

One day in the late 70's probably the 1977-1979 period I came to work at Biddeford PD. The police department had an address then of 205 Main St. Biddeford and was located below City Hall next to a bank. I was the day shift patrol supervisor (Sgt.). I came into the building and saw Sgt. Norman Arbour, then the court officer for the police department standing by the old dispatch area, located on the 1st floor. Sgt. Arbour looked very tired and seemed disturbed. I asked Arbour what was wrong. Sgt. Arbour told me he was going to tell me something and I better not tell anyone else. RD Sgt. Arbour said he received a call from Donna (Marcotte) Beaupre, Roger Beaupre's wife, who was crying and was very upset, and didn't know what to do, so she called him.

Donna Beaupre, told Sgt. Arbour, she had come home and caught Norman Gaudette and her husband, Roger Beaupre in a sexual act. Donna told Arbour, Norman Gaudette was giving her husband, Roger Beaupre, oral sex (a blow job). I believe Sgt. Arbour and Donna Beaupre had several correspondences over the next few days. Donna Beaupre and Roger Beaupre, later divorced. RD Sgt. Norman Arbour is now deceased, but I believe his wife still lives at the corner of LaFayette St. and Cleaves St. Biddeford. Donna (Marcotte) Beaupre moved away from the area, but has a sister and other relatives still living in the Biddeford area.

In 1980 the police department moved over to their new location, the old Central movie theater building at 39 Alfred St. Biddeford.

The old Central movie theater was newly renovated to be our new police station. Believe me, it was a blessing to move away from City Hall. After getting settle into the new police headquarters, I was still the patrol supervisor (Sgt.) on day-shift. I don't quite remember what month or year, I was told the following story (1980's) that Capt. Roger Beupre and patrolman Norman Gaudette were caught in a sexual act by another police officer. The sexual act, Norman Gaudette was giving oral sex (blow job) to Capt. Roger Beupre. This act occurred on the 2nd floor, the Police Chief's office at the time, at our old location, City Hall. I can honestly say, I can not remember which police officer told me about this, it was either Stephen Dodd, or the Deputy Police Chief Ben Martini.

During the early part of 1980-82, I gave up patrol duties on day-shift and became the Biddiford Police Department training officer. The training program had been set up by Sgt Peter Hall, who resigned from the P.D. to go elsewhere. I followed thru on the training program and training continued thru the 80's. During this time period I became interested in setting up an Internal Affairs Division within the department. I didn't like the way complaints against police officers were handled at the time. The Internal Affairs Division (Officer) would investigate complaints filed against police officers by victims/citizens. For example, a police officer used too much force against the victim/complainant while making an arrest. I had contacted the Portland Police Department, looked over their Internal Affairs Policy and Forms.

I drafted up a policy and forms for the Biddeford Police Department, making some changes from what the Portland Police had. Chief Roger Beaupre knew I was working on the Internal Affairs policy for the department. Chief Beaupre liked it when I presented the Internal Affairs policy to him and he made it a policy for our department.

There was a period during the early 80's I did the Internal Affairs investigations when a complaint came in against a police officer. I also tested new applicants for the position of police officer, did oral interviews and background checks. Most of the interviews were conducted by myself, Deputy Police Chief Ben Martin and sometimes a patrolman.

A couple of times when a complaint came in against an officer, chief Roger Beaupre talked to me raised his voice and told me I want this officer suspended and as soon as possible. I reminded Chief Beaupre, we had to be bias during these investigations, that I hadn't even talk to the officer yet or any witnesses against the officer, and no statements had been taken from anybody. I had 21 days to complete an investigation and took more time if I needed to complete a thorough investigation.

I know a couple RD times officers I investigated RD should have lost their jobs upon completion of my investigation, but were either given a warning or suspended, but kept their job as a police officer.

One day I heard a complaint had come in against Capt. Norman Gaudette, 1980's. I went to see Deputy chief Ben Martin about the complaint. I was upset when I spoke to Deputy chief Martin about the complaint and asked why wasn't I informed about the complaint, I was the internal affairs investigator at the time. Deputy chief Martin, told me, chief Beaupre told him to work on this case. Deputy chief Martin did show me a written statement by Michael Frenette, a juvenile 15 or 16 years old at the time.

Michael Frenette said on his written statement that Capt. Norman Gaudette was holding criminal charges against him. Michael Frenette was intimidated and feared what might happen to him, so he met Capt. Gaudette behind Biddeford Savings Bank, Biddeford and was force to give Norman Gaudette, oral sex (a blow job). Michael Frenette, the oral sex happened more than once. Norman Gaudette, did have a cleaning company at the time called Twin City cleaning. I never saw this written statement by Michael Frenette again. Biddeford Savings Bank is located on Main St. in Biddeford, and was one of several places Norman Gaudette was cleaning at the time. I don't believe this complaint was handle properly.

Michael Frenette's father had passed away (Anthony Frenette) and I'm not sure where Michael and his brother, Joseph Frenette were living at the time. I feel Michael Frenette was intimidated by Norman Gaudette and probably persuaded by other family members not to pursue this complaint.

I totally feel upper rank in the department had a hand and intentionally manipulated the outcome of this case. I know after this complaint had quieted down Capt. Gaudette told me he bought a car off Philip Frenette, Michael Frenette's, uncle. This told me something and increased my suspicions about what really happened in this case. Joseph Frenette is still in the area, maybe around or Lyman. Philip Frenette is still living in the area, either Dayton or Hollis with his wife. Michael Frenette is dead, dying in a police shoot-out; out of state, not sure of the state, remember reading the information relayed to our PD from the police department involved in the shooting. Michael Frenette had to live with this agony for a long time, knowing an entrusted servant of Biddeford and the state of Maine had sexually abused him. When Michael Frenette was shot to death, I guess he may have been in his late twenties, maybe 30 years old. I feel the higher rank in the police department, protected Capt Norman Gaudette and swept this case under the rug.

If the case had been handled properly and it should have been, especially with the allegation of sexual abuse on a juvenile by Capt. Norman Gaudette, Michael Frenette^{ED}, would probably be alive today. As far as I know, Michael Frenette wasn't referred to any family agencies for counseling, that would have helped him with any trauma that he may have gone thru. Chief Roger Beaupre was well aware of this case from the beginning to the end.

Another sexual abuse case (1980's) surfaced during this time period against Capt. Norman Gaudette. The victim was Robert Kalex, a juvenile 15-16 years old that was hired by Norman Gaudette to help him clean Biddeford Savings ^{Bank} in Biddeford. Once again I heard about this case and Deputy Police chief Martin showed me a written statement by Robert Kalex. Robert Kalex wrote on his statement that he was in one of bathroom inside the bank, when Norman Gaudette pushed him up against the sink and performed oral sex (a blow job) on him. Robert Kalex, said this was an on going problem with Capt. Norman Gaudette. I never did see this statement again and assumed what happened in the Michael Frenette case, happened in the Robert Kalex case. as well, involving the same high ranking officers. I feel the Robert Kalex allegations of sexual abuse by Capt. Norman Gaudette was improperly handle and intentionally manipulated and swept under the rug like the Michael Frenette case. I don't believe Robert Kalex was referred to any family agencies for counseling to help him deal with his trauma of being sexually abuse. Chief Roger Beaupre was well aware of this case, just like he was aware of the Michael Frenette case from the beginning to the end. I know Robert Kalex worked for Capt. Gaudette at the bank, because I replaced Norman Gaudette at the bank for 1 week, cleaning the bank. I did some part-time cleaning back then to supplement my income. I knew Norman Gaudette was going on vacation, and he needed someone to take his place, so I agreed to worked there for a week. When I arrived at the bank to learn what I had to do, Robert Kalex was there with him.

I believe at the time that Capt. Norman Gaudette was vacationing at Naples, Maine.

I was disgusted with the outcome of these two cases and the interference of Chief Roger Beaupre and the Biddeford Police Commissioner's in decisions that were made following an Internal Affairs investigation by me.

I submitted my resignation as Internal Affairs Officer to Chief Roger Beaupre. I also stopped testing new applicants, doing interviews and background checks on new applicants. Some applicants failed their written test, didn't do well on oral boards (interviews) but were hired over people that were more qualified to be police officers, Chief Roger Beaupre and the Police Commissioner's had a lot to do with this. In fact Deputy Police Chief Ben Martin, told me Capt Norman Gaudette had failed his written entrance exam back in the 70's, but was hired anyway.

A lot of decisions made by Chief Roger Beaupre caused discontent within the police department. Chief Beaupre always blamed the Police Commissioner's when changes took place within the department. Changes meant officers being promoted over ^{others}, officers being transferred from one shift to another, while some officers were disciplined and others were not. I remember some Police Commissioner's were out to get certain officers, if someone they knew received a parking ticket or a speeding ticket, the list goes on and on. The police Chief Roger Beaupre may have played the nice guy, but he was right in there with the Police Commissioner's, the Chief got his way.

An example of Chief Roger Beaucupe's cunning took place in 1980-81 and 1983-84. I took two captain's exams with the hope of a promotion during this time period, the first 1980-81. I was on a 3 week vacation in the mid-west 1980-81, when the chief Roger Beaucupe posted a date for the captain's exam. Returning to work after my vacation I was shocked to learn the captain's exam was posted right after I left for the mid-west. I had about a week to prepare for this exam. Norman Gaudette, had the highest score, out of approximately six officers who took the exam. Norman Gaudette was promoted to Captain in charge of the Detective Division. I came in 2nd after the written test and oral board. The second time I tested for the rank of captain was 1983-84, again I came in 2nd, after testing and the oral board, this time finishing 2nd to the Chief Beaucupe's cousin Royal Marcoux. Royal Marcoux was promoted to Captain and placed in charge of the patrol division.

During the 1980's I became the Bedford Police Department's Court officer. I also worked alot of special assignments, like football games, clubs that held dances that needed a police officer and construction sites that needed an officer for traffic control. I also filled in as patrol supervisor when the supervisors on a particular shift went on vacation. All the above helped to supplement my income.

In 1989, Larry Carey came into the PD and spoke to officer Alfie Lambert and I believe Det. Robert Poisson, and wrote a written statement about being sexually abuse by officer Stephan Dodd.

Larry Carey wrote the sexual abuse occurred when he was a juvenile and it had been an ongoing thing. I never read the statement by Larry Carey but had heard about it. I believe officer Stephen Dodd and his lawyer, joined Larry Carey, officer Alf Lambert and Det Robert Poisson at the PD, I think everything was pretty much settled that day. Once again, I feel the victim Larry Carey was intimidated, discredited and the case was improperly handled and intentionally manipulated and swept under the rug as were the Michael Frenette and Robert Kalex cases. I'm trying to remember if Deputy Police Chief Ben Martin^{PD} was involved in that case or not. Lambert and Poisson would probably have the answer to that. I don't believe Larry Carey was offered any professional help to deal with the trauma he was going thru at the time. Larry Carey later became the foster son of Stephen Dodd. If the case had been^{PD} handled the way it should have been and Larry Carey was offered some kind of professional help he might be alive today. Larry Carey was only 30 years old when he died, I believe from alcohol abuse. Just like the Michael Frenette and Robert Kalex cases, Chief Roger Beaucage was totally aware what was happening. Ben Martin lives in Sanford, Me. with his wife.

Also in 1989, I was transferred from Court officer for the department, back to the Detective Division. Detective Robert Poisson was transferred from the Detective Division back to the patrol division. I believe this move was a grudge a particular Police Commissioner (Denis Letellier) had against me and Robert Poisson. Everyone knew I didn't want to go back to being a detective^{PD}, I was a detective back in 1973-74.

Being a detective can be gruesome, long hours, staying awake at night wondering how you're going to solve a particular case, using people against one another and developing RD informants, etc. Once again Chief Roger Beaupre and his cunning way said, there wasn't much he could do, that's what the Police Commissioners wanted. Thinking back about that decision in 1989 made by Chief Roger Beaupre and the Sidsford Police Commissioners, I feel they thought Robert Poisson and I would resign from the department. Robert Poisson and I hung in there and continued to do our job.

Once back in the Detective Division and my first day back, Captain Gaudette told me he didn't want me in the division, but he had ^{no} choice, a decision made by Chief Beaupre and the Police Commissioners.

It wasn't long 1989-90, that I was briefed by Det. Jerry Davis and Det. Richard Gagne that they were investigating a report by Larry Ouellette, that he was sexually abused as a teenager by Capt. Norman Gaudette. Larry Ouellette stated the abuse started when he was 15-16 years old. I never read any statements by Larry Ouellette and never met him. One day Det. Davis told me, Larry Ouellette was coming to the PD to write out a statement against Capt. Norman Gaudette, about the sexual abuse Capt. Gaudette inflicted on him. I, Det. Davis and Det. Gagne were waiting for Larry Ouellette to show up at the PD, but Ouellette never showed. We figured Capt. Norman Gaudette must have gotten to him, persuaded or intimidated him in - can't

not coming to the PD. We all knew in the Detective Division, Chief Roger Beaucupe had to know what was going on. I was unaware at the time that Det. Davis and Det. Gagne had met with several victims abused by Capt. Norman Gaudette and were cooperating. I had just got back into the Detective Division. I remember talking to Mike Pulue a Detective with the Attorney General office. Pulue had come to the PD several times to talk to Det. Davis and Det. Gagne. Det. Davis and Det. Gagne eventually gathered enough evidence of sexual misconduct against Capt. Norman Gaudette and Gaudette was placed on administrative leave in October of 1990.

When Sgt. J.P. Mouni, the supply officer heard of the allegations against Capt. Norman Gaudette, he told me young men use to visit Capt. Gaudette, and Gaudette's office door was closed. Sgt. Mouni said that might explain all the jingling noises he heard coming from Capt. Gaudette's office. Sgt. Mouni's office was right next to Capt. Gaudette's office. Sgt. J.P. Mouni is retired, still lives in Biddford at the top of Clifford St. and George St.

Capt. Norman Gaudette was always bragging he had connections in the Attorney General office. Capt. Gaudette told me who his connection was, but I can't remember the name. The talk back then among detective's was, that Attorney General might be gay. I knew back then, the 1980's, Brian MacMaster, I think Fern Larochelle were connected to the Attorney General office. I had forgotten about Eric Wright, an assistant Attorney General back then, after reading his name in the newspaper.

Eric Wright was the assistant attorney General, who was to present the ²⁰cases against Capt. Norman Gaudette before a grand jury in Alfred, Maine. I do remember now Det. Davis had an argument at the PD with Wright, but was I was not aware what transpired after that.

Capt. Norman Gaudette was cleared of sexual misconduct charges after the grand jury hearing in Alfred. Capt. Gaudette returned to work shortly after the hearing and was reinstated, returning to work in May of 1991. Det. Davis, Gagne, Plante and I knew it wasn't going to be pleasant when Capt. Gaudette returned to work. The day Capt. Norman Gaudette came back you could tell he had the look of revenge on his face, and Gaudette muttered something to the effect, you couldn't get me. Later that day in Capt. Gaudette's office he said they the Attorney General office turned the table on that little bastard Davis, who shouldn't have been working on sex abuse cases because of Davis' back ground.

None of us in the detective division were afraid of Capt. Gaudette. We ²⁰feared that Capt. Gaudette may have held back information on cases, especially if that person was involved sexually with Capt. Gaudette, and that Capt. Gaudette may have provided information to someone that we suspected of a crime that he was sexually involved with. These scenarios could have put the Detective Division and the Patrol Division at risk to injury or worse. Two cases comes to mind. In the 90's someone thru a hockey puck thru the front window of Capt. Norman Gaudette's home on Westwood Drive in Biddeford.

I and other detectives thought he probably knew who had thrown the hockey puck at the window, but wouldn't say anything. Capt. Gaudette's son, was on the Biddford High School Hockey team at the time. There was a fire in the 90's at Biddford High School during the night, causing extensive damage. Capt. Norman Gaudette told us, Det. Davis, Bagne, Plante and I that he had information from a young man about the fire, and he was going to meet with him alone. Capt. Gaudette met with this young man a couple of times, and when we asked Capt. Gaudette about this young man and the information he reportedly had, Capt. Gaudette said it turned out to be nothing, and that ended that.

One day during the 90's I walked into the Chief's Beaupre's office, Norman Gaudette was also in there facing the wall, opposite the chief. They didn't see me right away, and I heard Chief Beaupre tell Capt. Gaudette, he didn't care about him (Beaupre). Capt. Gaudette replied "Roger you know I care about you". That conversation ended quickly.

Chief Roger Beaupre and Capt. Norman Gaudette had two regular visitors. One visitor was Robert Ladderbush, who was a Police Commissioner during the Larry Ouellette investigation. Robert Ladderbush and Norman Gaudette go back a long way, probably the 1960's. They both had worked at Mike's Market located at Harrison Avenue and Hill St. in Biddford. Mike's Market was a local neighborhood grocery store. I always suspected something between Capt. Gaudette and Robert Ladderbush, they were really good friends. Robert Ladderbush is now deceased.

Another regular visitor was Lt. Raymond "Tank" Moreau with the York County Sheriff's Department. Most of the time Lt. Moreau was just visiting, it wasn't police business. I believe in the later 90's a young man who was married, complained that Lt. Moreau was harassing him. This young man complained that Lt. Moreau sexually abused him as a juvenile, giving him oral sex (a blow job). I remember reading this young man's report. The harassment happened I believe on Cleaves St. Biddeford and Lt. Moreau was served paperwork to stay away from the young man. The incident appeared in the Journal Tribune and Moreau was placed on administrative leave with the York County Sheriff's office. I believe things were worked out at the York County Sheriff's office, and Raymond Moreau retired. Raymond "Tank" Moreau, I believe still lives in Biddeford and works at Twin City Gold + Pawn shop on Alfred St. in Biddeford.

Another victim of sexual abuse by Capt. Norman Gaudette, was James Simpson, an adult. James Simpson, confided in me, saying in the 90's Capt. Gaudette picked him up in Portland on a warrant. While traveling back to Biddeford via the turnpike, Capt. Gaudette turned onto an exit that leads to Scarborough Downs, a race track for horses. Simpson said, Gaudette stopped the car and force Simpson to perform oral sex (a blow job) on him. Simpson was fearful of Norman Gaudette and felt intimidated. Simpson said, on another occasion he ended up at Capt. Gaudette's home on Westwood Drive, Capt. Gaudette was tied up on his bed, and Simpson was doing sexual things to Gaudette, when Capt. Gaudette's wife walked in on them.

Capt. Norman Gaudette's wife was extremely angry and James Simpson left the home. James Simpson lives on Graham St in Biddeford.

I remember an investigation involving Sgt. Stephen Dodd in 2002-3. It was handled internally thru Captain Royal Marcoux, the chief's cousin. I knew Detective Mike Pulic of the attorney General office was working on this case as well. Next thing I knew Sgt. Dodd turned in his resignation with the Biddeford Police Department and surrendered his certificate of eligibility to work as a Law Enforcement in the State of Maine. As in all other cases of sexual abuse of young men 12-15 years of age by Capt. Norman Gaudette and Sgt. Stephen Dodd, it appears this case was swept under the rug as well.

Honestly chief Roger Beaupre did not RD provide support for these brave young men who had the courage to speak out about the sexual abuse inflicted on them by Sgt. Stephen Dodd and Captain Norman Gaudette. These young men were traumatized and Chief Roger Beaupre offered very little if any professional help to console these men at a young age.

I don't care where you go every profession has a bad egg or two, somehow some of them slip thru the system and land pretty ^{good} jobs. The Biddeford Police Department always had a bad egg or two, but over time, most of them were weeded out. The ones that weren't weeded out were probably helped in some way or protected by higher ranking people and kept their jobs.

Chief Roger Beaupre certainly knew about all these allegations of sexual abuse by Sgt. Stephen Dodd and Capt. Norman Gaudette inflicted against young boys, during the 80's thru 2003, etc. but Rept. Stephen Dodd and Capt. Norman Gaudette on the job. I'm sure the Deputy Police Chief Joanne Fisk knew about these allegations of sexual abuse as well. Chief Roger Beaupre and Deputy Chief Joanne Fisk should be placed on administrative paid leave, pending the results of all past and current complaints of sexual abuse by Sgt. Stephen Dodd and Capt. Norman Gaudette on young boys, now grown men.

I support all these brave men who had the courage to come forward with allegations of sexual abuse inflicted on them by Sgt. Stephen Dodd and Captain Gaudette when these men were young boys. Hopefully, the second time around the Criminal Justice system will not fail these men and justice will finally prevail.

In my 39 years as a police officer, most of the men and women who worked in Biddeford as police officers served the city of Biddeford with courage, integrity and honor. There were good men years ago when I started and there's good men and women there today. What comes back to hasn't everyone, there was always 1 or 2 bad cops that got thru the system.

Robert M. Devore, Jr.
5-17-15