

TIMELINE Re: Spencer Collier

January 6, 2016 –

Governor Bentley met with ALEA Secretary Spencer Collier, Investigators Scott Lee, and Jack Wilson late in the afternoon. Governor Bentley had received a threatening correspondence from his former accountant Mike Echols on or around December 28, and was reporting it to Collier, Lee and Wilson. (Governor Bentley had severed personal and professional ties with Echols in March of 2015 because of Echols known involvement in Governor Bentley's personal and private matters pertaining to his family. Echols was also involved in assisting Dianne Bentley in her filing for divorce from Governor Bentley in 2015) The email contained screenshots of text messages Governor Bentley had sent to Rebekah Mason in April and May of 2015.

Collier indicated to Governor Bentley he viewed the email from Echols as a threat of extortion and indicated to Governor Bentley he was going to assign the matter investigated. Collier made it clear in the presence of Wilson and Lee that it was Collier who was ordering the investigation, not Governor Bentley. (Governor Bentley later informed Joe Espy [REDACTED]).

Before leaving the meeting, Collier reported to the Governor he had been contacted by Baron Coleman who wanted to have a discussion with him. Collier told Governor Bentley that Coleman wanted to report "some things Matt Hart had done". Collier indicated to Governor Bentley he believed Coleman was frightened of Hart and that's why he wanted to talk.

Following that meeting, Governor Bentley met with reporters Kim Chandler and Chuck Dean, along with David Byrne, Jennifer Ardis and two attorneys by phone to discuss a lawsuit the Administration was filing against the federal Government regarding the Refugee Resettlement Act. A Press Conference announcing the suit was scheduled for the following day.

Later that evening Governor Bentley contacted Rebekah Mason by phone. During that phone conversation Governor Bentley discussed with Mason the meeting he had with the media that afternoon, as well as the Collier meeting regarding the threatening email. Governor Bentley told Mason he was going to share some confidential information with her. Governor Bentley recounted the conversation he had with Collier regarding the Coleman request. Governor Bentley asked Mason not to share that information with anyone. Mason agreed. Governor Bentley told Mason that Collier told him Coleman was scared and that's why Collier said he wanted to talk with Spencer and make a report.

February 2, 2016 –

Media reported that Baron Coleman had filed an affidavit claiming he had received secret Grand Jury testimony in the upcoming Lee County trial from Prosecutor Matt Hart.

February 3, 2016 –

Mason received the following text from Blogger Bill Britt:

Britt: Great night a state of the state. You did a good thing. I am sorry I have been busy with this Baron Coleman debacle. Susan and I did have a moment with Gov and I was able to tell him his speech and vision was inspirational. Also met your husband. That was nice.

**COMMITTEE
EXHIBIT
5-0**

Mason: Thanks so much. It was a special evening. I am sorry I didn't get a chance to visit. Jon mentioned he saw you. I'm glad you two met.

February 8, 2016 –

And Scott Lee? July 2016

Spencer Collier and David Byrne, ALEA Investigator Jack Wilson and ALEA Counsel Jason Swann met with Governor Bentley at 9am in the Governor's Office. (Mason was NOT in attendance, and not even in Montgomery at that hour) During that meeting Collier and Byrne indicated to Governor Bentley [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Collier indicated to Governor Bentley [REDACTED]

During the conversation Governor Bentley [REDACTED] Collier told Governor Bentley [REDACTED] Collier told Governor Bentley [REDACTED] Collier told Governor Bentley [REDACTED]

Governor Bentley asked [REDACTED] Collier said [REDACTED] Governor Bentley said [REDACTED] Governor Bentley reminded both Collier and Byrne that [REDACTED] Governor Bentley told Collier and Byrne [REDACTED] Governor Bentley told Byrne and Collier to [REDACTED]

At approximately 930am- 10am Rebekah Mason met briefly with Governor Bentley prior to the regularly scheduled Leadership Team Meeting. Among many topics, Mason asked Governor Bentley how his meeting was with Collier and Byrne. Governor Bentley recounted the conversation with Mason that he had with Collier and Byrne. Mason advised the Governor of his position since 2014, which was to avoid outside involvement in the Lee County trial, lest it distract from the Governor's policy agenda he had launched only a week prior. Governor Bentley did not seem overly concerned about the meeting and indicated to Mason the matter had been resolved, that Collier and Byrne were in agreement with him. Governor Bentley told Mason he told Collier and Byrne [REDACTED]

February 11, 2016 –

Media reported that Matt Hart had filed a series of affidavits in the Lee County case. One of those affidavits was signed by Spencer Collier, ALEA Secretary. Reading the media reports that evening and recalling the conversation earlier in the week, Mason contacted Governor Bentley upon reading the news reports. Mason told Governor Bentley about the news report, and that one affidavit was from Collier. Mason asked Governor Bentley if he had heard from Collier since their meeting three days earlier. Governor Bentley said "No". Mason asked if David Byrne had discussed the affidavit with Governor Bentley since the meeting three days earlier. Governor Bentley said "No". Governor Bentley told Mason he was going to call Collier and ask him about the news report.

Later that evening, Governor Bentley called Mason. Governor Bentley told Mason he had spoken to Collier and asked about the affidavit Hart filed signed by Collier. Governor Bentley told Mason, Collier told him that he had reported to Hart that he couldn't sign the original affidavit as Hart had requested. Then Collier told Governor Bentley, that Hart said he would subpoena Collier if he didn't produce an

affidavit. Collier told Governor Bentley that Hart told him a Grand Jury was open at 8am the next morning, and he would bring Collier before the Grand Jury for sworn testimony. Governor Bentley recounted to Mason that Spencer was scared. Governor Bentley told Mason that Collier told him, he wrote a second affidavit to appease Hart. Collier told Governor Bentley the second affidavit was "benign" and didn't really say anything of significance. Governor Bentley told Mason that Collier told him he felt threatened and didn't have a choice. Mason told Governor Bentley she had begun receiving several text messages related to the news reports.

One text Mason received was from Chuck Dean, Reporter with Al.com. Dean told Mason he had received a text from Baron Coleman saying he heard that Collier was pressured to give the affidavit to Hart.

Coleman also texted Mason and asked to have an off-the-record conversation.

Mason did not respond.

February 12, 2016 –

Governor Bentley called Spencer Collier and David Byrne to his office. In a meeting Governor Bentley once again asked Collier why he gave an affidavit to Hart, when he had indicated on February 8 that he had not investigated the matter Hart was referring to. Collier once again told Governor Bentley that he was told by Hart if he did not give an affidavit, Hart would bring Collier before a Grand Jury. Governor Bentley specifically asked Spencer if he felt like he was threatened by Hart. Collier answered "Yes". Governor Bentley turned to David Byrne and said, "David, did you hear that? Say it again Spencer." Byrne answered Yes, Sir. And again Collier said he felt like he was threatened by Hart.

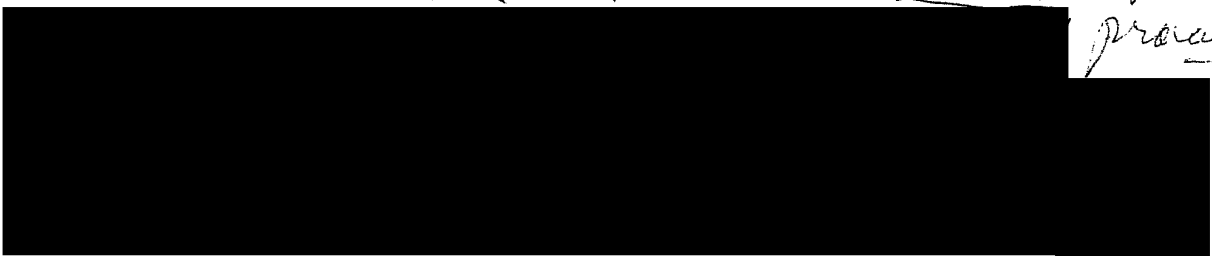
February 13, 2016 –

Spencer Collier contacted Governor Bentley around 5pm. Collier had been contacted by media. Collier asked Governor Bentley if he wanted Collier to respond. Governor Bentley said "No."

February 16, 2016 –

Governor Bentley contacted Mason around 9 am by phone. Governor Bentley indicated to Mason that he had a conversation with or about Collier. Governor Bentley told Mason that Collier had "changed his mind" and was now saying he did NOT feel like he was threatened regarding the affidavit request by Matt Hart. Governor Bentley told Mason he was concerned and troubled by the inconsistency in Collier, and his displeasure and concern in David Byrne. Governor Bentley indicated he was very upset that Byrne never told him about the second affidavit. Governor Bentley told Mason he was going to call everyone in to his office that day and "get to the bottom of this." Governor Bentley was upset that media had been calling Collier regarding the affidavit. He was also upset that he felt pressure from people associated with the Defendant in the Lee County Trial to appoint a "Special Prosecutor" in the case. Governor Bentley told Mason he had asked his Legislative team to communicate with legislators to "back off".

2:30 PM – Governor Bentley met with David Byrne and Joe Espy. Governor Bentley indicated to Byrne



on Saturday Swann told Jennifer they were not threatened

I believe it was in this meeting I learned the contact of Hart/Byrne/ Swann in with the affidavits

3 legislators contacted legislative team about Special Prosecutor

It involves, Jason Swann, Spencer Collier, Joe Espy, Hal Taylor, and possibly two other ALEA Personnel. ? Subject Mason

3PM – Governor Bentley met with Joe Espy, David Byrne, Spencer Collier, Jason Swann, Hal Taylor, and possibly two other ALEA Personnel. Also attending the meeting were Jennifer Ardis and Rebekah Mason. Governor Bentley opened the meeting by telling those in attendance [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Governor Bentley told those in attendance [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Governor Bentley told those in attendance [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Governor Bentley said [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] At the point Collier spoke up and said he had some things he wanted to say to the Governor and Mason only.

Those in attendance left the room, except for Mason and Governor Bentley.

Collier told Governor Bentley he had something he needed to share. Collier told Governor Bentley and Mason that he had recently had a conversation with Matt Hart. Collier told the Governor that Hart thought he was a good man, whose heart was in the right place. Collier said Hart told him that Governor Bentley was good, he believed, but there were people working with the Governor who had committed felonies. Collier looked at Mason and said, "And Rebekah he was talking about you." Collier said he told Hart that he had done background checks on employees and would know if someone had a prior conviction. Collier said Hart told him these were people who had not yet been convicted. Again, Spencer told Mason "I believe he was talking about you, Rebekah." Mason did not respond.

Governor Bentley asked Collier to explain what he meant. Collier told Governor Bentley he wasn't sure what Hart meant by the statement, but he and his wife Melissa had discussed it and prayed about it the night before and decided Collier needed to tell Governor Bentley and Mason what Hart had said.

Mason asked Collier when Hart made that comment. Collier told Mason the comment was made at 5pm the previous day.

Governor Bentley once again reminded Collier that he had told Collier not to file the affidavit because as Collier had indicated, there had been no investigation. At that time, Collier became restless, fidgety and agitated. Collier told Governor Bentley he was afraid of Hart. Collier told Governor Bentley he did not want to get a subpoena. He told Governor Bentley he did not want to testify. Governor Bentley reminded Collier that he had said to the Governor twice the previous week that he had felt threatened by Hart.

Collier once again said he did not want to testify, and he told Governor Bentley "You don't want to testify either." Governor Bentley reminded Collier that he would likely be called himself to testify in the upcoming Lee County trial. Collier acted surprised and said, "I forgot about that. That's right. I hadn't thought about that."

Collier then told Governor Bentley "you would be doing this state a service if you got rid of Matt Hart." He told Governor Bentley Hart was a problem and it would be a huge help if Governor Bentley could do something about him.

Collier then told Governor Bentley that Hart had questioned Hal Taylor until midnight the previous day. Collier said he was afraid Hart was going to indict Hal.

Governor Bentley asked Spencer to bring the group back in the office for the meeting.

My anger about the affidavits was pulling me into the Lee County trial where I

Once all attendees returned to the office, Governor Bentley once again [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Governor Bentley asked [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Byrne told the Governor [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Byrne told the Governor [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Byrne told Governor Bentley [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Byrne told Governor Bentley [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Governor Bentley [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Governor Bentley also told Byrne and others in the meeting [REDACTED] He told
the group [REDACTED]
Collier said [REDACTED]
Governor Bentley said [REDACTED]

Collier [REDACTED]
Byrne said [REDACTED]
Collier [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Collier [REDACTED]
At some point throughout the discussion more comments were made [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Again it was pointed out that [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Collier once again said [REDACTED]
Mason – sitting in the back of the room – said [REDACTED]

That was the extent of Mason’s contribution to the conversation.
Most attendees of the meeting had their backs to Mason, including Collier.

Joe Espy addressed the group and told them [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Espy also told the group [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] The ALEA personnel in
attendance [REDACTED]

At that point Governor Bentley concluded the meeting.

Following the meeting Mason met in a separate office in the Governor's Suite with Espy. Mason reported to Espy everything that was said in the meeting between herself, Collier and Governor Bentley.

Mason recounted to Espy what Collier had said about Hart, and his assertion that he believed people who worked with the Governor had committed felonies.

Following the meeting, Governor Bentley met privately with Mason and Espy. At that point Governor Bentley told Mason and Espy [REDACTED]. Governor Bentley indicated that [REDACTED]. Governor Bentley [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] Governor Bentley and Mason recounted once again to Espy [REDACTED].

February 17, 2016 –

Governor Bentley called Collier to his office the morning of February 17. Governor Bentley told Collier he knew he had back surgery scheduled, and he knew he wasn't feeling well.

Governor Bentley told Collier he was going to place him on medical leave for three months for two reasons. 1. He wanted Collier to have his surgery and get well. And 2. He wanted Collier to get off his pain medicine.

Collier was once again apologetic to Governor Bentley and asked if he should resign. Governor Bentley said "No, I want you to come back in three months and get well. "

Governor Bentley told Collier he was placing Stan Stabler as Acting ALEA Secretary, Collier told Governor Bentley he thought that was a great idea. Later that day Collier introduced Stabler to ALEA Personnel as the Acting Secretary.

Collier had a letter in hand for Governor Bentley. He told Governor Bentley he wanted to reassign Hal Taylor to his previous position. Collier asked Governor Bentley if he wanted Collier or Stabler to do it. Governor Bentley told Collier to do it, since it was under his watch.

The two parted ways amicably.

That day while attending a Public event in Montgomery Governor Bentley was approached by Al. com reporter Chuck Dean. Dean had received a tip from a source inside ALEA and asked Governor Bentley about the affidavits. Governor Bentley was quoted by Dean to say that he asked Collier not to give the affidavit, and the decision by Collier to do so was "unacceptable." Later that day Dean posted an article on Al.com with the headline "State's Top Cop Placed on Leave Following Failure to Follow Governor's Order".

At 4:18pm Mason received this text from blogger Bill Britt:

Britt: "Hope all is well. I am totally confused. Newton still has his job, Bryan Taylor has his and Spencer is on leave for doing what police do. This doesn't make sense."

Mason: "I am well. Thank you. I hope you are too. It is my understanding that Spencer is battling chronic back pain, so much so that he has surgery scheduled. I understand that Gov has allowed Spencer to take a medical leave of absence for a period of time."

Later that evening Britt sent Mason another text message that read:

Britt: " Hubbard's people are spinning the Dean story on Spencer saying Hart threaten Spencer. That doesn't sound right."

"The Spencer I know is a cop first and wouldn't need to be threaten. "

Mason:" I've heard many different spins on that story, none of which are accurate. I agree. This has been a difficult week for sure."

Britt: " So you are saying the rumors of threats from Hart to Spencer are not true?"

Mason: "I don't deal in rumors. I deal in facts.. As someone I know once said."

Britt: "We keep hearing that session is going to end early for Hubbard's trial. It is hard to imagine that the people's business is held up by one man. The good news is his trial will go forward. That's pretty good what you said about rumors."

Mason:" I heard that a few weeks ago too."

Britt:" I hope the Gov and Spencer are alright with each other. I think highly of both of them. I had always thought that Spencer might be the heir-apparent."

Mason:"Gov and Spencer are friends. Nothing has changed. Gov wants his friend to get well."

Britt: "Thank you for your time and all you do. That's good to hear. I tend to worry about the good guys. One more person on the prayer list."

Later that evening at 7:31 Mason received this text:

Britt texted Mason a link to the Chuck Dean article written earlier that day with the headline, "Hubbard Prosecutor Pressured State's Top Cop for Affidavit Clearing Prosecutor of Misconduct"

Britt: "I believe some of this story is an out and out lie. Can't prove it because no one is talking and I can talk to others. But this makes me mad. I will find out who is lying on this one. Spencer pressured by Hart. I don't believe it for one minute. Dean's your go-to guy care to help me find out who said Spencer was pressured? Anyway sorry to bother. Just upset. We need to protect the good guys.

Mason: " I do not know who spoke with Mr. Dean. I understand he started asking questions over the weekend."

Britt: "I know you feel the same way. Again I just hate to see good people smeared. I am fierce about this as you know."

Mason: "And contrary to popular opinion, I don't have go-to guys. "

Britt: "You know what I mean he listens to you. I'm not your go-to guy? I'm hurt."

Mason : "That may be the case, but I cant control who else he listens to. Yeah. Put me on your waiting list..."

Britt : " Anyway if you hear anything I would like to correct what I think is an error.

Mason : "Yes sir. I will do that. Please do the same."

Britt :“Always do.”

(Mason later learned that Reporter Chuck Dean was contacted that evening by Matt Hart who told Dean he took exception to the article that he wrote.)

February 18, 2016 –

Mason received the following text at 7:27pm

Britt: “Hey, FYI. I was allowed to see text message from Hubbard to someone he thinks is still in his camp. In one message he said Gov. had to do what he did with Spencer because of what is about you come out. He ask what that meant and Hubbard said everyone will see. He also said he recent spoken with Gov about appointing a special prosecutor but didn't think he would even needed because his case was never going to trial. Thought you should know.”

Mason: “I'm not sure I understand. “

Britt :“ I don't understand either. Just thought you should know. Hubbard is spread manure on Gov.

Mason: “Well. What's new.”

Britt :“ No doubt. I always try to keep you informed.”

Mason: “ I appreciate that. And you know I've seen this game before and I have nothing to hide.”

Britt: “I know. Like I said it's a confusing time I felt I should tell you anything that affects Gov. Don't think it means anything but Hubbard spin.”

Mason: “ It doesn't make one bit of sense. Why would Gov want to have Spencer take leave? Other than to help him take time to get well?”

Britt: “ I get it. Makes me crazy. These people play with people's lives while we pray and work to make them better. Sorry I bothered. Just thought you should know.

Mason: “ Thank you. Please let me know anything else you may hear.”

Britt: “ Will do. Let's meet sometime when you have a moment.

Mason: “ I'd love to.”

Britt: “ You name the time and date. I'll be there.”

Mason: “ I'll find some time next week.”

February 19, 2016 –

While attending the Yellowhammer Media Economic Development Summit in Birmingham, Governor Bentley was approached by Jimmy Rane. The two had a brief discussion. Mason noted the discussion and asked Governor Bentley if he mind sharing what was said. Governor Bentley told Mason that Rane discussed Matt Hart with him, and mentioned his previous request to Governor Bentley to appoint a Special Prosecutor to take over the Lee County Trial. Governor Bentley told Mason that he told Rane not to discuss that issue with him.

Week of February 22, 2016 –

In the following weeks, Governor Bentley contacted Collier to check on his recovery from surgery. During one of those conversations Collier asked Governor Bentley if he was going to fire him, and was he going to lose his insurance. Governor Bentley told Collier he wanted him to get well and return to work.

On or around the week of February 22, Stan Stabler came to Governor Bentley's Office and indicated that he had been approached by ALEA personnel and employees regarding concerns about misuse of funds and state resources by Collier. Stabler told Governor Bentley he had reassigned two merit employees and terminated two appointees. The merit employees were Legal Counsel Jason Swann and Hal Taylor (although Collier made that reassignment on February 17 as indicated by the conversation he had that day with Governor Bentley). The appointees were Merritt Hayes, Collier's Assistant and Camilla ___ an employee assigned to the Fusion Center. Governor Bentley told Stabler to operate the department as he saw fit. Michael Robinson became ALEA Legal Counsel.

Stabler told Governor Bentley he was reassembling the ALEA Integrity Unit, which had been mothballed under Collier, to begin an internal review of ALEA.

February 23, 2016 –

A column written by John Archibald was posted to Al.com in which Archibald wrote that all elected officials in Alabama should be "shaken by the lapels and placed under oath". Among images of Matt Hart and most top state elected officials was Mason's image. Mason's name was mentioned at the end of the column. This was the first time Mason's name had ever been mentioned or linked to any story regarding the Lee County Trial.

February 24, 2016 –

At 7:56 am Mason received the following text message from Bill Britt:

Britt: " Good Morning. I hope all is well. I am sure it was a restless night. I imagine you are not particularly happy with me right now but I can assure you that my support and friendship has not wavered."

Mason later surmised Britt must have been referring to an article he posted suggesting that Governor Bentley was having internal meetings to discuss appointing a special prosecutor in the Lee County trial.

At 12:12 PM Mason responded:

Mason: " Thank you. I hope you are well. There are plenty of people I'm not happy with, but you are not necessarily high on that list. Please let me know if there's anything I can do for you. Take care. I should point out that Gov hasn't taken one phone call or one meeting regarding a SP. Not even when Mr. Rane cornered him Friday did Gov entertain the notion. Matter of fact he sent a clear and direct message for folks to back off. Because I know you deal in facts and not rumors."

Britt: " That's good to hear. I was misinformed by someone I trusted. And they have always been reliable. So you are saying that Hubbard in the last two months has not been contacted by Hubbard regarding appointing a special prosecutor? I mean the Governor has not been contacted by Hubbard? Well that disturbs me. The only thing I hate more than being Lie to is bring wrong. Being. Sorry texting

thumbs are not working. I would still like to get together when you have time. Things I would like to talk about that are better said in person. "

1:58PM

Mason: " If Gov had a convo with The Speaker it was concerning Legislative matters. That's the way it has been. And certainly not alone."

Britt: " Obviously I was given bad information. I apologize. I never expected that he would grant a special prosecutor. This source has never lied to me. I guess this is a first. Never thought Gov ever entertained the idea of helping Hubbard out but this Spencer issue has raised questions but not in my mind."

Mason: " I don't see how allowing Spencer to take medical leave and get better helps Hubbard. Gov has resisted playing any role in this case for 2 years."

Britt: " I think this conversation has veered off track. I don't think anyone sees the Spencer situation as medical leave after the Dean article. I personally don't see what Gov did as helping Hubbard but for the first time people are suspicious."

Mason: " I understand that."

Britt: " Again. I hope all this passes soon and I believe it will.

Mason: " Me too.

Britt: " The Jimmy Rane is interesting.

Mason: " I wasn't surprised. I saw them chatting and had to ask.

Britt: "Oh, no. I wasn't surprised at all. Rane is in Hubbard's corner.

Mason: " Of course. I guess he didn't get the back off memo.

Britt: " He's an interesting guy to say the least. I just don't want anymore collateral damage from Hubbard's chaos. All this is just an attempt to create chaos and hope for a break. I don't doubt Rane is still giving Hubbard money. If you ever want to expose Rane let me know. Again I value our relationship.

Mason: " Thank you. So do I.

Mason later asked Governor Bentley if he had any discussions regarding a Special Prosecutor, and informed Governor Bentley of the Bill Britt article suggesting he did indeed have that meeting. Governor Bentley told Mason No, he had not had a conversation. [REDACTED]

February 26, 2016 --

AL.com reporter Chuck Dean posted an article in which he revealed the two affidavits in the Matt Hart affidavit request. The headline was "Sworn Statement Sheds Light on Legal Tussle Up To Trial of Alabama Lawmaker". The first affidavit was reported to be the "draft" affidavit Hart originally had drafted for Spencer Collier to sign. The second affidavit was the affidavit Collier signed and Hart filed on February 11. The Governor's Office had earlier denied the Open Records request from Chuck Dean and

Montgomery Advertiser reporter Josh Moon to receive the first affidavit. It is not known how Dean obtained the first Hart-drafted affidavit.

February 29, 2016-

Mason received the following text

3:26 pm

Britt: "I'm hearing there are firings over at ALEA. Do you know what that is about?"

Mason: "No. I am not aware of any goings on at ALEA. Do you know specifics?"

Britt: "No. Not yet. Just hearing that through the grapevine.

Mason: "I'll keep my ears open.

Britt: "Thank you."

Mason: " May I ask you a question?"

Britt: "Sure."

Mason: "Given your expertise in your field, could you offer any insight as to why John Archibald might inject my name and image into a column regarding the upcoming Lee County trial?"

Britt: "My guess is he thinks you are the one giving info to Dean. That's the general belief with everyone. Dean is a guy who couldn't find a story with both hands and a map so when he breaks stuff most people think it came from you. Doesn't mean it's true that's just the way it is."

Mason: "I understand there are some personnel changes under Stabler. I do not know details. "

Britt: " I heard that don't have details. Just worried about Spencer. I heard he is still in hospital. Well I am making calls. Can't imagine a new guy firing people while boss is in the hospital."

Mason: " Gov actually checked with Spencer today. He is home and feeling much better."

Britt: "That's great to hear do you have his home number? His old number doesn't work."

Mason: "I do not. I'm sorry."

Britt: " Nuts. He is a good guy I worry about him. Of course so many on the prayer list I need a new note book."

Mason: " You're right."

March 1, 2016 –

An article appeared on Britt's blog with the headline, " Monday Massacre, Firings at ALEA." The article was about the personnel changes at ALEA and was extremely critical of Governor Bentley.

That afternoon a meeting was held in the Governor's Office. Attending were Governor Bentley, David Byrne, Joe Espy, Stan Stabler, Michael Robinson, Blake Hardwich, Jennifer Ardis. Rebekah Mason joined by phone.

During the meeting Stabler and Robinson explained [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] There were discussions about [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] There was [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] was
discussed and it was determined [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Jennifer Ardis worked with ALEA PIO Anna Morris on an agreed upon statement, based on the discussion in the meeting. Late that evening the statement was given to Al.com Reporter Chuck Dean, and possibly Montgomery Advertiser Reporter Brian Lyman.

March 2, 2016 –

Al.com Columnist John Archibald posted a column with the Headline, "Hubbard Case Reeks All The Way to Alabama Governor's Office." Mason's name and image were prominently in the column and Archibald referred to Mason as untrustworthy, and made several accusations about Mason's activities while working as Senior Political Advisor.

March 18, 2016 –

In a phone conversation Governor Bentley indicated to Mason that he believed the ALEA investigation was complete.

March 21, 2016

Stabler, Michael Robinson and David Byrne discussed [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Stabler told Governor Bentley [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
It was determined [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Mason did not attend the meeting and was not briefed on the contents of the report.

David Byrne [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Byrne advised Governor Bentley that [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (*Mason has no personal knowledge of this, this information was shared with Mason and Ardis on March 22.)

March 21, 2016 –

ALEA Released a statement to media indicating an Internal review of ALEA had been completed and had found items of concern including possible misuse of funds. Mason and Ardis worked with ALEA PIO Anna Morris to draft the statement from ALEA.

March 22, 2016 –

Collier was terminated from his position as ALEA Secretary. Stabler was appointed to the position.

A press statement was issued from either ALEA or the Governor's Office announcing Stabler as the permanent ALEA Secretary.

That evening, Al.com columnist John Archibald released a transcript of a recorded phone call between Governor Bentley and an unidentified person. Archibald identified that person as Mason.

March 23, 2016 --

Collier called a press conference in which he described in detail the tape recorded conversation. Collier gave multiple false accounts of events and conversations that had taken place within the last month, as well as within the last two years. Collier extolled the praises of Matt Hart at the press conference. Collier made numerous unfounded allegations against Governor Bentley and Mason in the press conference. Many of those allegations are recounted in the lawsuit filed April 19, 2016. Collier made references to ALEA's PIO Anna Morris saying he won't let her or anyone else attack him.

That afternoon, Collier contacted Stabler while Stabler was in the Governor's Communications Office preparing for a joint press conference with Governor Bentley. During that conversation, Collier told Stabler " I have the tapes and I'm going to release them in two hours."