6, 2024

Stevensville Town Councilmembers,

At the April 25, 2024, town council meeting I the mayor pardoned a citizen from receiving a citation.

After much thought I have realized that I followed my heart and not the law and have learned a valuable lesson. I realize that I do not have the authority to pardon anyone for anything other than local ordinances and misdemeanors.

As of May 2, 2024, I have returned the citation to the Stevensville Police Chief and he has reissued the citation to that citizen, who will appear in court on May 22, 2024.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Michalson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Thank you,

Bob Michalson, Mayor