IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

STATE OF FLORIDA,

CASE NO. 05-2013-CF-064037-AXXX-XX

Plaintiff,

VS.

MITCHELL A. NEEDELMAN,

Defendant.

# DEFENDANT MITCHELL A. NEEDELMAN'S MOTION FOR CHANGE OF VENUE

COMES NOW the Defendant, Mitchell A. Needelman (hereafter "Mr. Needelman"), pursuant to Florida Rule of Criminal Procedure 3.240 and moves for change of venue. Mr. Needelman is simultaneously moving for disqualification of all judges of the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit and therefore requests that venue be changed to Orange County, or to another county in close proximity to both Orange County and the Eighteenth Circuit. The basis of the motion is twofold.

First, because of pretrial publicity, Mr. Needelman cannot obtain a fair trial in Brevard County.

Second, Scott Ellis, past and current Clerk of Court for Brevard County, is interested in this litigation and its outcome. It is therefore inappropriate for Mr. Ellis to handle the Clerk of Court responsibilities in this case, or be in a position of influence with any judge who may preside over this case.

As Clerk, Mr. Ellis has a working relationship with all of the judges of the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit, including those in Seminole County (who may be or have been assigned

to Brevard County), rendering each judge of the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit subject to disqualification.

As Clerk, Mr. Ellis would have custody and control of all documents filed in this case, and all exhibits.

As Clerk, Mr. Ellis has filed a civil suit seeking both rescission of these contracts that form the basis of the criminal charges herein, and damages relating to breach of those contracts. The civil suit will be much easier to win if defendants herein, or any of them, are convicted.

Mr. Ellis has used his authority as Clerk in a way that tends to influence public opinion, including that of judges, in this case and in the civil suit. He has posted on the clerk's official website links to internet media articles which articles include invited comments from the public at large and include comments directly from Mr. Ellis. Most of these comments are extremely negative, and many display a vitriolic hatred of Mr. Needelman. That the negative publicity is being kept continuously available on an official government website has a devastating effect, much greater than the effect of traditional print media, which tend to fade with the passage of time. Furthermore, such postings on the Clerk's official website create an official and highly negative impact on potential jurors, which denies the defendants in this case a fair trial.

In addition to the limited number of media links Mr. Ellis has placed on the Clerk's website, there are innumerable instances in which Mr. Ellis has made extraordinarily harsh, degrading, and abusive comments concerning Mr. Needelman. Please see a sampling of these instances in Mr. Needelman's Motion for Disqualification of Judges of the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit, filed contemporaneously herewith.

These actions reveal Mr. Ellis' personal involvement in the case, his prejudice against Mr. Needelman and his codefendants, and the willingness of Mr. Ellis to use the power of his office to influence its outcome.

A change of venue to Orange County or to another county in close proximity to the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit will solve both the problem of pretrial publicity and the problem of Mr. Ellis' very public and inappropriate involvement in the case.

## **FACTS**

## Pretrial Publicity

- 1. Mr. Ellis was elected Brevard County Clerk after a bitterly fought and acrimonious campaign in which he accused his opponent, Mr. Needelman, and his codefendant, Ms. Rose Harr, of improper and illegal conduct related to contracts executed between the office of the Clerk of Courts for Brevard County and subsidiaries of BlueWare, Inc., which are owned or controlled by Ms. Harr. That same conduct is the subject of this prosecution.
- 2. During the campaign and after his election, Mr. Ellis himself made statements either implying or directly accusing Mr. Needelman and Ms. Harr of criminal conduct. <sup>1/2</sup> These remarks appear in print and are republished in an on-line format which invites public comment. The public comments reflect an extreme level of animosity on the part of the public against Mr. Needelman. Many of the articles which have been published since Mr. Ellis took office in January 2013, including the caustic comments from members of the

<sup>1/</sup> These remarks are addressed in Mr. Needelman's Motion for Disqualification of Judges of the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit, filed contemporaneously herewith.

public, are posted on the Clerk's official website, <a href="http://brevardclerk.us/current-news">http://brevardclerk.us/current-news</a> (Exhibit A).

The following is an incomplete but representative sample of the public comments.

## **Public comments**

Before the election, public comments mostly denigrated Mr. Needelman, with comments directed toward Ms. Harr occurring less often:

1. Commenting on a July 5, 2012, <u>Brevard Times</u> article, available at http://cpnews.brevardtimes.com/2012/07/clerk-of-courts-digitizing-contract.html, an anonymous poster said "Rose Harr is a liar." "Needleman [sic], in my opinion, is just as sneaky as Harr." (post dated July 7)(Exhibit B).

After Mr. Ellis won the election, the public commentary, which had primarily been directed toward Mr. Needelman, began to be directed also toward his co-defendants, Mr. DuPree and Ms. Harr, as well as toward Ms. Harr's family and associates, her companies, and the contracts at issue in this case:

- 2. Commenting on a November 7, 2012, <u>Brevard Times</u> article, available at http://cpnews.brevardtimes.com/2012/11/blueware-misses-clerks-office-deadline.html (Exhibit C),
- a. an anonymous poster says "this has been a scam from the very beginning." (post dated Nov. 9).
- b. an anonymous poster says "Thank you Scott finally an end to this nightmare. . . ." (post dated Nov. 9).

- 3. Commenting on a December 4, 2012, <u>Brevard Times</u> article, available at http://cp.opinion.brevardtimes.com/2012/12/charles-parker-hey-mitch-and-matt-how.html (Exhibit D),
- a. an anonymous poster refers to Ms. Harr's "lies, schemes, and ticks!! [sic] (post dated Dec. 4).
- b. an anonymous poster said "I cannot wait for them all to go to jail for stealing from Brevard County's taxpayers!! They are all evil and disgusting to me." (post dated Dec. 5).
- c. an anonymous poster said "I do believe there is corruption and wrong-doings on both sides here BlueWare and Brevard County." (post dated Dec. 5).
- d. an anonymous poster said "Charles appreciate every time you write about this Scam of the Century and the continuing criminality of these THIEVES that has been allowed to continue for this long." (post dated Dec. 5).
- 4. Commenting on a December 11, 2012, <u>Brevard Times</u> article, available at http://cp.opinion.brevardtimes.com/2012/12/charles-parker-divergent-views-on.html (Exhibit E),
- a. an anonymous poster referred to BlueWare as "a corrupt company run by a psycho nut job." (post dated Dec. 19).
- b. an anonymous poster, who said he previously worked at "Blueware," said "it was the greatest day in my life to get away from her and her family who are all a little warped." (post dated Dec. 27).

Beginning in January, 2013, Mr. Ellis began posting <u>Brevard Times</u> articles, including the comments, on the Clerk's official website (<u>See</u> Exhibit A).

- 5. Commenting on a January 5, 2013, <u>Brevard Times</u> article, available at http://cpnews.brevardtimes.com/2013/01/ellis-plans-moneysaving-changes-in.html (Exhibit F),
- a. An anonymous poster said, "Welcome back Scott!! Finally, things will get back to normal, although it will take time for you to actually see how much damage Mitch Needleman (sic) has done. He definitely has ripped-off the citizens of Brevard County. Wonder what will be on Needleman's (sic) agenda next? Prison? Stealing from the clerk's office will land him there. Aidios Needleman (sic), you did nothing for the COC...just screw us all over! (post dated Jan. 6).
- b. A poster named kenlyn asked Mr. Ellis to "Please keep us up to date on that Blueware scam." (post dated Jan. 7).
- c. An anonymous poster stated "... we are not stupid and can smell a fix a mile away. You are a self serving individual who only cares about lining your pocket at the expense of others ...." (post dated Jan. 13).
- 6. Commenting on a January 19, 2013, <u>Brevard Times</u> article, available at http://cpnews.brevardtimes.com/2013/01/former-clerks-digitizing-contract-under.html (Exhibit G),
- a. an anonymous poster says "In the end Rose won. She found some people she could manipulate the economic development committee, an easy mark in Mitch . . . . Six months later nothing has improved in the county, Mitch is somewhere counting his payout . . . and Rose is across the pond living large on stolen money" (post dated Jan. 20).
- b. an anonymous poster said "will your office still continue to make the entire case files available on line . . .???." (post dated Jan. 20).

- c. Poster Space Coast Conservative[dot]com said "Why is Needelman NOT in jail yet? When will that happen?" (Post dated Jan. 20).
- 7. Commenting on a January 24, 2013, <u>Brevard Times</u> article, available at http://cpnews.brevardtimes.com/2013/01/ellis-provides-emails-that-appear-to.html (Exhibit H),
- a. an anonymous poster said Thanks again Scott Ellis and Charles

  Parker for not letting this go and getting the word out" (post dated Jan. 24).
- b. an anonymous poster said "Scott Ellis was right again!!! You go Scott
  ... I'm sure he will be providing more proof of Needelman's lies as he digs deeper. We
  will be waiting for the next round.." (post dated Jan. 24).
- 8. Commenting on a February 5, 2013, <u>Brevard Times</u> article, available at http://cpnews.brevardtimes.com/2013/02/ellis-and-weatherman-at-odds-over.html (Exhibit I),
- a. an anonymous poster said "This scam needs to be completely exposed and the guilty sent to jail." (post dated Feb. 6).
- b. an anonymous poster asked "Can someone please explain to me why the State Attorney General's office has not moved on this sham contract? Rose Harr and her accomplices should be in jail." (posted Feb. 6).
- 9. Commenting on an August 29, 2013, <u>Brevard Times</u> article, available at http://government.brevardtimes.com/2013/08/brevard-clerk-of-court-sues-economic.html (Exhibit J),
- a. an anonymous poster said "Scott, there you go trying to be a hero again . . . Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!" (post dated Aug. 29).

- b. an anonymous poster said "Rose admits in private the software side of the business is dead" and "Rose also admits privately that Melbourne is a stop over on her way to the sunny shores of California. She will undoubtedly try this scam again once she gets out of prison. She played Melbourne, Brevard County, and the State of Florida for fools. She would have got away with it too if it were not for Scott Ellis. Now, all I see in her future is bankruptcy and prison. A fitting end for a truly horrible person." (post dated September 3).
- c. an anonymous poster said "If by some luck or another deception she is able to avoid jail or paying back the money that has been stolen I think we will all be a little sad that she was able to manipulate, deceive and play the weakness of our system for her benefit." (post dated Sept. 4).

Except for the March 13, 2013 article, all of the 2013 articles quoted above appear on the official website of the Brevard County Clerk of Court, http://brevardclerk.us/.

## **Brevard County Clerk of Court**

- 10. The Clerk of Court performs a wide range of record keeping, information and financial management for the judicial system, including felony prosecutions. See http://brevard.clerk.us/duties-and-responsibilities.
  - 11. The Clerk issues jury summons. <u>Id</u>.
- 12. The Clerk has custody of documents filed in trial court cases, and exhibits introduced into evidence.
- 13. Perhaps the Clerk's most important responsibility is preserving and keeping records. See video presentation: Role of the Clerk, available at http://brevardclerk.us/introduction- from-clerk.

- 14. The Clerk acts as a partner in the court system. <u>Id</u>.
- 15. The presiding judge will have a deputy clerk in the courtroom during trial, and that deputy clerk will be assigned by and accountable to Mr. Ellis as the Clerk of Court.

#### MEMORANDUM OF LAW

A fair and impartial trial cannot be conducted in Brevard County. There has been wide publicity given to the case throughout printed, internet, and televised news media. It is especially prejudicial that many of the articles published on the internet have been placed by the Clerk onto Clerk's official website. This, by itself, magnifies that Mr. Ellis as the Clerk of Court for Brevard County is biased. By reason of this inordinate publicity, there is pronounced prejudice and hostility toward Mr. Needelman and his codefendants which will make securing an impartial jury practically and psychologically impossible. The general state of mind of the inhabitants of Brevard County is affected by knowledge of the contracts at issue here and of Mr. Ellis' personal indictment against Mr. Needelman and This knowledge is accompanied by such prejudice, bias, and his codefendants. preconceived opinions, openly and anonymously expressed and republished by Mr. Ellis on the Clerk's official website, that Mr. Needelman could not receive a fair and impartial trial in Brevard County. Undersigned counsel has located no other case involving such negative articles posted on an official state website as Mr. Ellis has posted on the Brevard County Clerk's official website.

The test for determining a change of venue is whether the general state of mind of the inhabitants of a community is so infected by knowledge of the incident and accompanying prejudice, bias, and preconceived opinions that jurors could not possibly put these matters out of their minds and try the case solely upon the evidence presented in the courtroom.

McCaskill v. State, 344 So.2d 1276, 1278 (Fla. 1977). The defendant has the burden of showing that the setting of the trial is inherently prejudicial because of the general atmosphere and state of mind of the community's inhabitants. Manning v. State, 378 So.2d 274, 276 (Fla. 1980).

Community hostility may be established by inflammatory publicity. <u>Noe v. State</u>, 586 So.2d 371, 379 (Fla. 1st DCA 1991). "Prejudice from pretrial publicity is presumed where the publicity was sufficiently prejudicial and inflammatory that it pervaded the community where the trial was held. <u>Coleman v. Kemp</u>, 778 F.2d 1487, 1490 (11th Cir.1985), <u>cert. denied</u>, 476 U.S. 1164, 106 S.Ct. 2289, 90 L.Ed.2d 730 (1986). To warrant a change of venue, a defendant must show the existence of inherent prejudice in the trial setting, or facts related to the jury selection process, which permit an inference of actual prejudice. <u>Noe</u>, 586 So.2d at 379.

"The critical factor in connection with pretrial publicity is the extent of the prejudice or lack of impartiality among potential jurors." <a href="Id">Id</a>. In this case, the prejudice inherent in the trial setting arises not merely from exposure to news accounts, but from ongoing malicious internet comments made by the public, which indicates that the public is actively involved and interested in the controversy. Importantly, Mr. Ellis has kept these malicious comments continuously available by posting them on the Clerk's official website, indicating that the Brevard County Clerk of Court is actively involved in maintaining and continuing the public outrage.

The fact that the vast bulk of the malicious comments are anonymous adds to the problem. One of the posters who actively hates Mr. Needelman or one of the other codefendants could well be called for jury duty and lie during jury selection, precisely for

the purpose of getting on the jury so that he or she can exercise influence to secure a conviction. It is not reasonable to be expected that someone who has expressed such intense hatred for Mr. Needelman and such determination to see him imprisoned would reveal such beliefs during jury selection, so therefore it would be reasonable to presume that such a person might be unknowingly selected to sit as a juror.

"A trial judge is bound to grant a motion for a change of venue when the evidence presented reflects that the community is so pervasively exposed to the circumstances of the incident that prejudice, bias, and preconceived opinions are the natural result." Manning, 378 So.2d at 276.

Although Mr. Ellis prevailed in his election bid more than a year ago, the issue is still inviting fresh comment from the public. Internet comments accusing Mr. Needelman of criminality appear almost on a daily basis, the most recent to date having appeared on November 1, 2013, in <u>Florida Today</u>, in an article entitled "Judge: Is EDC subject to public records disclosure?" (Exhibit K.)

In this article - which is entirely about a dispute between the Economic Development Commission and the Office of the Clerk of Court - a photograph appears of Mr. Needelman with the caption: "BlueWare and its chief executive officer are the focus of a felony case involving former Clerk of Courts Mitch Needelman." See http://www.floridatoday.com/article/20131101/NEWS01/131101003.Judge-EDC-subject-to-public-records-disclosure.html

The Court's duty in evaluating pretrial publicity is to examine five factors: (1) when the publicity occurred in relation to the time of the alleged crime and the trial; (2) whether the publicity was made up of factual or inflammatory stories; (3) whether the publicity

favored the prosecution's side of the story; (4) the size of the community exposed to the publicity; and (5) whether the defendant exhausted all of his peremptory challenges in seating the jury. State v. Knight, 866 So.2d 1195, 1209 (Fla. 2003). Here, the publicity is current, and has been ongoing for more than a year. The publicity is unquestionably inflammatory.<sup>2</sup>/

The publicity also favors the prosecution's, or more precisely, Mr. Ellis's, side of the story. Pre-election publicity, in which each candidate made accusations against the other, has been allowed to die, while post-election stories that favor Mr. Ellis and which have been aimed at Mr. Needelman and his codefendants have been kept alive and in the public eye via extensive media coverage and the posting of media articles on the Brevard County Clerk's official website.

The size of the community is also important. According to the United States Census, in 2012 the Brevard County population was 547,307, and the Seminole County population was 430,838. Orange County, to which Mr. Needelman requests that venue be transferred, had a 2012 population of 1,202,234, more than Brevard and Seminole Counties combined. The facts that residents of Orange County have had minimal involvement in this controversy, and limited, if any, interest in Mr. Ellis, combined with

<sup>2/</sup> Although much of it purports to be factual, the internet commentary consists largely of opinion and unsupported allegations by Mr. Ellis, or by anonymous sources. For example, "The whole job is a scam...," a comment posted on November 8, 2012, by Scott Ellis, see <a href="http://cpnews.brevardtimes.com/2012/11/blueware-misses-clerks-office-deadline.html">http://cpnews.brevardtimes.com/2012/11/blueware-misses-clerks-office-deadline.html</a> (Exhibit C); and "that band of thieves won't be talking while an FDLE investigation is underway, a comment anonymously posted on March 24, 2013, see <a href="http://cpnews.brevardtimes.com/2013/03/hewlett-packard-threatens-lawsuit-over.html">http://cpnews.brevardtimes.com/2013/03/hewlett-packard-threatens-lawsuit-over.html</a> (Exhibit L).

Orange County's larger population, make it a venue to be preferred over either Brevard or Seminole County for ease of selecting an unbiased jury.

The final factor, whether the defendant exhausted all peremptory challenges, is not ripe for consideration, nor is it pertinent in this case. Mr. Ellis has devoted considerable effort not only to the specific task of poisoning the jury pool, but to influencing the opinions and actions of the people of Brevard County in all aspects of this issue. Part of this effort, for example, is the subject of Mr. Needelman's Motion for Disqualification of Judges of the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit, filed contemporaneously herewith. Mr. Needelman's ability to obtain a fair trial involves more than the ability to pick an unbiased jury. The sooner this case is moved from Brevard County and to a county where Mr. Ellis has no influence, the more likely it will be that Mr. Needelman can receive a fair trial.

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 5<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2013, a true copy of the foregoing was filed utilizing the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal and was served via electronic mail to: Office of the State Attorney, Felony Division, 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Bldg. D, Viera, FL 32940, at <a href="mailto:BrevFelony@sa18.state.fl.us">BrevFelony@sa18.state.fl.us</a>; to Mark L. Horwitz, Esquire, Law Offices of Mark L. Horwitz, P.A., 17 East Pine Street, Orlando, Florida 32801, at <a href="mailto:mark@mlhorwitzlaw.com">mark@mlhorwitzlaw.com</a>; and to Fritz Scheller, Esquire, Fritz Scheller, P.L., 200 East Robinson Street, Suite 1150, Orlando, Florida 32801, at <a href="mailto:fscheller@flusalaw.com">fscheller@flusalaw.com</a>.

s/Warren W. Lindsey

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1150 Louisiana Avenue, Suite 2

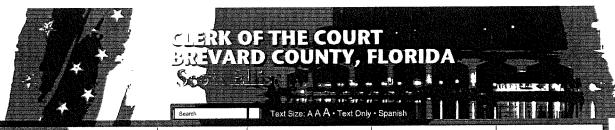
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- ► Ellis; City's Tax Deal Falls Short October 14, 2013
- ► Brevard Clerk of Court Sues Economic Development Commission for BlueWare Documents
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- Brevard Clerk of Court Won't do EDC Audit that Commissioner Infantini Wants August 21, 2013
- Brevard County official calls red light camera fee a 'rip off' June 12, 2013
- ► Opinion Letter Thumbs Up to Ellis for Being Taxpayer Watchdog April 05, 2013
- ► Scott Ellis Says He Won't Pay for Sweetheart Document Scanning Contract April 03, 2013
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- Hewlett Packard Threatens Lawsuit Over BlueWare Debt: Ellis Stands Strong March 23, 2013
- Brevard Performs Well in Public Records Test March 09, 2013
- ► Space Coast Economic Development Commission Subpoenaed by FDLE February 28, 2013
- ► Ellis and Weatherman at Odds Over BlueWare Documents February 5, 2013
- ► Ellis Claims Proof of Needelman Campaign Lies in Emails and Videos January 29, 2013
- ▶ Brevard EDC Cites "Non-Disclosure Agreement" and Confidentiality with

Exhibit A

Regard to BlueWare Relationship

- ► Ellis: Emails Appear to Contradict Needelman Attorney's Testimony January 24, 2013
- ► Former Clerk's Digitizing Contract Under More Scrutiny January 19, 2013
- ► Ellis Plans Money Saving Changes in Clerk's Office January 05, 2013

#### ARCHIVED NEWS/EVENTS

- PROPOSED LEGISLATION THREATENS TO DESTROY JUDICIAL CHECKS AND BALANCES Diane M. Matousek Volusia County Clerk of the Court February 2009 PROPOSED LEGISLATION
  THREATENS TO DESTROY JUDICIAL CHECKS AND BALANCES.pdf (77.4 KBs)
- Preserving the Public's Right to Access: letter from Clerk of Court Diane Matousek to Legislative Delegation, February 27, 2009 Clerk\_Letter.pdf (320.2 KBs)
- /~ CCOC Comparative View: Article V Budgeting Realities: CCOC\_ComparativeView.pdf (89.7 KBs)

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Thursday, July 5, 2012

Needelman: Ellis' "Complicated" Requests Delayed Release of Clerk Documents, BlueWare Contracts



PHOTO: Brevard Times / File

BREVARD COUNTY, Florida - Last week, Brevard County Clerk of Courts Mitch Needelman announced the award of a five-year, \$8.52 million contract with BlueGem, LLC for digitizing of all past, current, and future Clerk's office records, including many that are currently stored in a former gymnasium in Titusville. The release of the contract to the media has raised new questions from Scott Ellis, Needelman's opponent in this year's primary race.

Ellis had requested a copy of the contract in late May through a <u>public records</u> request. However, news outlets were given copies before Ellis. Some have questioned Needelman's motives about this release.

Needelman says that it is partially timing and partially Ellis' fault since he issues requests in a complicated way.

"The reason Scott did not receive his request back in May was because it was made during contract negotiations, which is protected under statute until completed  $^{\rm C}$ . The contract was signed on 06/29/12 and that is the date we released the information. Scott was notified that his request was ready and of his costs on 07/02/12. He didn't pay and pick up until the 3rd."

"Because his real purpose is not to gather information, but to set up failure if possible, his requests are always multi-layered and complicated. His hope is that something will be missed, left out, or simply not accessible without a

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#### Politic

- EDC Claims It's Not A Public Agency. Not Required To Produce BlueWare Records
- Florida Food Stamp Cuts Begin Today
- Charlie Crist Will Run For Florida Governor
- Obamacare 'Navigator' Ready to Help Brevard County Residents

#### About M



Charles Parker

I cover politics, sports, and local news for Brevard Times. I also write opinion. You can email me

al cpbrevard@gmail.com and follow me on Twitter @cpbrevard These views are mine alone and do not necessarily reflect the views of Brevard Public  $\underline{\text{Schools}}^{\, \, C}.$ 

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Exhibit B 05-2013-CF-064037-AXXX-XX

great deal of time-consuming research on the part of my staff. It feels like he has made a request every other day since I took office.

"After repeated accusations that what he receives is "not right" I have finally implemented a policy that requires a check-off cover sheet that must be completed." before his request is released. This, of course, adds time to the process. I have people dedicated to his searches alone. We had to put something in place to avoid the redundancy he incorporates into every request to try to reduce the workload," Needelman added.

Ellis has also questioned how this contract will be paid for in these tight budgetary times.

Needelman said, "As far as the funding for this five-year project goes, the sources of revenue will come from the various areas that the <u>scanning</u> impacts. We will evaluate the impact from the various function areas that need scanning and proportion the costs appropriately to each area."

Ellis disagrees with Needelman's claims. "The Clerk's Office is about a \$21 million annual operation. A near \$2 million annual expense for five years is huge. If the Office had \$1.7 million per year just floating around in excess monies (savings) we'd have seen those monies returned to the funding agencies, the State of Florida and the Brevard County Commission. Since only \$100,000 was returned to the State of Florida, with the County simply repaid the \$100,000 in penalties from breaking the insurance." contract, clearly more money must come from somewhere to fund this effort."

The contract had previously come under scrutiny from Ellis and he had accused the current Clerk's office of a rigged bidding system and favoritism. Ellis had charged that the bid was only open for seven days through an Invitation-to-Negotiate process. He also claimed that an associate of Needelman had profited financially through this contract award and that Needelman had refused to comply with requests because that fact might be revealed.

Ellis said, "My belief is the current strategy of starving operations to award no -bid and sham-bid contracts to companies represented by Friends of Mitch (FoM) will be expanded.

"The  $\underline{\text{public records}}^{\,\mathcal{C}}$  I have requested have been stonewalled for over a month and are quite simple:

- (i) invoices for monies already paid Blueware;
- (ii) contracts with individuals (such as Tallahassee attorneys and Public Relations spokesmen); and
- (iii) the bids returned from companies on the imaging contract.

"With the award, the contract itself now becomes <u>public record</u>". I believe the invoices will show well over \$500,000 was paid the parent company while the Invitation to Negotiate (ITN) (had) yet to determine the selectee. Needelman has refused for over a month to even identify the name of the firm selected for the negotiations."

Records show the following timeline for the bidding process:

- 5/3 -An ITN was issued by the Clerk's Office for the digitizing contract.
- 5/7 Questions from bidders were due to the Clerk's Office.
- 5/11 Responses to the questions were due back from the Clerk's Office.
- 5/23 The Clerk's Office selected BlueGem, provided a \$500,000 contract guaranty payment to BlueGem, and began final contract negotiations.
- 6/29 The contract was signed by BlueGem representative Rose Harr and Needelman. Copies were released to the media.
- 7/2 Scott Ellis is notified that requested copies are available.
- 7/3 Scott Ellis acknowledges receipt of a copy of the contract.

According to the contract, "BlueGem will provide a totally functional system providing for the digitization of Brevard County current and historical documents per Florida statutes."

The contract also note that a 90-day pilot project will be initiated called the "Digital Pen Solution Implementation." According to the contract, "The Digital Pen Solution allows instantaneous capture of written data.

The contract notes a pricing schedule that extends payments from the Clerk's Office over the next five years.

May 2012; \$500,000 contract guaranty payment

June 29, 2012: \$50,000 contract signing payment

July 1, 2012 – November 1, 2012: \$250,000 total (5 monthly payments  $^{\mathcal{C}}$  of

December 1, 2012 - November 1, 2013: \$1,440,000 total (12 monthly payments c of \$120,000)

December 1, 2013 – May 1, 2015: \$2,610,000 total (18  $\underline{\mathsf{monthly payments}}^{\mathcal{C}}$ 

June 1, 2015 – May 1, 2017: \$3,720,000 total (24 monthly payments  $^{c}$  of \$155,000)

Posted by Charles Parker at4:14 PM

+1 Recommend this on Google

## 43 comments:



scott ellis July 6, 2012 at 7;22 AM

I was notified July 3rd and paid same day. Blueware has been paid money since last March, prior payments are not subject to 'negotiation' and the invoices are public record. Rather than claim I make these requests every other day, just release the requests themselves, they are public record and few in number and simple to respond to, if they wanted to respond.

From: Merrily Longacre [mailto:Merrily.Longacre@brevardclerk.us] Sent: Tuesday, July 03, 2012 9:01 AM To: sellis@spacey.net

Cc: Sean Campbell; Mitch Needelman; Renee McGrory; Diana Spivey; Michael McDaniel

Subject: Public Records



Anonymous July 6, 2012 at 9:19 AM

Mitch has to go. "Good ol' Boy" politics and favortisim is what has gotten this county and our nation into the trouble we are in.

Perhaps Mitch should have directed his staff to be accurate with their record keeping and been less concerned with how to pander to his cronies in the private sector.

It will be very interesting to see if he takes a position with BlueGem LLC when he is voted out of office in November.

Reply



Anonymous July 6, 2012 at 1:29 PM

The only way any records request is "complicated" is when you are trying to HIDE something Mitch! A checklist can't even keep up with all the LIES you have told..... BUT GOOD LUCK WITH THAT!!

Reply

Replies



Anonymous July 10, 2012 at 1:52 PM

Reply

249339da-b6a4-11e1-bf0d-000bcdcb471e July 6, 2012 at 1:32 PM

This is no time to delay with the election so close. You have convinced me to vote foe Ellis Mr. Needleman

Reply



Anonymous July 6, 2012 at 9:30 PM

Clerks Office improved dramatically when Scott took it over.

Employees like him too.

Employees got screwed when Mitch took over (we tend to forget about this, Brevard).

You can't hide corruption and really dumb moves from Scott (especially in the Data world). He's a ferret for the people.

Points to remember at election time.

Reply

Replies



**Anonymous** July 10, 2012 at 1:53 PM

How true. :)

Good Luck Brevard County!!

Reply



Anonymous July 7, 2012 at 10:19 AM

Rose Harr is a liar. She did not and is not moving 30 employees to Melbourne. There is not even 30 left. She moved a few, and suddenly laid a bunch off. Brevard County please be careful, when it sounds too good to be true it usually is!! And 190 new employees at \$69,000? Did anyone do any research on this "BlueWare" or "BlueGEM"? Are they financially stable? How is their track record with customers and partners? Since they have worked internationally, how are they liked overseas? Needleman, in my opinion, is just as sneaky as Harr.

Reply

Replies



Anonymous September 21, 2012 at 3:16 PM

BlueWare/BlueGem/BlueWhatever is not a financially stable company. They miss  $\underline{\text{payroll}}$   $^{C}$ , do not reimburse staff expenses for months, and have not made a new sale of their signature software BestBond in almost 3 years. And, BestBond is not even completed to the point it will function properly for a hospital. They are trying to sell vaporware. The only new client they have brought on in the US over the past 3 years is the Brevard County Clerk of the Court. If anyone thinks this company is going to bring 190 new jobs with an average salery of \$69K to the Melbourne area they need to get a reality check. It is just not going to happen. Since May 2012 they have lost (quitfired/laid off) their Finance Director, COO - twice, CTO, Sales Manager, sales staff, programmers/tech support, and others.

Reply



Anonymous July 7, 2012 at 1:37 PM

Anon at 7:19. We know -we have a history here of being fools and suckers w/lhese types of corp welfare gifts that make a handful of insiders wealthy on our backs. I always find if suspicious when one individual (Rose Harr) finds it necessary to open 10 different corp entities on the same day (5/16/2012 Fla)Blueware Cloud, LLC; Bluezen, LLC; Roseware, LLC; Blueware Land, LLC; Blueware DOD, LLC; Bluescan, LLC; Blueware Eire, LLC; Blueware, Inc.; Blueware International, Inc. – all with a corp office address at an oceanfront condo in Indialantic that is being rented.

The office on the river that FT intimated they purchased – there is no deed recorded for that property so they must be renting that as well. Yes, they are really investing big time here so far with their gift \$\$ from us sucker tax payers! Not bad for a person that has zero history of doing <u>business</u> in this county or state.

Reply

Replies



Anonymous July 10, 2012 at 1:38 PM

Thanks for the good information.



Anonymous July 10, 2012 at 1:51 PM

"Many on the STREET"? What street is that? Not where I come from.



**Anonymous** July 10, 2012 at 10:30 PM

I think you are the lier. Check out their website http://blueware.us/ See the into on Rose in the about section. I would say you are the sucker listening to all the lies!



Anonymous July 11, 2012 at 9:42 AM

Go to http://www.sunbiz.org/search.html (Fia Corp filings)

Look up Rose Harr in an 'Inquire by Officer/Registered Agent' search. It's all there.



Anonymous July 11, 2012 at 1:40 PM

Well, duh. You can form a Corp in FL too!

Reply



Anonymous July 10, 2012 at 12:30 AM

I am really tired of all the false and incorrect information being published here. It is amazing how you can tell lies and expect the public to believe what you write. You can not even get your facts straight. I will support our current clerk as he is doing a great job straightening out the mess he was left by the former clerk.

Reply

Replies



Anonymous July 10, 2012 at 7:27 PM

You must be one of the employees who got a \$10,000 or \$20,000 raise!! Because those will be the only people voting for Needelman....



Anonymous July 10, 2012 at 9:56 PM

You only wish those are the only ones!



Anonymous July 11, 2012 at 10:39 PM

Those are the only ones, MITCH NEEDELMAN IS A LIAR AND SO ARE YOU.YOUR PYSHIC ABILITIES ARE A CROCK.



Anonymous July 12, 2012 at 9:33 AM

No, they are not the only ones, the community is wise to all the scams you are putling out their. The correct information is public record, so no matter how much you try to spin it, you lies are revealed. Pyshic abilities? You need some of your own because I am not who you are accusing me of being! So who is the liar here?

Reply



Anonymous July 10, 2012 at 9:50 AM

The neutrality of Brevard Times is in question. Many on "the street" believe it is just a propaganda tool for Scott Ellis and his band of ultra right wing extremists, who interestingly enough pander to extreme left wing extremists. The funny thing about extremists is that they have more in common then they have things in common. Scott Ellis is an extremist egotist. Everything he does and says is about himself. He comes from an unstable family background and had major issues with his father. This is why he constantly seeks approval and tries to make himself feel superior to everyone else. It is why he surrounds himself with people that he looks down upon and people who in his narrow world view don't come close to his perceived sense of intellect. The truth is, Scott Ellis is seeking approval from his father and he will never receive it. People, we need a Clerk not a mentally unbalanced cocaine user acting out some bizarre Freudian fantasy.

Reply

Replies



Anonymous July 10, 2012 at 10:55 AM

Now now that isn't nice. But I did hear Scott was a major coke snorter since the days he was hanging out at Ichabod's beachside. Based on his paranoid screwball behavior looks like nothings changed.



Anonymous July 10, 2012 at 11:38 AM

Hey guys I've heard things about Scott too. Quite frankly I think he is just white trash.



#### Anonymous July 10, 2012 at 11:41 AM

I'm a hillbilly from West Virginia and let me tell you something. To call Ellis white trash is insulting to white trash. That guys got a mean streak in him that makes him meaner then a junk yard dog. I think the boy has a screw loose in his head.



#### Anonymous July 10, 2012 at 1:41 PM

Are your comments suppose to help Mitch? People wants facts not fabrications and lies. This only HELPS Scott, doesn't burt him at all.



#### Anonymous July 10, 2012 at 1:49 PM

I think the person that wrote this and some that responded to it, need to get a LIFE. You certainly help us all realize how we DON'T want Mitch and people like this (supporting him) running the Clerk's office. Who talks like this (white trash, etc.,) sounds so GHETTO. I wonder what they had for breakfast? A can of beer? I would put the the original comment writer on ignore and the scatter brainers (air heads), and go back to ISSUES, not all this nonsense. What a distraction to some intelligent conversations in here. This is the response to be EXPOSED....lol



#### Anonymous July 10, 2012 at 1;56 PM

"Many on the STREET"? What street is that? Not where I come from



#### Anonymous July 10, 2012 at 2:03 PM

LOOKS LIKE THE COMMENT AND THE FOLLOWING REPLY'S ALL CAME FROM THE SAME PERSON, IF THIS PERSON SUPPORTS MITCH NEEDELMAN, DO I NEED TO SAY MORE?

Reply



#### Anonymous July 10, 2012 at 3:00 PM

You can always tell who the "extremists" are. They are the ones who level outrageous and unsubstantiated insults and denigrations on a candidate, Scott Ellis, without ever addressing the issues being raised. What a bunch of scum bags these pro Needelman wacos are.

Mitch Needleman should be judged by the company he keeps and thrown out of office shortly

thereafter. Reply

Replies



## Anonymous July 10, 2012 at 3:44 PM

So are you one of Scott Ellis' cocaine buddies. Sounds like it. Scott is the biggest coke addict going.



#### **Anonymous** July 11, 2012 at 10:54 PM

Mr Needelman surrounds himself with all kinds of upstanding people;his adminsrative assistant has a felony charge of fraud, his finance director is in foreclosure and his son is a criminal, and his pyshic attorney predicts he will be relected.all of those interesting tidbits are facts.take a look for yourself on the clerks website.



#### Anonymous July 14, 2012 at 11:55 AM

Perhaps you should go back to school yourself:

Mr. people, administrative fraud, criminal, and psychic re-elected. All clerk's



### **Anonymous** July 14, 2012 at 2:33 PM

Oh yes Anonymous July 11 7:54 PM, People that are in foreclosure are evil people. People that due to hard times in this county that wanted the American Dream. Thousand in this county! Scott Ellis supporters think people in foreclosure are vial! Oh, what about Scott Ellis who doesn't own a piece of property in this county?

http://cpnews.brevardtimes.com/2012/07/clerk-of-courts-digitizing-contract.html

Reply



## Anonymous July 10, 2012 at 4:08 PM

The facts are here and can not be refuted. It is public record. The rest is all lies! http://www.mitchforclerk.com/

Reply

Replies



Anonymous July 10, 2012 at 7:33 PM

You have to be JOKING!!!!

Reply



Anonymous July 10, 2012 at 7:16 PM

Never worked for any Clerk & don't know anyone who has.My biz requires access to the clerk records to operate & I have been using them in Brevard since '85 when it required a trip to Tville to do so. I have spent wasted time, \$\$\\$ & aggravation since MN took over that office, and there is more cominguinneeded changes to web site & vendor software(s).

Now this, IMO it is negligent to obligate us to a GUARANTEED \$8.6+ MIL contract for a task that is NOT a priority now. I haven't needed a pre'80 doct for 12+ yrs.

Blueware/RoseWare/BlueGern... This (10 corps in all) is a 1 person Limited Liability corp. No other partners=severely limited resources in borrowing \$, raising capital... She could just walk w/the \$500K we just paid for zip. We're also on the hook to take care of her and pay her rent. Per Contract "Charges for cost of travel, accommodation and subsistence, and expenses incurred by Supplier are to be paid in addition to other fees owed under this Contract...".

Who would sign such a no-limit, unilateral contract? Is this a good steward of our \$\$ and resources? I hope people will take the time to get informed. I want my Clerk's Office and my Money back!

Reply

Replies



Anonymous July 14, 2012 at 11:40 AM

If Ellis had done his job when he was in office before you would not have had the problems you had. He allowed documents to be entered on line with people's bank account #, and their social security numbers. Too bad so sad, we were all inconvenienced, I am sorry you were aggravated, but it was the law and Ellis decided not to start the process at all. It was left in Needleman's lap!

Another problem is these folks are confusing their documents. They are mixing up their facts and trying to make them look like something they are not!

Reply



Anonymous July 14, 2012 at 1:41 PM

You are wrong. They were being scanned all along. It was so very rare an instance I saw an SS or acct # in the records prior to MN pulling 20 yrs of docts down for 10 months. Most other FL Clerks are using a scan prior to the doct being viewable on-line. Did Blueware get that 'redaction' contract too? How much \$\$ did the office rake in charging \$1 per page during that time?

On that note, it was not 2 days after the docts were back up that I saw a SS# on a newly recorded mortgage. I urge anyone having a financial doct recorded lately to double check it on-line - this Clerk's office is a distracted mess and is missing a lot.

Reply

Replies



Anonymous July 14, 2012 at 2:06 PM

Really, and that is why people complained after Needelman took office which required them to take action? Then Mr. Needelman is personally respondsible for that SS# being on that document and the person that entered into the system takes no responsibility for that. Maybe that person needs to be taken to task. Did you contact the office to let them know that there was an error on the paperwork? Shame on you if you did not! So let me see one document out of thousands, ohhhhh, that terrible terrible clerks office!

Yes the docs were scanned all along but not redacted! Yes, and why didn't Ellis put that into place along with the OTHER FL clerks?

So what if Blueware did that contract? I have not checked the records, but if they did then that might be the payment everyone is talking about which they claim was an advance to a contract being let! Maybe it was for services already rendered under a different scope of business! Just maybe they are not doing their fact check completely!

So who might be wrong here? Lets twist the facts some more, because everyone knows that is what they are good at!

http://cpnews.brevardtimes.com/2012/07/clerk-of-courts-digitizing-contract.html

Reply



Anonymous July 14, 2012 at 7:08 PM



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Wednesday, November 7, 2012

#### BlueWare Misses Clerk's Office Deadline

MELBOURNE, Florida - BlueWare, Inc., the Brevard County Clerk of Courts digitizing contractor, has missed a deadline to respond to questions from Brevard Times. The Clerk's office had previously said that BlueWare would "be responding in some capacity" by November 7, 2012, according to Katerina Pringis, a Public Records Research Clerk.

In a November 1 email, Jennifer Kenna of BlueWare questioned the relevance of the inquires, but declined to provide clarification, noting that whether or not the company would have further comment "is not my decision to be made." Emails to another BlueWare employee, Kaitlin Welliver, have not been acknowledged by BlueWare. Welliver previously provided on-the-record information.

The follow-up questions were raised after public comment resulting from a October 17 story in Brevard Times about the five-year \$8.5 million digitizing contract between Clerk Mitch Needelman and BlueWare. That story can be linked at http://cpnews.brevardtimes.com/2012/10/court-recordsdigitizing-underway.html

The outstanding questions include:

- 1. What is the current employment in the BlueGem digitizing effort and how/when will ramp-up occur? Is it true that you are required to hire 192 workers within 24 months to receive Brevard EDC
- 2. There was a claim that veterans would be hired. How is that process going? Is there a specific system in place to connect your HR with veterans? How many have been hired?
- 3. There are claims that thee has been a high turnover rate in your company as of late. Can you comment on the truth of these claims?
- 4. Where is the new permanent site and what equipment purchase have been made for it?

The questions were also provided to the Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast. Dina Reider-Hicks said that the EDC's role with BlueWare was limited to "business

A press release from EDC said, "The EDC worked closely with the company to demonstrate the competitive advantages of locating in Brevard County and developed a competitive proposal outlining the tax advantages and skilled jabor pool, BlueWare selected Brevard County over two other potential sites primarily due to its skilled labor pool and attractive tax climate."

Reider-Hicks added, "We have no knowledge or information related to the questions" and "as for the incentives question, BlueWare was awarded performance-based incentives through the state of Florida. You can find details regarding the performance requirements for the incentives on the Enterprise Florida website."

A search of the Enterprise Florida website found no references to "BlueWare," BlueGem" or "Rose Harr." As well, the press link did not have any related stories in 2012.



#### Recent

- Eastern Florida Wins \$1.5 Million Grant for New Degree Programs
- · Eastern Florida Faculty Art on Display
- North Brevard Zone Seeks to Provide \$6.5 Million Grant to Developer
- FIT to Host Make-A-Wish Night Saturday at Old School Pizza
- Merritt Island High School Students Get Firsthand Look at Space Launch

#### Politics

- EDC Claims It's Not A Public Agency, Not Required To Produce BlueWare Records
- Florida Food Stamp Cuts Begin Today
- · Charlie Crist Will Run For Florida Governor
- Obamacare 'Navigator' Ready to Help Brevard County Residents

#### About Me



Charles Parker

l cover politics, sports, and local news for Brevard Times, I also write opinion. You can email me

at cobrevard@amail.com and follow me on Twitter @cpbrevard These views are mine alone and do not necessarily reflect the views of Brevard Public Schools.

View my complete profile

Filing 7115135 STATE VS NEEDELMAN MITCHELL cpnews.brevardtimes.com/2012/11/blueware-misses-clerks-office-deadline.html

Posted by Charles Parker at 11:25 PM

Recommend this on Google

## 68 comments:



Anonymous November 8, 2012 at 9:03 AM

I am going to share a secret with all my fellow citizens of Brevard County.

Here is Business 101 from the Blueware strategy handbook.

- 1 Never answer any questions that may reveal the truth.
- 2 Never provide solid proof that you are doing what you say.
- 3 Here is the most important, when anyone attacks you never counter with facts. Call them liars and sling mud their way.

And now how all these guidelines have been implemented in the latest string of stories that Blueware is not actually scanning documents but just collecting money on a contract that pays them \$120,000 a month to do nothing except fly to England to plan their escape when Ellis comes to

Rule 1 counter - They were asked to respond to the citizen questions by November 7. They ignored the request. If it was me, I would have had a press conference to answer these questions and field

Rule 2 counter - You rent a building instead of buying, you hire temporary employees through a hiring agency and you fire any real business people. If you really planned on staying wouldn't you have purchased a building by now instead of claiming there is no where for our big operations. You are evidently doing it in a 1,200 sq foot house right now. Why do you not hire full time employees instead of uising a temporary agency? You can skirt a lot of the state regulations by hiring temporary employees. Every real executive who has walked through those doors left within 8 weeks and now you have a party planner and a part time marketing person with no sales experience leading sales.

Rule 3 counter - Blueware has not provided any solid facts to counter any claim that was made in the 85 comments made in the feature articles about their company. They talk about Ellis like he is dirty, cannot provide proof of another client they did this same type of work for, and most importantly cannot show how their over priced solution is the right choice for the citizens who are paying the bill.

Remember these words, the man who has nothing to hide, hides nothing.

How come their special software that has been in development for 3 years and we purchased for \$5.7 million is still not in production anywhere?

We paid a lot of money for nothing.

Reply



Anonymous November 8, 2012 at 9:19 AM

After reading these articles and all the comments made, it would seem that this would be easy to figure out if something was going on here.

I am small business owner in town, I have never exectued a complicated government contract or claim to understand the complexity of software and hardware deals but I do understand business.

Brevard County paid so far to this company Blueware about a million dollars of our money to do a job I am guessing by reading all the comments and articles.

Shouldn't the county be able to go to them and say what have you purchased so far to do this job? How many employees have you hired to get this done? And, what goals have you met?

I know it is their company but it is our money.

Why are these questions so hard to answer? I am all for making a profit and believe every company needs to do that to survive, but let's get some answers and stop this non-sense now.

If we gave you \$1 million show me what you spent it on and how much it has cost you.

In my business every single customer I deal with gets to see what they pay for, how about giving me the same rights!

Reply



Anonymous November 8, 2012 at 9:35 AM

6:19 AM there you go using logic.

Let me paint this picture for you.

What if you used all the money that was paid to you for this project to cover all your payroll expenses for a company that has made no money in the last 3 years.

What if the first installment of \$90 k was paid to your consultant Matt who made the deal happen?

What if you are funding trips to the UK on these payments?

Would you purchase real scanning equipment and real redacting software for \$4 million dollars if you knew that you were just going to sub the work out to other companies?

It would seem to me that there would not be much moneyleft to do the job you were hired to do so you would try to use smoke and mirrors to simulate a real operation, maybe rent instead of buy, any one who questions your actions call them liars, try to ruin the crednetials of the 27 people who have been hired and left since you moved to Florida and maybe avoid answer questions when they are put forward.

It is not real complicated once you know all the facts. If it walks like a duck, quacks like a duck and swims like a duck - it probably is a duck.

Reply



Anonymous November 8, 2012 at 5:32 PM

The following information was taken from the original iTN that the clerk initiated. I would like to know wha are the "Experienced Clerk Consultants" "Who Insured BlueWare for Performance Bond" requirement" Why there are no stated milestones in the contract?

#### 2.2 Evaluation Criteria and Negotiation Process

- The vendor must be able to provide experienced consultants
- The vendor must agree to provide a performance bond of \$1,000,000.00.
- The vendor's cost reply shall be for a milestone and deliverables-based fixed price solution.
- Any vendor not meeting the minimum qualifications will not be considered for further evaluation.

The ITN also called for these criteria.

#### 4.0 AGENCY PROFILE AND REFERENCES

#### 4.1 General Overview

A Describe the expertise of the personnel to be utilized for each aspect of this project. Include Bio/resume of account executive(s) responsible for this account.

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{B}}.$  Indicate the number of years and nature of your experience on related projects.

C. Indicate the number of years and nature of the company's experience and expertise in the scanning and digital records industry.

D. Detail company location that will be used to support the BREVARD COUNTY CLERK OF COURTS (Brevard County locations will receive priority preference).

E. Describe commitment and procedures in delivering service to your clients.

F. Describe your procedures during any given emergency that will enable you to carry on the business contained in this iTN on behalf of BREVARD COUNTY CLERK OF COURTS. G. List current and past clients and the industries they represent.

Where are they? Breach of Contract?

Reply



Anonymous November 8, 2012 at 8:05 PM

Very interesting. They somehow produced credentials to meet those requirements and now the people are gone or someone turned a blind eye. Either way, none of the original staff are there when they were awarded this contract and they have not been replaced by qualified individuals.

In regards to the performance bond, I heard they tried to get IBM to loan the county the money and Rose would get her money right away instead of waiting five years and taking a chance that when Ellis came on board he would cancel the contract.

Reply



scott ellis November 8, 2012 at 10:49 PM

There is no performance bond. The whole job is a scam and very little has been accomplished by Rose's kid and his DayLaborers.

Reply

Anonymous November 9, 2012 at 8:26 AM



From what you are saying Scott, it is interesting that her "project manager" is her son David Welliver. I guess the word is out and she cannot hire anyone with the proper qualifications or skills to develop a true production scanning facility. Of course, that is making the assumption she even wanted to create a true production facility in the first place. From what I am seeing and hearing, this has been a scam from the very beginning. Scott, can you share with us your plan on Day 1 when you being your new position. I think we would all love to know what you are going to do to correct this travesty. Of course we do not want you to tip off Rose about your action steps...so we would understand if you are vague or prefer not to disclose those steps at this time.

Reply



Anonymous November 9, 2012 at 8:58 AM

I guess if this wasn't a scam they would have already purchased a permanent building. Don't you find it interesting they rented the house to do their scanning only until January - is it a coincidence that Scott takes office in January so when they get kicked out of town their lease is up?

I guess if they were on the up and up they would have already purchased scanning equipment. Instead they are using borrowed licenses that Matt gets because he is pretending to sell the scanning solution to other businesses. That is one way to avoid making any real capital investment. You use licenses Kofax supplies to get sales of their equipment in production mode. It would be like taking poop bags from the dog park that are for free and selling them to the county at a premium as containers to store their office supplies.

I guess if this wasn't a scam they would have hired real employees instead of having her twenty something daughter and son and a party planner run the company. Instead they have a temporary hiring agency do all the hiring so they can bypass paying benefits and no real leadership with any real world experience in what they are doing.

If they really wanted to become part of the community they would have purchased homes instead of renting condos on the beach that leases run out in January so they can have a quick departure.

I guess if they were really in it for the long haul they would not have tried so hard to get IBM to finance the deal by loaning the county the money and taking one lump sum payment of \$8 million from IBM in September so when this whole thing falls apart in January they can skip town with their -

The only problem is besides Mr. Ellis knowing what they are doing so do the authorities and they are breathing down their backs.

Reply



scott ellis November 9, 2012 at 9:20 AM

After I am sworn in no further money will be released to Blueware. At that point I will also have access to anything signed or paid and suppressed to date.

Reply



Anonymous November 9, 2012 at 10:04 AM

Thank you Scott - finally an end to this nightmare. So they will get two more payments totalling \$240,000 for doing nothing.

The only problem for them is that is when the real problems start for Rose and M & M. Because although the payments stop, law enforcement won't.

You have some good folks at the county who tried to put square wheels on this deal to the best of their ability but there were also some who had no backbone and were helpers to the scam.

Reply



Anonymous November 9, 2012 at 11:54 AM

I am very confused to what is going on with this company, I was interviewed two times with Blueware and told on my second interview that they wanted me to start right away. I was told by rose and katlin that my veteran status was very important to them. Before leaving my second interview katlin told me she would like me to start as soon as possible, I put my life on hold for these people and trusted what they were saying to me. They were willing to give me a starting salary of \$60,000 a year and I was told I would be working in England quite a bit. After all the interviews, great conversations, emails, phone calls, nothing happen. They did higher a new COO Robert Baldwin and I did finally receive an e-mail from him telling me strategy has recently shifted to first hiring the executive team so that they can then hire the right people to fill out their respective organizations. He also told me that an offer was extended to a VP of Business Development and expect him to be on board in August. He then wrote "The CTO is the final executive we need to hire but we have a good candidate for that as well. Thanks for being patient as we build the team to take BlueWare to the next level." After about three or four weeks I tried to reach them again and absolutely nothing. They don't owe me anything, but if they are the professional software company that they presented to the citizens of this county that I think they should act professional.

Reply



Anonymous November 9, 2012 at 1:25 PM

Don't be confused they did the same thing to me. I was interviewed three times - Rose, Kaitlin and Debbie all told me I was the best and they would send me an offer letter the next day. The letter never came and when I called to follow up I got unreturned calls followed by unanswered emails ELL After reading everything about this company and how they do business, I believe it was a blessing I did not get hired

But I do see your point and agree totally with you. They tell the public one story but execute a different one behind back doors

Replies



Anonymous November 9, 2012 at 1:53 PM

I agree, "I believe it was a blessing I did not get hired." It was just so unprofessional and it hurl me and my family! They should be ashamed for what they have put many good family's through with there promises.

Reply



scott ellis November 9, 2012 at 1:59 PM

If you were interviewed and detected things going on which you feel were shaky or illegal you should contact FDLE. If you wish to contact me my e-mail is sellis@spacey.net



Anonymous November 9, 2012 at 3:36 PM

Mr. Ellis

What of those people/statements that have been provided to the FDLE? Will the FDLE be taking any action or is BlueWare et all teflon? Do you or will you have access to that information?

Reply



scott ellis November 9, 2012 at 5:12 PM

FDLE holds everything confidential. The prosecution would be the State Attorney. I don't have access to the interviews. If for some bizarre reason this is not prosecuted the whole file will become public record, like the Samo Landfill report. I'm pretty sure this one will not have the ball dropped.

Reply



Anonymous November 9, 2012 at 5:39 PM

Trust me many of us have been interviewed by FDLE and we are not allowed to share what we were asked or what we told them.

That is all I am allowed to say for now

Reply



kenlyn November 9, 2012 at 7:25 PM

They have this now posted, are they for real or what, https://www.theladders.com/job/jobboard? cr=4600531&pl=s4-S1

Reply



Anonymous November 9, 2012 at 7:39 PM

Who would take a job there? There are a lot of desperate people out there who do not know better.

The funniest part is the 23 steps to a sale. This is something Rose lives by, It is something she created (or so she says) and if you follow all 23 steps you are guaranteed a sale. Guess what - in the last 3 years they have never sold their product called Bestbond. One reason is because it still has not been completed and the other running into a deal like Mitch gave them is very rare.

They forgot a qualification: Must be able to live without getting regular paychecks, do not complain when your expenses are not paid, do not ask questions like - do we actually have a real product and the most important- believe Rose and her make believe world she creates.

Reply



Anonymous November 10, 2012 at 10:28 AM

Did anyone do there homework before giving these people Money or promoting them like Executive Director of the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs Ret. Army Col. Mike Prendergast did?...and what about Brevard County Commissioner Mary Bolin, did she do her homework?...and what about and Melbourne city manager Jack Schluckebier? These are people that where at the ribbon cutting ceremony giving praise to these folks. We have schools shutting down for a lack of funds and we are giving it to this company and i do not see anyone that really cares. Is Florida Today on top of this? Has anyone sent the FBI to arrest these people? I'm perplexed i really am. I see all this talk but not a bit of action. Do we have any back ground on this company that is real? Have they ever but not a bit of action. Do we have dry Delen a legit company? Do WE KNOW ANYTHING!!!!?

STATE VS NEEDELMAN MITCHELL

Filing 7115135 cpnews.brevardtimes.com/2012/11/blueware-misses-clerks-office-deadline.html Reply

Replies



Charles Parker November 10, 2012 at 1:53 PM

Who cares if Florida Today is on top of this, Brevard Times is...



Anonymous November 10, 2012 at 2:10 PM

Thank you, I really hope so!!

Reply



Anonymous November 10, 2012 at 12:54 PM

Well this was from August of this year-

http://www.scribd.com/doc/105575323/Geaney-vs-Harr-Blueware-Lawsuit

So evidently this is business as usual for these folks.

When the heat is being put on like it is for them right now no one wants to be associated with a company like this. No colonels, commissioneers or managers are going to even claim they knew them or had anything to do with their relocation.

What I have been told is at one time they were a legit company but their technology grew old and weak and could no longer be competitive. The founder evidently has trouble keeping her eye on the ball and hires and fires people like we change our clothes. If you do not agree with her then she fires you. Which is her option but if you do not want to listen to logic it is often called being dilusional.

The problem all started about 3 years ago when they would not spend the money to get their product certified and no one wanted to buy it any more. Speculation on why they would not spend the money had many theories but the bottom line is they do not have a product and it still is in development after three years.

Their customer base started to abandon them. At one time they had 65 hospitals and locations in the UK but since that time all but three customers are gone and the UK kicked them out of the country. Those 3 customers are actively testing new solutions and should be gone in January.

Rose will not read any bad news about her or her company and if someone brings it up she throws a tandrum

Right now she is playing a game of hide and seek until she can get a product developed. Unfortunately, as she is buying time for that to happen she has fallen victim to some shady deals to keep the company affoat.

Do I think there was malice when this all started - no. But I also believe Bernie Madoff had no malice when he started.

It is what it is and she is trying everything she can to keep it together and not let any one know. I know this because my friend worked there for many years and saw this all happen.

Instead of working on things like fulfilling the contract they signed with the county she is telling everyone she is developing a software product that will work with IBM Watson to predict diseases before they happen. If that was true would IBM leave her high and dry on the Brevard County deal - probably not.

Reality is reality and unfortunately the folks of Brevard were led to the three card monty table by an exiting Clerk of the Court who had his personal interest over what was best for the county.

Don't be fooled by side stepping comments by them. Everything has been orchestrated for deception and they are good.

Why you do not know much about them is because in 2004 Rose exited to the UK because things got hot in the US and she needed to leave the country. She went to the UK and started things over there until it got hot over and she was kicked out. Now she is back here trying to start up here again hoping no one remembers.

Reply



Anonymous November 10, 2012 at 1:26 PM

This comment has been removed by a blog administrator

Reply



Anonymous November 10, 2012 at 1:32 PM

So this was June, almost 6 months ago.

Not one of the 30 people have relocated from the Michigan unless you count Rose and her two kids who live with her.

Filing 7115135

STATE VS NEEDELMAN MITCHELL

In this economy, they have not been able to buy one building.

And how many of those 192 \$69,000 jobs have been filles for more than 8 weeks.

Don't spend too much time on figuring it out I will tell you real quick no employees, no building, and no new hires

And you wonder why no one wants to touch this with a 10 foot pole.

Reply



Anonymous November 10, 2012 at 1:43 PM

Where does Robert Baldwin COO come into all this, is he still with them, and why would a guy like him get involved with this company. He used to be CEO of a major Healthcare company called Medi-Share. To many questions and no answers.

Reply



kenlyn November 10, 2012 at 1:46 PM

Gov. Rick Scott of Florida endorsed them ???? http://miamiherald.typepad.com/nakedpolitics/2012/05/michigan-it-company-takes-gov-scott-up-on-move-to-florida-proposal.html

Reply



Anonymous November 10, 2012 at 1:50 PM

Time to call our Senators on this one!!!

Reply



Anonymous November 10, 2012 at 3:37 PM

I can answer this one - Robert is no longer with them and has been gone for some time. Robert was recruited heavily by Blueware and only went to them because some top executives that Rose asked for help in finding the best COO in Melbourne highly recommended him. Robert took the job with some very lofty promises that were never met.

He was there for only 6 weeks and then left. He tried to change things around with the company as Rose requested but every suggestion he made she ignored or would refuse to meet with him when he asked for meetings to answer questions like - where are we with the Bestbond product, could you review this building that we should buy or we need to hire some resources to meet the requirements of the county scanning project and buy some equipment. She becamse furious with him for asking questions or trying to get answers.

So when Robert knew things could not and would not change, he gracefully bowed out. He has never spoken a bad word about the company or Rose - he is too classy for that. However, Rose has taken every opportunity to blame him for all the problems.

And before Robert there was Nick. And we was a problem because he became upset with Rose because she would not payhim because he had bills to pay. And then there was Paul who had to be let go because he tried to implement big business policies for a company with no morales. And then there was Justin who questioned why we needed to spend so much time calling up customers for good referrals instead of just trying to do a good job for the existing customers. And then there was Carol who questioned how Blueware was going to scan documents with no staff or equipment and was blamed for causing problems. And then there was Todd who was brought in to head the Sales team of one and when he asked Rose what he was supposed to sell since they had no product, he was told to follow the 23 steps and just sell the concept and by the time all the paper work is done the product will be done. And my tavorite Vian who lasted two days. She was hired as the CFO and looked at the financials on day 1 and left day 2.

Do you get the idea? It is a pattern and the one thing that remains constant is the head of the monster.

Reply



Filing 7115135

Anonymous November 11, 2012 at 10:06 AM

Now I am confused about this company and what they do.

The best I can tell this is a woman, some relatives and a few employees back in Michigan. They claim to own and run about 10 companies.

Rose Harr statement in newspaper article - BlueWare Is Framework of 10 Companies.

On her LinkedIn page she claimes to own a production company that makes movies, screenplays and publishes books:

RoseWare has create 1 movie - "Life Expectancy of the Rise". RoseWare has 4 screenplays in the production stage, Carloon about Boston Terriers, Mystery movie about reincarnation, Historical Fiction about the town of Cadillac Michigan and the difficulty experienced in the 1950-1960s when BF Goodrich pulled out and left the town with 50% unemployment.

Also, she states that Bluegem is on its way to \$20 million dollars in revenue in 2012. And that is only 1 of the ten companies.

STATE VS NEEDELMAN MITCHELL

7/14

So my question is if this is all true, do you think they would be able to afford a builing to buy instead of renting an old house as their business office for their global headquarters that they claim Melbourne has become?

How can so much be accomplished by one woman, her two kids and some temporary hire employees she uses?

You don't think we have a Wizard of Oz scenario here and she is trying to keep the curtain closed from all of us - do you?

Reply



Anonymous November 12, 2012 at 9:10 AM

For those of you curious how a sale could actually take 23 steps, here they are - as created by Rose Harr. Based on following these 23 steps, every 90 days you should have a new customer. If Rose swears by these as a previous writer said, how come they have not brought anyone on in over 3 years now? Oh I know, it cannot be the process or the "lack of product", it must be the people she hires. Yeah right.

23 Steps to a Sale

Noticing (10 Days)

Step 1 - Budget

Step 2 - Time Frame

Step 3 - Name of influencer

Step 4 - Send Sales Packet

Identifying (5 Days)

Step 5 - Webcast Viewing

Validating (25 Days)

Step 6 - Internet Demo or On-Site Demo

Step 7 - Demo Feedback & Identify Approval Process

Step 8 - Decision Maker(s) & Buying Process

Step 9 - Send the Following Requests and Set Up Clarification Conference Call

Step 10 - Clarification Conference Call

Qualifying (5 Days)

Step 11 - Design Review (internal)

Step 12 - Change Request Process if New Functionality

Conditionally Agreeing (20 Days)

Step 13 - Design Review (customer)

Step 14 - Proposal Complete (Internal Review & Delivery)

Step 15 - On-Site Demo (Optional If Done in Step 6)

Step 16 - Reference Site Visit

Step 17 - ROI

Winning (20 Days)

Step 18 - Proposal Review

Step 19 - Present at Monthly Doctor Meeting

Step 20 - Board Meeting - Letter & Packets

Implementing (5 Days)

Step 21 - Signed Proposal

Step 22 - Schedule Implementation

Step 23 - Introduce Project Manager & Schedule Kick-Off Meeting

Reply



Anonymous November 12, 2012 at 10:03 AM

Are you serious? This is the formula to claimed success.

Let me make her life a little easier:

Step 1 - Have a good product

Step 2 - Have a fair price

Step 3 - Stand behind your product and support your customer

Step 4 - Repeat Step 1 thru 3 and go to a new customer

But from what I can tell from reading I do not think they have Step 1 completed yet.

Reply



kenlyn November 12, 2012 at 11:50 AM

This comment has been removed by the author.

Reply



kenlyn November 12, 2012 at 11:52 AM

Are these people still around? Do they have a office?

Filing 7115135 Reply

STATE VS NEEDELMAN MITCHELL

05-2013-CF-064037-AXXX-XX



Anonymous November 12, 2012 at 12:14 PM

What people?

Reply



kenlyn November 12, 2012 at 12,39 PM

Blueware, are they still in Melbourne conducting business?

Reply



Anonymous November 12, 2012 at 12:50 PM

is this a trick question on conducting business?

Reply



Anonymous November 12, 2012 at 12:55 PM

Per their website.

FLORIDA 1825 Riverview Dr. Melboume, FL 32901 USA Tel: +1 (321) 953 5999

MICHIGAN 3060 W. 13th St. Cadillac, MI 49601 USA Tel: +1 (231) 779 0224

UK LOCATION

Basepoint Business & Innovation Centre Caxton Close Andover, Hampshire SP10 3FG United Kingdom Tet: +44 (0) 1264 326356

Reply



Anonymous November 12, 2012 at 12:59 PM

Blueware is renting two locations -

1825 Riverview Dr. Melbourne, FL 32901

316 E. Strawbridge Ave Melbourne, FL 32901

Both locations are rented.

Riverview location they are renting an office with 6 cubicles. The Strawbridge Ave location is a 1200 square foot house that is now the center for scanning all the Clerk of the Court records.

Reply



Anonymous November 12, 2012 at 1:02 PM

Now, conducting business is another question.

Are they taking orders from current customers for interfaces, data conversion - Yes. Are they delivering the product in a timely manner - No. Are they trying to sucker some hospitals/health care systems into buying their vaporware - more commonly known as BestBond - Yes. Are they successful at selling any product - No. Are they collecting money from Brevard County taxpayers - Yes. Are they producing in accordance with the contract - No.

So, are they doing business? You have to make the judgement. They are doing something. Just not sure it can legitimately be called business.

Reply



kenlyn November 12, 2012 at 1:04 PM

I apologize but I am not able to see through your sarcasm. It's not intended to be a trick question. I am reading all of these post and the above article and trying to figure out if these people are still in business. Is the state of Florida allowing them to take taxpayer money? Has any legal action been taken if they are still conducting business to stop them from conducting business? We are a small community of hardworking taxpayers with schools being closed and I see we apparently continue to give these folks money. I apologize but it all seems so surreal

Filing 7115135 Repl

STATE VS NEEDELMAN MITCHELL

Replies



Anonymous November 13, 2012 at 4:01 PM

This is not the person that responded to you earlier and I apologize for their sarcasm, for some, this is a very emotional issue and I am sure it was their level of frustration that came out with no intent to blur your understanding. It is difficult to watch your county get screwed and not be able to do much about it.

Yes they are still getting monthly payments from the County 125,000 per month currently. No, they are not performing any of the duties they contracted for, no scanning, no redaction, nada.

No legal action yet, if there will be any remains to be seen. The FDLE and other agencies are and have been investigating.

Reply



Anonymous November 12, 2012 at 1:08 PM

Just to make it perfectly clear what these world wide offices are:

Michigan a run down house they own and have 13 staff located. 4 people work behind desks that used to be the living room. 1400 square feet.

The Melbourne world wide corporate headquarters is a rented office that is 600 square feet.

The scanning center that is the center for the \$8 million contract is a 1200 square feet house that has been rented for 6 months.

The UK offices is a 220 square foot office in an office park that has 67 other offices. They rent the space and have been recently evicted for back payment issues.

Very liquid operation.

Reply



kenlyn November 12, 2012 at 1:13 PM

What can the citizens of this community do at this point. I would like to know if we have some TV stations with cameras in their faces and asking them direct questions and demanding direct answers. Do we have our largest newspaper with cameras in their face asking them direct questions and demanding direct answers. Or are the above post just disgruntled people. If the above is true then I would expect TV stations, newspapers, and someone trying to do something to stop these people.

Reply



Anonymous November 12, 2012 at 1:16 PM

Your frustration is being felt by all of us Kenlyn. I think the public has become frustrated by this company and it has gotten close to the point of hysteria.

The newspaper and Clerk of the Court has asked Blueware to address the very questions you have risen and they refuse to respond. No one will answer any questions and the monthly payments of \$120,000 continue despite the fact nothing has been accomplished.

They are currently being protected by the current Clerk of the Court hiding all documents that relate to the contract being awarded and it will be until January when Scott Ellis is in office to reveal what has happened.

In the mean time, they have taken close to a million dollars of our money and have nothing to show for it. The frustration also comes from the fact they are allowed to parade government officials braggin about everything they were going to do for Melbourne and have done nothing.

Apparently, the frustration you are reading is the result of these actions

I personally am frustrated that I drive through our community and see empty buildings and they claim there are no buildings to buy.

My children go to a school were activities have been cancelled because there are no funds and we pay this company \$1 million dollars for nothing.

Kenlyn this is a tragedy that has bestowed our community and no one seems to care or can do anything about it.

Reply



Anonymous November 12, 2012 at 1:18 PM

Kenyln, Yes, legally they are still doing business. To the best of my knowledge, the State of Florida has not stepped in and prohibited them from taking our money. They are being investigated by the FDLE, but as of yet, there has been no arrests. We are hopeful that at minimum Rose Harr, and Mitch Needleman will be charged. There are others that are culpable, such as Mitch's deputy Sean Campbell, and his Finance Director Mike McDaniel, Rose's lobbyist Matt Dupree, and perhaps a few others on the BlueWare side.

Reply



Anonymous November 12, 2012 at 1:21 PM

Great question on who has voiced all these concerns.

It would seem to me that if the company had a counter for these questions or it was from discgruntled employees wouldn't they respond to the questions or be proactive.

I am sure it would not be hard to provide employment history, current staffing levels, documents that have been scanned, real estate transactions. These would not reveal any company secrets would life Especially if these milestones were related to EDC incentives or public contracts they have been awarded.

Reply



Anonymous November 12, 2012 at 1:23 PM

I can confirm that I have heard the same about the ongoing investigations. I heard it has taken so long because the case is so big they are trying to figure out how many people are involved and the extent of the charges.

Reply



kenlyn November 12, 2012 at 1:43 PM

The only way that were going to get anywhere at this point in time is to let every single citizen of this community know what's going on. The question is this, how can we do that. I have contacted Florida today and have not received a response as of yet, I have contacted our senators and have not received a response as of yet, I see that the governor is involved as well by promoting this company. I don't want to sound like a conspiracy person but could it be that this is so big of a deal with so many politicians involved that they are simply trying to sweep this under the rug? The only way that this is going to get legs is that the media gets involved in a big way. We need to see this lady and governors face on TV being asked questions with a reporter demanding answers. That is the only way at this point I can see this will get anywhere. If anyone has any better ideas please as a pain taxpayer let me know and I will do my best as long as it's legal.

Reply



Anonymous November 12, 2012 at 1:45 PM

All these discussion have been about the scanning contract is anyone looking into the other contracts?

With the Cost Containment contract, Blueware has been paid over \$140,000 for three contract that were "renegotiated" without any documentation of where the "savings" came from. Were contracts ever rewritten?

They have sold the County overpriced "off the shelf" software under the guise of computer maintenance/security. They were paid thousands of dollars for this sham of an agreement.

I do hope Scott and FDLE is aware of these other contracts and they are being investigated as well.

Reply



Anonymous November 12, 2012 at 2:09 PM

Do we have a local TV station or an Orlando TV station with an "On Your Side" investigative reporter to ask these simple questions?

Reply



kenlyn November 12, 2012 at 3:29 PM

We need to call or contact these folks, they can help! I Have....http://www.wesh.com/tv/contact

Reply



Anonymous November 13, 2012 at 9:49 AM

Scott Ellis do you have any updates for us?

Reply



Filing 7115135

scott ellis. November 13, 2012 at 11:15 AM

The whole Blueware deal is nothing but a multi-million scam perpetrated on the people of Brevard and Florida. The Florida Today has REFUSED to do any kind of investigative reporting on thi issue all year. Prior to the election it could have hurt Needeman's chances, after it would confirm the things they falled to investigate. There is still a \$250,000 Blueware IT 'Audit' that was refused as a public record. Blueware recently bought a large building on West Drive, we'll know by mid January if the Clerk paid for it or not.

Reply



Anniversity Anniversity Anniversity Anniversity November 13, 2012 at 1:35 PM

Word on the street was once IBM refused to finance the deal they went to HP and they financed the deal. After that was completed, Rose purchased an insurance company in Europe and plans on moving to the UK. She will leave the operations in the US to some appointee and she is getting out

This fit into her master plan of getting her money as quickly as possible so when Ellis took office and cancelled the contract someone else would be left holding the note and she would hide the money in a place no one could touch - maybe a company in a foreign country.

And yet the mascarade continues and no one does anything.

Reply



Anonymous November 13, 2012 at 2:05 PM

So Rose has got her \$8M taxpayer dollars and is skipping town. Isn't that just great. How can a company like HP be stupid enough to finance a deal like this?

If I am understanding this correctly, if/when she skips town and this deal falls apart, there is nothing that can be done to get back any of the money the County paid her. Or, does the County now owe HP \$8M and the court fight will be between the County and HP? How does this all work now?

Hopefully the legal system will still nail her!

Reply



Anonymous November 13, 2012 at 2:45 PM

That is the beauty in the plan. It is a master piece. HP provided the loan to the county, the county paid Rose her money as soon as they received it and Rose transferred the money out of the country and has it fied up in foreign businesses.

Now the beauty in the plan - once the contract gets cancelled by Scott, the note is between HP and the county and not Blueware. HP and their building fill of lawyers will be fighting with the county to get their payment and the county will have to fight with Blueware to get the money. If Blueware is no where to be found then who gets left holding the bag - you got it - the county.

Now the funny part in this whole thing. Why did HP take the deal - they are loaning money to the county with interest and the county is buying HP hardware.

Why would the county agree to payment in advance for services that have not even been rendered?

Rose valued her software that is not even completed yet or installed anywhere at \$5 million dollars and said it is installed and running. I am no technology expert but if they had \$5 million dollars worth of software for scanning and retireval do you think it would be running in a \$800 per month rental house?

Reply



scott ellis. November 14, 2012 at 6:05 AM

If the HP deal is computer hardware the County Commission was warned. The contract would be with the Clerk, not the Board of County Commissioners. It will be an operational disaster if true If HP bought out the scanning contract they'll get what they deserve (nothing) and good luck getting any money back from whatever BlueXXXX took the check. A contract awarded under fraudulent conditions is not valid. FDLE has been all over this. They cannot do the indictment. Needelman should have been indicted and removed months ago. If this blog is correct it is more millions of tax dollars squandered by delaying justice for all of these flim flam artists.

Reply



Anonymous November 14, 2012 at 11:11 AM

Thanks for update Scott, I'm concerned with your statement - ..."They cannot do the indictment...". What!?? So it is possible no one will go down for this heist?

Should we all start writing to FDLE to ask what is going on? Because it sure seems like we/they are purposefully looking the other way while boatloads of our \$\$ go out the back door.

Reply



scott ellis November 14, 2012 at 2:32 PM

FDLE is not the State Attorney. Law enforcement may investigate but only the State Attorney can prosecute. FDLE is not looking the other way, but any further information on the Blueware deal would be appreciated, especially should any HP deal materialize. They already bought the building, no telling how it was paid for.

Reply



Anonymous November 14, 2012 at 5:36 PM

Most of us posting here since pre-primary didn't think this thing could stink worse at the time, and I

11/5/13

#### News: BlueWare Misses Clerk's Office Deadline

for one thought something would have been done by now. Not so much. Check the dichotomy of this scam and the appraiser Jim Ford office scandal of '07.

When FDLE was investigating Ford/Larson they just stormed the office and hauled out the records. There was really no immediacy to that issue as the alleged loss was in the form of revenue never received from assessment favoritism.

In this case—where we have large amounts of \$ continuing to be paid on a fraud contract – I am reading on this blog ... There is still a \$250,000 Blueware IT 'Audit' that was refused as a public record', and that we will have to 'wait until Jan' to find things out...see if we paid for the building...

FDLE and/or the St Atty apparently do NOT see any need for quick action in this case or they would have obtained a warrant to just go in and look for the records, no? Very troubling.

Reply



Anonymous November 15, 2012 at 12:59 PM

On-line access to the clerk's official records has been down since 7 am today. More lost productivity due to Needelman & Co. I don't think I can afford him being in there another week let alone until January!

Reply



Paul November 16, 2012 at 9:06 AM

More schools closing....let's give Rose more money to take to the UK for her afternoon tea....Wake up people of Brevard County....she is taking YOUR money....oh wait, she is a Woman so it's okay to steal as she is just trying to compete in a man's world...good grief how does she sleep at night....oh wait, it's the meds

Reply



Paul November 16, 2012 at 9:10 AM

"Please allow me to introduce myself I'm a woman of wealth and taste I've been around for a long, long year Stole many a man's soul and faith

I was 'round when Jesus Christ Had his moment of doubt and pain Made damn sure that Pilate Washed his hands a' sealed his fate

Pleased to meet you Hope you guess my name\*

Reply



Anonymous November 28, 2012 at 9:20 AM

This comment has been removed by a blog administrator.

Reply



Anonymous January 31, 2013 at 1:02 AM

Mr. Ellis

My ex-wife interviewed with this company on Dec 19, 2012 and accepted a job which she started on Jan 7, 2013. She also quit another well-paying job to start with Blueware. After reading these posts I am a bit concerned because we do have kids between the two of us. Is there a possibility that this company is shutting down soon? I was wondering if I should inform her of this website and all the negative postings concerning the company that she's working for.

Reply



Anonymous August 15, 2013 at 2:00 PM

This should answer all questions: http://www.floridatoday.com/article/20130815/NEWS01/130815006/Mitch-Needelman-arrested-bribery-tampering-charges

Reply



Anonymous August 31, 2013 at 12:26 AM

Amazing this has all been out here for so long and after one year of Mr. Ellis's relentless pursuil of the criminals do we finally see a light at the end of the tunnel. Thank you Scott for being you!!! We all owe you. I only pray she does not use her money to buy herself out of trouble.

Reply

CHELL 05-2013-CF-064037-AXXX-XX

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#### Opinion

- Charles Parker: Obama Feckless and Reckless
- Charles Parker: Is Xun Energy the EDC's Next BlueWare?
- Charles Parker: State Education Disarray Offers Chance For "Deep Breath"
- FIRST LOOK: 2014 Candidates for County Commission District 4
- FIRST LOOK: 2014 Candidates for County Commission District 2

#### Recen

- Eastern Florida Wins \$1.5 Million Grant for New Degree Programs
- Eastern Florida Faculty Art on Display
- North Brevard Zone Seeks to Provide \$6.5 Million Grant to Developer
- FIT to Host Make-A-Wish Night Saturday at Old School Pizza
- Merritt Island High School Students Get Firsthand Look at Space Launch

#### Politics

- EDC Claims It's Not A Public Agency, Not Required To Produce BlueWare Records
- Florida Food Stamp Cuts Begin Today
- Charlie Crist Will Run For Florida Governor
- Obamacare 'Navigator' Ready to Help Brevard County Residents

Tuesday, December 4, 2012

# Charles Parker: Hey Mitch and Matt: How About Some Answers?

I am fairly easy to get along with. And I try not to make assumptions about others' motives. But, I don't like to get jerked around either.

I have been covering the ongoing saga of the \$8.5 million digitizing contract between the Brevard County Clerk of Courts office and BlueWare/BlueGem since the summer. I have covered it objectively and fairly. I have given all sides airtime. I have not jumped to unfounded conclusions. I have been proud of the work product.

But I'm starting to get irritated – and hence – suspicious. So with suspicion comes my now subjective look at things.

You see, every time I've written a story, more questions are raised. So I have tried to follow-up with the principals involved – primarily Mitch Needelman, one of his research clerks, or anyone at BlueWare/BlueGem that would respond to an email. It has been generally futile.

Within the last couple of weeks, I have begun to hear helicopters – I'm just not sure if they are black ones or not. And though he has yet to provide what I deem as solid proof of corruption, Scott Ellis might have been right all along. I have concluded this not by what Needelman and BlueWare have said or done, but because of what they have not said and done.

I wrote a story on October 17 to outline where the scanning process stood. The Clerk's office and BlueWare jumped at the chance to crow. But then, questions were raised about staffing and facilities. So on November 1, I followed up and the Clerk's office directed my inquiry to BlueWare. Over the next two weeks, I wrote two stories about how neither side would respond to the legitimate questions.

Finally, on Saturday November 17, Matt DuPree – the elusive ex-partner of Needelman and now BlueWare manager – emailed me and asked for me to call. I did and we spoke for about 30 minutes. He answered previous questions and agreed to meet me at their new facility the following Wednesday.

But – of course – that story raised even more questions. And then DuPree cancelled our appointment. And he didn't respond to my text.

So, on November 29, I sent an email to Needelman, his research clerk,

DuPree, and a BlueWare staffer. I asked for some basic information that should be a part of any government contract:

- 1. Performance bond contractual information as it relates to deliverables for the digitizing contract with BlueGem/BlueWare
- 2. Breakdown of BlueGem/BlueWare contractor costs, including salaries, benefits, equipment lease/purchase, other overhead
- 3. Copies of any contracts that contractor BlueGem/BlueWare has with subcontractors regarding digitizing work, including scanning, transportation, redaction, destruction.

My inbox is still empty. And Rose Harr won't even accept my Facebook friend request.

I worked for a government contractor for 10 years and helped write many proposals. Every time we bid on a contract, we had to supply deliverables, costs, and subcontractor information. While we were rocket scientists, it was not rocket science. We were asking to use taxpayer dollars – and taxpayers have a right to know this stuff. And we still do.

I assume Mitch is simply trying to last until January. And Matt said he worked mostly with the Blue Group overseas. Evidently neither wants responsibility or accountability.

I'm an old ACC basketball fan. I spent years watching the Tar Heels and the Dean Smith four-corner offense run out the clock. But it won't work on me. You see, I know how to beat it – attack the ball aggressively, foul occasionally to stop the clock, and make it count when you get a shot.

So - let's play ball.

Posted by Charles Parker at 1:40 PM

+2 Recommend this on Google

### 43 comments:



Anonymous December 4, 2012 at 5:39 PM

i have to say, i think this is one of the better reports ive read in a long time



scott ellis December 4, 2012 at 9:21 PM

The stories are pretty good but the blogs have been filled with information. Florida Today used to get this as well when they allowed anonymous postings: the reader needed to sort fact from fiction. The Blueware scanning contract has been financed/purchase by Hewlett Packard. I'e been in touch with them and they clammed up rock solid, but in the process it may have slowed or killed the latest scam to buy 600 PCs from HP via another spinoff company where Rose Harr can be an 'agent' (that's three entities getting some vig).

My public records request for new IT and Attorney contracts and payments have been unanswered for many weeks. I am just shocked the Clerk would sandbag public records.

Reply



Anonymous December 5, 2012 at 5:47 AM

Mr. Parker months ago I emailed you anonymously. I tried to get you to listen to a third party, but you wouldn't. I understand you had trepidation regarding Mr. Ellis theory, but you really needed to listen to a third party that could help you come to this conclusion a lot sooner. I understand most believe Brevard County is a small county, where corruption wouldn't exist, but as you are finding it can happen even in the smallest of communities. Mr. Needelman destroyed lives for his and his friends to benefit from. All done for money, greed, power, and vindictiveness. All at the hands of a egotistical flamboyant megalomaniacs. This man and his cronies turned a office upside down and laughed while doing it. Take out the lives that were destroyed and just focus on the millions of dollars that were spent at OUR EXPENSE! Please don't forget the other leaders in this community that backed him while doing this. While you are starting to realize the helicopters might be landing, please know there is much more. I urge you Mr. Parker, talk to others you won't believe what more is to uncover. Look into why the staff attorney has left, and why other bonuses have been handed out in the past 30 days under the guise of severance packages even though these people are still employed with the Clerk of Courts. Sounds to me like they are hedging their bets in case they get found out or just saving for their legal defense. Here's a great one, one commissioner is considering hiring Mr. Needelman's assistant and don't forget Mr. Ziegler openly endorsed Mr. Needelman. Why would they do that? Had the media covered this story properly we would not have all these people still in office. Don't you think it's odd that these people went against Mr. Ellis who all along put himself on the backburner to stop all of this madness. I have watched and listened to what Mr. Needelman and his

About Me



Charles Parker

l cover politics, sports, and local news for Brevard Times. l also write opinion. You can

email me at cpbrevard@gmail.com and follow me on Twitter @cpbrevard These views are mine alone and do not necessarily reflect the views of Brevard Public Schools.

View my complete profile

cronies have done. I can promise you one thing Mr. Parker, this writer who might be writing anonymously will continue to be a thorn in all of these people's side until the very end. We are not crazy, we are just people that know right from wrong. Some took attacks from others on this very webpage for doing and writing the right thing. Come January I'm sure Mr. Ellis will openly handover everything that was done and I can only hope that you will tell the employees of the Brevard County Clerk of Court, you're sorry you didn't use your ability to get the story out quicker. They deserve that Mr. Parker from you and everyone else that thought Mr. Ellis heard helicopters. Mr. Parker I will apologize if it seems I am attacking you, but sir you must understand the lack of enthusiasm could have cost Mr. Ellis the election which would have only hurt the employees and tax payers.

Reply

Replies



Anonymous December 5, 2012 at 6:54 PM

AMENIIII I wondered how long it would take for you all to catch on to her lies, schemes, and ticks!!

So sad that lots of you WANTED to believe Mitch...

Reply



Anonymous December 5, 2012 at 5:53 AM

Charles, Nice article. I hate to say it but evertyhing played out the way Matt, Mitch and Rose planned and wanted it to. They created the contract need, accepted only one bid and executed the scam. Once the heat was lumed up and Mitch would no longer be in office, they tried to sell the contract to IBM-when they ran, they got HP to take the bait. So Rose got her money, Matt got a great commission when they for orchestrating it all and a job as VP of Bluenothing and Mitch - well he was the one who got the short end of the stick. He was supposed to come work for Bluesomething but with all this attention they are looking for a new home for him.

Reply



Anonymous December 5, 2012 at 6:20 AM

Sounds like that phone call and then follow up meeting at the new location was just a stall tactic so you would stop printing articles that are making them sweat.

Matt DuPree is not working on business overseas. He spends his days either chasing the Colonel down to go shooting with him to win the new Florida VA bid contract that is getting ready to hit the street or trying to hide from you.

Yes, he has been on some phone calls for the new business Rose purchased in the UK with the money Brevard County gave her - thank you by the way citizens of Brevard County - but Matt is not involved in overseas business.

Here are the facts - a BlueWare employee in Michigan wrote the specifications for the Digitizing contract based on the direction of Matt Dupree. Mitch awarded that contract without question or due diligence. Matt received a commission for orchestrating it all and then was hired by BlueWare to manage the contract.

I am no legal expert but something sounds a little strange here

Reply



Anonymous December 5, 2012 at 6:45 AM

I cannot wait for them all to go to jail for stealing from Brevard County's taxpayers!! They are all evil and disgusting to me. Mitch Needelman, you are nothing but pure evil for treating the citizens in this way. When you go down, remember, your grand children. They will have to be known as Mitch Needelman's poor grand children. Alabel that you have given them. They will see that you used the system to steal millions of dollars from the people of Brevard County. Soon the charade will be over and Mr. Ellis will be able to see all the documents and publish them for all to see. Tick Took, Tick

Reply



Anonymous December 5, 2012 at 8:12 AM

Mr. Parker do not let them get away with this. They have a duty to respond to our questions. If they wanted to be a private company then they should not have accepted a public contract with public money. It is not Rose's money and it is not Mitch's money. It is our money and there are questions that need to be answered.

I do believe there is corruption and wrong-doings on both sides here - BlueWare and Brevard County.

I found it interesting Mr. Ellis response that HP has gone quiet. If Rose thinks she pulled on off on a Fortune 500 company and left them with an empty promise and they are not going to collect - she has a big surprise for her in the New Year.

All I can say is I hope it was all worth it. A lot of people life's have been ruined and justice is about to be served.

Reply



Anonymous December 5, 2012 at 10:22 AM

Charles – appreciate every time you write about this Scam of the Century and the continuing criminality of these THIEVES that has been allowed to continue for this long. As for worthless FT – the only story you will ever see from them on this is a little blub if & when these cons go to prison. Plus, wasn't one of their bloggers implicated when this started coming out (Greg something?).

So, thank you for being on it. However, it sure took you (& apparently our do-nothing authorities) long enough to get to "GAME ON".

Reply



Anonymous December 5, 2012 at 11:04 AM

You guys need some national exposure on this and quickly. Your law enforcement and government oversight process is failing you. Call John Stossel and get this out in the national public and you might be able to get some movement.

Reply



Anonymous December 5, 2012 at 11:20 AM

Charles – have you gotten any info from the EDC on this? I e-mailed Greg Weiner a few months ago asking what was up with the whole Blueware deal. IMO this Commission is nothing but a bunch of overpaid, glorified travel agents with no concern outside their ridiculous salaries, but I did receive a response which confirms my opinion of them. Exactly as the e-mail was written by Weiner:

Happy to discuss if you would like to call my office. I can be reached at 321 638 2000.

Please be assured that, all state and local incretives arew performance based.

Best Regards. Greg

Reply



scott ellis December 5, 2012 at 7:25 PM

The EDC has an audit clause in their contract with the Board. First we'll get the information on how this deal went down. Later, depending on Civil or Criminal actions or both, there may be some depositions.

Reply



scott ellis December 5, 2012 at 10:11 PM

By the way, the Melbourne Chamber and County Commission appointed Ms. Harr last month to the Brevard Workforce Development Board. The BWDB voted to pay Blueware up to \$800,000 to train employees for up to six months, so pretty much this scam contract gets free labor.

http://brevardworkforce.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/3-Agenda-packet-111612.pdf

Reply



Anonymous December 6, 2012 at 5:53 AM

You have to hand it to Rose. She is brilliant. She is a thief, crook, swindler, and total sociopath, but she is brilliant. What a tangled web of scams she continues to weave.

Reply



Anonymous December 6, 2012 at 9:19 AM

in re: Scott at 10:11

Apparently, our local and state officials consider this woman to be the 8th great wonder. However did Brevard County survive without her?

Every Brevard tax payer, employee, and biz owner should consider this a direct insult – a slap in the face - from our Commission – you, the current citizens and biz owners of Brevard, are not WORTHY of any PUBLIC FUNDS as economic assistance or incentive, and we had to go all the way to Michigan to find someone so brilliant and deserving of YOUR money.

Reply



Anonymous December 6, 2012 at 9:54 AM

What's next County Commissioners? A new entry on our property tax bills entitled: The Rose Harr Corporate WELFARE Fund?

Reply

scott ellis. December 6, 2012 at 6:13 PM



Hewlett Packard for \$6.1 million at an annual interest rate of 3.55%. More to hit the fan later.



Anonymous December 7, 2012 at 9:06 AM

Scott, I am completely disgusted that Needelman has been allowed to remain in office despite this obvious attempt to defraud the tax payers of Brevard County. Where is the oversite? Why have the Brevard County Commissioners not held an emergency meeting on this? I only pray that you can bring back sanity to the Clerk's office, investigate this (I know you will), and have the FDLE arrest these individuals on charges of tax fraud



scott ellis December 7, 2012 at 12:40 PM

The County Commissioners and County Manager never wanted to know what was going on, they may have to then act on it.

It is much more than tax fraud.

Investigations go on, unfortunately the corrupt POS shold have been indicted and removed in September and has been left to squander and loot further millions.



Anonymous December 7, 2012 at 1:42 PM

Scott.

What does that mean a Promissory note? Was Bluewhatever paid any money by HP? Is the Prom. note binding on the County?

Reply



Anonymous December 7, 2012 at 1:45 PM

Ok i am totally confused on this whole work force thing you referenced scott. I followed the link and read the minutes. Rose was nominated to the board and then at her first meeting they approve a \$800,000 contract for her. Ok I am not sure how you approve yourself money from a board you are appointed but maybe they like the foxes watching the chickens. But when you start putting the pieces together it gets crazier. The incentive they brag about giving rose to move to Florida was for her to improve the local economy by employing 192 people. The incentive in cash rewards and tax breaks. Now we are going to actually pay her to employ the people she is getting the tax incentives and rebates for? Does any of this make sense?

The only company in the whole world who can do this blueware who does not even have a working product. Do your homework people and ask the tough questions. Where is the software installed and working and give me contact names and numbers.

Reply



Anonymous December 7, 2012 at 1:53 PM

News flash ..... Blueware just was nominated the best software company to work for and the most innovative and creative. The nomination and approval was by Rose Harr. Rose Harr will also be presenting herself the key to the city.

Rose Harr has also suggested we change the name of Melbourne to either BlueVille or RoseTown. When asked why two different names she said she wanted to give people the appearance of a choice.

Reply



scott ellis December 7, 2012 at 2:32 PM

Promissary Note #4792367500100001 Amount \$6,100,000 October 23rd, 2012

If they are smart they are using a chunk of the money to prepay their lawyers.

Reply



Anonymous December 8, 2012 at 3:52 PM

Mr. Parker, I really find it hard to believe that you haven't chimed in. I also find it funny that Mr. Ellis can find out more in a day than you or any other so called reporter can!

Reply

Replies



Charles Parker December 8, 2012 at 4:24 PM

Mr. Anonymous.

a regular paycheck for this one. I'm not sure how Mr. Ellis spends his days, but I know I am fairly busy and do not need a lecture from you about my work ethic.

I have written more on this story than anyone around (including the guys who get paid to report this stuff). I continue to build stories and write/publish them when they are ready and have been properly sourced.

Reply



Anonymous December 8, 2012 at 5:11 PM

Mr. Parker, my post was more out of frustration, then it was an attack on you. Attacks are not necessary, but I am a person that has suffered from Mr. Needelman's dealings I do take everything very serious. You have the perfect platform to investigate the issues at hand where we do not. Mr. Ellis is very passionate about this charade and I can only urge you to help get to the bottom of this. I would like to remind you and everyone else, doing the right thing in life should never come with a price. You being a writer and having a place to spread the word to the public with what is going on, is the same thing as helping a person in need. This is your money being spent too. I'm sure your familiar with the MADOFF heist. This is no different. A few men looked at the numbers and knew right away something wasn't right. However MADOFF was able to continue his scam for many years, where Mr. Ellis and is trying to end the scam immediately. Also you might recall these men all investigated and blew it out of the water for free. I'm not putting you down, I'm simply trying to get you to understand you have more resources and abilities to bring this story to the public then any of us. I have tried very hard not to compare Needelman and his cronies to the MADOFF scheme; however the two run so parallel that it's frightening. I'm sure Needelman and his cronies are reading this and I hope they realize no one is letting up. Just like those few men that didn't let up on MADOFF! The ending will be the same for them. Remember history normally does repeat it self!

Reply

Replies



Richard Charbonneau August 24, 2013 at 5:16 AM

I am a person that has suffered from Mr. Needelman's dealings I do take everything very serious.

So why remain or post anonymous, if you have something to say and it;s that serious step up and be counted.

Reply



Anonymous December 9, 2012 at 7:27 AM

I want to thank both Mr. Parker and Scott Ellis for their diligence on pursuing this scam and its cover up.

Reply



Anonymous December 9, 2012 at 2:13 PM

Any outrage toward the media should be directed where deserved, at Florida Today Newspaper who has turned a blind to the biggest local political corruption story in decades.

They are supposed to be our main print media source who long ago abandoned its readers in the interest of cheap labor that produces error-filled fluff pieces reduced to what I call an 'event-pamphlet'. They print no news that requires investigation (gasp), isn't a regurgitation of other source data, or that may eventually lead to crony-corruption (defined as anyone or business that may ever want to piace any ad in the paper or knows someone that knows someone that may). Their reporting on this story would have sped things up.

My 25+ year subscription went from daily to twice a week a few years back. Their lack of reporting on this story was the final nail in the coffin–cancelled. RIP FT. Long live BT and thanks.

Reply



Anonymous December 9, 2012 at 7:38 PM

Please do not blame Mr. Parker. It is not his fault so many have turned a blind eye. There are a large number of people who are hiding because they are worried about being associated to BlueWare because they sang the praises of this company and their arrival to Melbourne - especially Florida Trend - who have turned a blind eve.

I think with the lack of actually competting any scanning or even having a product the company should change the spelling to BlueWhere since no one can get answers to simple questions about what our money has been spent on.

You heard it here first - January 2013 several individuals will be going to jail and everyone is going to say if we only knew. And the beauty of the internet is we will reference these blogs and Scott and Charles will get the respect and credit they deserve.

Reply

Filing 7115135

STATE VS NEEDELMAN MITCHELL



Anonymous December 10, 2012 at 6:14 AM

I wonder if the anti-Charles Parker notes are being written by someone at Blueware in a feeble attempt discredit him and by association this story. Could they really be that desperate?



Anonymous December 10, 2012 at 8:31 AM

Let's look at the facts:

FDLE is investigating you There is talk of serious jail time

The new BC Clerk of the Court is not only going to cancel your contract but turn everything over to the authorities

You have no product

You have been lying for 12 months to everyone

And HP is going to want some answers to the bad publicity and bad deal you brought them.

Desperate may not be a strong enough word.



Anonymous December 10, 2012 at 10:57 AM

Besides Rose and Matt someone needs to focus on these two other individuals - Jennifer Kenna and Debbie Caldwell. They have been seen jet setting over to the UK every other week on Brevard County money helping Rose and Mitch with this scheme. I am not sure how a company that has had one contract can afford so many expenses with no real product to talk of.

Jennifer has no real world experience and now she has a very unique position and relation with Rose Harr. Debbie ran a party store and now she is the VP of Operations. The only thing these two do is pose for pictures with Rose and fly all over on our dime. The corruption runs deep there,

Replies



Anonymous February 20, 2013 at 7:25 PM

oh crap now shes selling real estate~~

Debbie Caldwell Address:232 5th Avenue, Indialantic, FL, 32903 Office Phone: (321) 951-3300 Cell Phone:(321) 427-4497 Fax:(321) 951-3080 Email: debbiecaldwell9@gmail.com



Anonymous February 20, 2013 at 7:29 PM

your right I found this on linkedin im sure she is a good realtor in between her flights to UK and she is also a great event planner, bet HP thinks so

Debbie Caldwell's Experience

Director of Human Resources BlueWare Privately Held; 51-200 employees; Computer Software industry

June 2012 - Present (9 months) Melboure, Florida

We are a medical soft ware company, , check us out on Blueware.net, Great place to work , very fast and forward moving, We have a great CEO called Rose Harr , she is visionary.

Realtor Coldwell Banker Paradise April 2010 - Present (2 years 11 months) 232 5th Ave Indialantic , Florida

Hive and work in Melbourne . Florida .How lucky am 1, I can help you make your home right here . Beaufiful beaches , clean air and plenty of things to do , you are only an hour away from Disney and all the other attractions.

Event co-ordinator and decorator Blank Canvas Event Decorating

September 2001 - Present (11 years 6 months) Melbourne, Florida Area

Let us make your event one to remember. We provide you with custom decorations tailored to your event . Make your next celebration one that will be the Talk of The Town .

Reply



Anonymous December 10, 2012 at 3:09 PM

Please check out this article from Space Coast Magazine -

The title is People to Watch in 2013. I agree except when they included Rose they should have changed the title to People to Watch Out For in 2013.

http://www.spacecoastbusiness.com/people-to-watch-in-2013/

This woman is everywhere. She really needs to spend some time getting the scanning done or getting an actual software product done. This company is half hype and half vaporware.

I guess that is why she has the party planner and the make believe sales executive to run the ship when she is not in Melbourne. Oh wait that can't be, they are off in the UK spending our money.

Reply



scott ellis. December 10, 2012 at 8:00 PM

I have to admit the depth of the deception is stunning. SpaceCast Business Daily names the Melbourne Chamber of Commerce's appointee to the Brevard Workforce Development Board as a person to watch.

I'd agree. To date she has collected over SEVEN MILLION DOLLARS from the taxpayers and produced - NOTHING.

Reply



Anonymous December 11, 2012 at 6:22 AM

What happened to the press conference that was promised for November? How about the open house at the scanning facility Blueware promised? Scott...did you ever get your personal tour of the new scanning facility from Matt Dupree?

More broken promises and more lies, What a surprise, I am beginning to suspect we cannot trust Kaitlin, Rose, Matt, Debbie, and Jennifer (sarcasm implied).

Reply



scott ellis December 11, 2012 at 6:52 AM

The building is up and running, it's all free money. Free building and free employees. Then the Clerk goes out and borrows \$6.1 million to front you the money on your five year contract which already was overcharged by \$6 million.

Reply



Anonymous December 11, 2012 at 8:15 AM

How else could they do it if it wasn't free. The company has had no revenue until the contract was signed. They could not make payroll or pay expenses until the county gave them the money. And once the money was received and they paid all their owed debts, Rose, Jennifer and Debbie went off for the jet set life spending whatever remaining money there was left. Now the county is on the line for a \$6.1 million loan, we cannot get our money back from BlueWhere because it is all spent or hidden and we are left holding the bag.

Explain to me again how this whole incentive thing works, we pay carpet baggers to come to town, live the high life and we all end up suffering.

Can you hear that chuckle in the air? That is all of them laughing at us. No accountability, no answers to questions and they are going to have a wonderful XMAS on our dime.

Reply



Anonymous December 11, 2012 at 8:22 AM

Does anyone find it strange that the blueware website has no news or lists any new products or any customers. It is almost like they have gone silent to try and hide or they are afraid anything they say will be used against them.

It doesn't even list any of their leadership employees except the 30 year old picture of Rose and some techies she has working for her in the house in Michigan.

Verystrange

Reply



scott ellis December 11, 2012 at 6:59 PM

Ms. Harr and Blueware have collected about \$8 MILLION from the State, County, City, and Clerk and have not ONE THING to show for the money.

Better than Rock Soup, she came here from Michigan and could not even afford the rock.

Reply



scott ellis. December 11, 2012 at 7:00 PM

New Article and Blog Underway:

2

	Charles Parker: C	Charles Parker: He	ev Mitch and Matt:	How About Some Answers
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Tuesday, December 11, 2012

### Charles Parker: Divergent Views on Clerk's Contract Continue

Within a 20-minute timespan on Monday, I received two emails whose contrast could not be starker.

The subject of both is the controversial contract between the Clerk's office and BlueGem Technologies to digitize court records. The contract has been under scrutiny since its signing during the summer.

Clerk of Courts-In-Waiting Scott Ellis sent out a missive that he entitled "Clerk Loots \$6.1 Million for Blueware: Hewlett Packard Left Holding the Bag." In it, he once again calls the BlueGem digitizing contract a "scam" and claims that Hewlett Packard has loaned money to the Clerk's Office to pay-off the

Shortly after, Clerk of Courts-In-Limbo Mitch Needelman issued a press release that begins, "On Friday, December 07, 2012, a milestone event took place in Brevard County that will change the way the Clerk of Courts does business from now into the future."

The English teacher in me cries out, "...two roads diverged in a yellow wood..."

The contract has raised questions many questions. I am still waiting for the answer to a few of them: Who is working, how much are they being paid, what property/equipment was bought, and what are the contract deliverables?

I have asked the Clerk's Office, BlueWare/BlueGem, Matt DuPree, the Economic Development Commission, all five county commissioners, and the Melbourne Regional Chamber of Commerce.

None have answered. However, I think I already know the answer. These basic criteria – present in most government contracts – are not written down anywhere.

The contract is basically this: Here's the money. We don't care how you get the job done or how you spend the money, you have to get the job done by 2017. Oh – and if you don't – we're covered by insurance that we paid for. So really - we don't care whether you get the job done or not.

And evidently the terms of the contract have changed from the original one signed this summer.

Incoming Clerk Ellis lays out the wide-ranging and winding road-like scenario STATE VS NEEDELMAN MITCHELL Property Record Lookup

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#### Opinion

- · Charles Parker: Obama Feckless and Reckless
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- FIRST LOOK: 2014 Candidates for County Commission District 4
- FIRST LOOK: 2014 Candidates for County Commission District 2

#### Recent

- Eastern Florida Wins \$1.5 Million Grant for New Degree Programs
- Eastern Florida Faculty Art on Display
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- · FIT to Host Make-A-Wish Night Saturday at Old School Pizza
- Merritt Island High School Students Get Firsthand Look at Space Launch

#### Politics

- EDC Claims It's Not A Public Agency, Not Required To Produce BlueWare Records
- Florida Food Stamp Cuts Begin Today
- · Charlie Crist Will Run For Florida Governor
- Obamacare 'Navigator' Ready to Help Brevard County Residents

this way:

Needelman contracts with BlueWare. Needelman realizes Ellis will cancel the contract and tries to sell it. HP lends money to Needelman – who in turn gives some of the money to BlueWare, buys an insurance bond, and evidently purchases bowling balls (what else does Brunswick Corporation do?).

Also, in October BlueWare chief Rose Harr is given a cushy spot on the Brevard Workforce Board of Directors and then in November is given \$760,000 by the same board for job training.

In this scenario, Ellis assumes the motive of Needelman – to keep Ellis from stopping payments to BlueWare and cancelling the contract when he takes office in January 2013.

But there is a problem with assuming the motive: there is no proof. I am sure if Needelman did not write down contract terms and deliverables, he did not write down the terms of a nefarious plot.

As well, I am sure Needleman would say his motive to change the terms of the contract – which went from \$8.5 million to \$6.1 million - was solely to save taxpayers' money.

Ellis claims, "Clerks cannot enter into promissory notes and borrow money. Legal opinions will be forthcoming when I get into office." At the same time, I would be shocked if Needelman didn't have attorneys who gave him the "okay."

And so the beat goes on. Taxpayer money is being spent on a noble project, but the taxpayers don't really know whether their money is being spent legally and efficiently. For government projects, both should be the standard.

Posted by Charles Parker at 12:43 PM

+2 Recommend this on Google

### 35 comments:



scott ellis December 11, 2012 at 2:46 PM

The Clerk by law may not borrow money.

No terms in any Blueware contract have been changed.

Blueware got a \$5.7 million advance on the \$7.5 million remaining. The Clerk also picked up paying 3.55% interest on the note and the Clerk as customer paid for the Performance Bond for the vendor, Blueware (\$200,000) plus the bizarre \$200,000 payment to Brunswick.

Why would anyone borrow money to make an advance on a five year no interest contract, even if the contract were legit (and it is not)?

The money this time is stolen from Hewlett Packard.

Reply



Tyler Winik December 11, 2012 at 4:02 PM

Charles

If non-taxing elected officials could apply for credit and obtain it from companies, wouldn't constitutional officers all over Florida and across the nation already have maxed out their credit ratings?

As the Clerk has its budget given to it by the Legislature, it doesn't have a bond rating. It cannot issue bonds, cannot tax, etc. It must spend only what the Legislature gives it, no more.

The budgets of the Clerks in Florida are heavily reviewed by the Clerk of Courts Operation Corporation ("CCOC") before being sent to the Legislature for ratification. Even then, the Legislature, not the CCOC, makes the final decision as to what county gets how much.

This is yet another illegal power grab in an attempt to provide liquid cash for Mitch & Co. pending January 8th.

Reply



scott ellis December 11, 2012 at 6:50 PM

It is also by no means a noble project. It is a useless and unnecessary project. It would be bad enough to pay triple price for something you need, but these files are so rarely touched no mass imaging serves any purpose. It serves a purpose by pushing money in a circle through a circle of friends and accomplices. Rose Harr made the statement she needed to defend her contract from Scott Ellis to another company they tried to use to scam the public (too honest, they refused) and they found their way by having the Clerk borrow the money for them.

About Me



Charles Parker

l cover politics, sports, and local news for Brevard Times Lalso write opinion. You can

email me at cpbrevard@gmail.com and follow me on Twitter @cpbrevard These views are mine alone and do not necessarily reflect the views of Brevard Public Schools.

View my complete profile

05-2013-CF-064037-AXXX-XX

2/8

Too bad for Hewlett Packard, they may already know they have been left holding the bag.

Reply



Anonymous December 12, 2012 at 2:34 AM

Charles, I can fully support Scott's contention that this is a wasteful, unnecessary make-work project that arose ONLY to facilitate the scam. I have used the Clerk's records in my work on a daily basis for decades. Since the land records from '80 forward have been on-line, I have never once needed a doct older than that (14+ yrs?). Should I ever require such an old doct, I would consider this archival research and understand that retrieving it may take more time and effort.

What we never got the numbers on:

- 1. How many requests does the Clerk get each year for these old documents and how much Clerk's time is spent responding to them.
- 2. How many total documents are there to be scanned?

Answers to these questions would have exposed this scam for what it is - hardly a 'noble' project.



Anonymous December 12, 2012 at 3:04 AM

To my previous post I can add this:

I can state with 99% certainty that no other county in FLA has spent \$\$ to digitize their ancient documents.

This from the first County Clerk record search I checked - Dade

"The Miami-Dade County Clerk's Office is making every effort to serve the public in an efficient, professional and courteous manner. Most recorded documents from 1974 to the present are available online at County Recorder's Official Record Search with older documents available from microfilm at our library located at Courthouse East."

Old records on Microfilm is good enough for Dade, but not little of Brevard?



Anonymous December 12, 2012 at 5:40 AM

You are all making this more complex then it really is. The first mistake is your applying logic trying to identify a need and then applying a solution, this whole project had nothing to do with improving a process. This is all about money and a quick hit.

Here is the history.

- 1 Rose moved to Florida and needed to make money. She has no product and a big commitment to hire a lot of people inorder to get the incentives bluewhere committed to.
- 2 Matt meets Rose and they both need each other, matt needs a big payday and Rose needs the money-see 1 above.
- 3 Matt and Mitch are buddies. Matt can make a deal happen but needs to find something that somehow meets what Rose's company with no product does. Medical Records - Court Records, OK that's close enough.
- 4 Matt writes some specifications, gives to Mitch he posts them, Rose responds with Matt authoring a response to his questions and Mitch awards the deal to Rose.
- 5 Matt gets paid \$90,000 for bringing the deal in and then gets hired by Rose. Life is good but Mitch loses election.
- 6 Rose needs to make sure she still gets the money. She trys to find a company to loan the county the money now so she can get paid. If she waits five years when the work is actually done it will be cancelled by someone not in the fix IBM says no, HP says yes. HP does not know all the history.
- 7 Rose gets the money and spends or hides it all.
- 8 Result = County is out the money, HP is left holding the bag and Matt, Rose, and Mitch are laughing all the way to the bank.

Accomplises to the scheme - Jennifer the make believe sales executive and Debbie the party planner

Not that complicated.

Reply

Replies



scott ellis December 12, 2012 at 7:27 AM

Lagree, Rose did not even have the rock for rock soup. However, I beleive Matt & Mitch & Associates have taken in far more then \$90,000. Given how horrible the HP deal in unlawfully loaning money to the Clerk I'd give the money trail a few hound dog sniffs towards Hewlett Packard. Just as when something is too good to be true it is not, when something is too stupid to be true it also probably is not.

Blueware/HP = Sarno Landfill/County Government. Both made \$6 million in one day producing nothing. Neither will ever be used.



Anonymous December 12, 2012 at 7:48 AM

The \$90,000 was the first installment. The day the county wrote a check to Rose for

\$500,000 she wrote a check to Matt for \$90,000. That was payment number one with moer to follow. Another part of the deal was she hired him as VP for BlueGem, paid him \$200,000 plus commissions for future jobs and passed jobs. He needed to get on the payroll as soon as possible to payfor his medical bills that were adding up.



scott ellis December 12, 2012 at 8:03 AM

Yes, and other payments of \$10,000 and \$30,000. On top of those were the \$5,000/\$10,000 monthly payments to Eligere, the corporate lobbying firm he ran. I would also bet a large chunk of the \$5.7 million has disappeared overseas.

The funny item in the HP loan was the \$200,000 for Brunswick Corporation. Rose had wanted to buy a fancy boat, perhaps HP via the Clerk has now paid for it?



Neal December 12, 2012 at 8:46 PM

Wow, you might have something there. I got side tracked with the Bowling Ball silliness, but I recall now that Brunswick owns a boat builder. Too funny!

Reply



Anonymous December 12, 2012 at 5:58 AM

The funny part is the folks at Blueware think everyone is upset because the scanning is not done yet. So they are keeping a low profile trying to get it all completed as quickly as possible. Then in January they will pop their head out of their hole and say - Look we have 1.5 million documents scanned already.

The only problem is they are so naive they do not realize the reason people are upset is because we paid 3 times as much for a useless fixed project that never should have been awarded to any one in the first place. All the hiding and avoiding answering questions can never change that fact.

Scott you also don't know they are using proprietary methods to scan the documents that you need their software to read the document. So when you fire them, any documents they have scanned you are going to have to pay them again to convert them into a readable format for any generic program out there.

That is how they made money over the last 18 months. All their old clients have been paying them the hostage fee to get their data back.

Reply



scott ellis December 12, 2012 at 7:13 AM

There will never be 1.5 million images in the next four weeks. The photos from the press release are a Poternkin Operation. Live files which had already been scanned were shipped down for the photopo for the press release. HP should have followed up with me when I contacted them a month ago, they would have had a better chance at recovering some of their money.

I will say all damage wrought on this office since the election is due to the failure of those in power (and I am not talking FDLE) to have had the crooked rats removed back in September.

Reply



Anonymous December 12, 2012 at 7:44 AM

What photos? What press release? Is it on the web?

Reply



scott ellis December 12, 2012 at 8:14 AM

Charles has it as a .pdf. He graciouly sent it to me. I am sure if you email BrevardTimes@gmail.com you can get it. It would be better if they have the time to post it, laughable, a pure Potemkin set-up. It is like the thieves on Wall Street skinning us alive and saying what a wonderful thing TARP is for the whole country.

Reply



scott ellis December 12, 2012 at 8:15 AM

Or e-mail me if you'd like, sellis@spacey.net.

Reply



Anonymous December 12, 2012 at 8:56 AM

I have read the press release and I am not really sure what they are proud of after reading the statements.

This digitization of records will enable everyone who desires to access public records to be able to do so from any computer anywhere by the year 2017 - I can monitor my whole house and access my home computer from my smart phone today. They are bragging about a capability that they will have in 2017. We paid \$8 million I want something today TATE YES NEEDELMAN MITCHELL

Reply

Replies



scott ellis December 12, 2012 at 10:43 AM

The Clerk's records are already online for the last decade. When was the last time you needed to see a case from 1993? Even worse, the Blueware plan is to do far more destruction than imaging. So if you really wanted to see that whole case from 1993, many pages will be gone forever.



Anonymous December 12, 2012 at 1:01 PM

And they have experience in destruction of classified records. There is nothing on their web site that indicated that. Let me guess they are subcontracting that part as well.

Reply



Anonymous December 12, 2012 at 8:59 AM

Brevard County is the FIRST in the State of Florida to get digitization underway. I am very porud of both the Clerk's employees and BlueGem for getting this project up and running so quickly -

Seriously!!! The contract was signed in April of this year and they just began scanning the documents after you have already paid them millions of dollars and you are proud of them for getting things up so quickly. What were they doing for the past 9 months???

Reply



Anonymous December 12, 2012 at 9:07 AM

After legnthy negotiations that have spanned months, the contract for digitization of Brevard County's citizens' private and public records was awarded to BlueGem Technologies -

I thought the specs were written by Matt, and then Matt responded to his own specs on behalf BlueWhere and then Mitch approved them and the contract was awarded. The whole process took three days. And from what I have read of the contract and specifications there is not a lot of details - we will give you \$8 million and have the records scanned by 2017. No milestones, no checks and balances, no requirements.

Oh yeah you had a bunch of make believe meetings in the Holiday Inn Express where Rose stood in front of the room pretending she was doing discovery for what the county needed and wanted with a whole bunch of fifth grade sticky notes, the contract was already written and signed at that point this was a dog and pony show for the employees to pretend it was some serious negotiations.

Not really sure where the law allows the winner of the contract to be the one identifying the specifications of the contracts with the employees. Shouldn't the specifications already be defined and then we ask the contractor to meet those needs. I would think the contractor would leave out the stuff they find in discovery that would be hard to do or expensive and take the low hanging fruit.

Reply



Anonymous December 12, 2012 at 10:27 AM

Can't wait for Karma to come and get Mitch and all of his associates for ripping off the taxpayers of Brevard County!!! Scott had said ALL along...Mitch is bad business. Boy was he right!!!!

Reply



Paul December 12, 2012 at 11:26 AM

Hey folks....you do know that the Clerk's Office already has 11 High-speed Canon 9050 scanners and in reality had NO NEED to Outsource the project in the 1st place. If the Clerk's Office was setup to index in a more efficient way they could internally scan 2 million images a month

Reply



Anonymous December 12, 2012 at 1:31 PM

So the Clerk's office had more equipment the day they signed the contract to scan documents than the company they signed the contract with.

Do you think a program to setup an index system cost more than \$8 million?

And you ask why everyone is so mad....

Reply



Anonymous December 12, 2012 at 2:10 PM

Anon 5:58 said: ...So when you fire them, any documents they have scanned you are going to have to pay them again to convert them into a readable format for any generic program out there.

An additional criminal charge of Theft of Govt Property?

STATE VS NEEDELMAN MITCHELL

Anon 1:01 said: And they have experience in destruction of classified records?
-An additional criminal charge of Destruction of Govt Property?

Reply



Anonymous December 12, 2012 at 3:11 PM

Great to know we have all this scanning equip while the process of scanning the most RECENT daily records has ground to a screeching halt this month.

I'm now waiting on court case doos filed in early Nov to be viewable, that have for the past 5 yrs, been viewable within 5± days of filing. Yes, great progress.

Too bad we couldn't have gotten an INJUNCTION against screwing up all that was humming along just fine pre election!

Reply



Anonymous December 12, 2012 at 9:10 PM

But if Mitch didn't lay off all the staff that were doing the scanning already how was he going to justify a scanning project and pay Rose all the money- stop using logic!!!!

Reply



Anonymous December 14, 2012 at 7:15 AM

Sad to say....us Floridians are easy pray for the Chunky Tiger....

Reply



Anonymous December 19, 2012 at 7:32 AM

I see Blueware has conned some people to joining their "sales team". Good luck selling a non-existent product. Lets see: The product is not finished, there is no user manual, there is no defined installation process or project plan, there is no installation team, the list goes on and on. Yeah, a recipe for success.

Don't you people do your research on a company before joining them? You will make no money, be told by Matt Raab that he just cannot get an update/conversion done inside 6 months for your angry soon to be former customers, and you will be subjected to Rose's stupid ramblings about following her 23 steps to a sale. A bit of advice: Be sure you send out that Cup and Packet. I am sure getting a coffee cup and some tea will guarantee you get the sale.

I guess the job market is still so tough that people will work for a corrupt company run by a psycho nut job. My guess is they do not last 3 months ..and that is being generous.

Reply



Anonymous December 27, 2012 at 6:03 PM

I worked at Blueware about 8 months ago - in sales. They kept promising the product was coming but in the meantime just keep selling to the customers I was told. I could never get a release schedule or what particular modules actually made the product.

When the sales were not coming - because people do not buy vaporware - Rose blamed me for not following her patented 23 steps to a sale. These 23 steps is her excuse to use on her team when things fail. If it was so successful don't you think others would be using the 23 steps.

And yes I was eventually fired because I did not send the coffee mug to my potential customer and she blamed the no-sale because I forgot that important step.

in the end it was the greatest day in my life to get away from her and her family who are all a little warned.

Let me tell you a secret - there is no product, she has no idea what she is doing and she blames everyone else. If you are a man she will hate you the moment she meets you.

Reply



Anonymous December 27, 2012 at 6:09 PM

I just looked at their web site and under leadership team why do they have a picture of people who no longer work there. Answer - no one else is willing to have their picture put up there.

The other interesting notation is she envisions Blueware leading the future of electronic health records. Here is the sad part of that diluted statement. There is this little thing called Meaningful Use—what it means is if the federal government certifies your product in the electronic health record arena they will pay people to use it. Like a rebate for your purchase. This Blueware software that Rose envisions for leading the future is not Meaningful Use certified, never has been and never will be. I am pretty sure if someone has an option between using vaporware with a dwindling user base and not reimbursable and any other product out there, they are probably going to chose any other product out there.

Her and her daughter need to stop making global statements that are not true and make no sense. Here is a New Year's resolution for you - try telling the truth just for one day.

Reply



Anonymous December 28, 2012 at 10:52 AM

Here is an absolutely hilarious comment by Rose. What a JOKE. Here is the url for the post

http://www.healthinformaticsforum.com/profile/RoseHarr

Rose Harr commented on Chris Paton's blog post "Robot and Frank": The Future of Home Healthcare Robots?

"Dear Mr. Paton and my friend David, Thank you for this! The video is wonderful. I will use it for my company meeting if you dont mind. We are working in Robots also with Artificial Intelligence. Thanks for inspiring us. Rose Harr"

Seriously??? Rose and Blueware are developing robots with artificial intelligence? They cannot even finish a software program. To envision her company as a developer of robots and artificial intelligence shows how delusional she really is.

Reply



Anonymous December 28, 2012 at 2:44 PM

How many years can she use that picture? It was a glam shot she had taken 10 years ago. I think it is time to get a new shot. No one will take you seriously in the tech field when you look like you are modeling for JC Penney. I think Ellen DeGeneres is using this same pose. Take some of the money you recently taken and get new photos.

Reply



Anonymous January 3, 2013 at 6:35 AM

It is the new year. Scott...when will the contract be cancelled and the legal proceedings begin?

Reply



Anonymous January 4, 2013 at 11:38 AM

Shoot, I'm just waiting for the office to be functional and up and running again in his first few weeks. The clerk services have all but ceased to exist at this point!

Needelman - the biggest loser/jerk/crook to ever have held an office in this County - hands down!!!

Reply



Anonymous January 9, 2013 at 10:00 AM

Scanning images and shredding, who cares? This is only part of the obligation, the easiest and cheapest part. The REDACTION process is the most critical component and most needed service for any of the scanning (regardless of who does it) to be of any value to the Clerk's office and citizens.

Reply

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Saturday, January 5, 2013

### Ellis Plans Moneysaving Changes In Clerk's Office



TITUSVILLE, Florida - The Clerk of Courts office will have fewer managers and "more people who do the work" as part of a plan to save money for the taxpayers, according to incoming Clerk Scott Ellis.

He will be sworn in on Tuesday at Noon at the Brevard County Government Complex in Titusville and will then visit all of the Clerk's offices. Ellis defeated incumbent Mitch Needleman in a primary last summer.

"We will go back to making more information available online for free, saving both the public and the Clerk's Office time and money," Ellis added. "Turning off many of the contracts signed by the current regime will save well over \$1 million annually.

"More regular workers will be added in place of the excess management and bogus contracts being paid. They will cost less than what is being subtracted, and we have to make it work as currently the office is being overspent through the long term contracts and the hiring of over 30 people after the election.

"I expect our overall staffing levels to be roughly the same. We may have a few more employees who do the work, but the few additional employees will be a saving over the excess management now leaving the building."

One of those contracts – the contentious court records digitizing contract with BlueWare, Inc. – is a focal point of Ellis' changes.

"The Clerk (outgoing clerk Needleman) unlawfully borrowed \$6.1 million from Hewlett Packard and fronted Blueware \$5.7 million for their five year contract. The \$8.3 million for digitizing will be over, unfortunately with more than \$1 Filing 7115135 STATE VS NEEDELMAN MITCHELL Auction.com® Sells Homes

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- Eastern Florida Wins \$1.5 Million Grant for New Degree Programs
- · Eastern Florida Faculty Art on Display
- North Brevard Zone Seeks to Provide \$6.5 Million Grant to Developer
- FIT to Host Make-A-Wish Night Saturday at Old School Pizza
- Merritt Island High School Students Get Firsthand Look at Space Launch

#### Politics

- . EDC Claims It's Not A Public Agency, Not Required To Produce BlueWare Records
- · Florida Food Stamp Cuts Begin Today
- Charlie Crist Will Run For Florida Governor
- Obamacare 'Navigator' Ready to Help Brevard County Residents

#### About Me



Charles Parker

l cover politics, sports, and local news for Brevard Times, Lalso write opinion. You can email me

at cpbrevard@gmail.com and follow me on Twitter @cpbrevard These views are mine alone and do not necessarily reflect the views of Brevard Public Schools.

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million already gone down the drain," Ellis said.

Ellis noted that many of the upper level management are resigning, but there are still salary issues to be considered.

"The new layer of management (that Needleman installed) has been leaving on their own, collecting \$15,000 to \$20,000 severance bonuses on the way out," Ellis said. "The last round of pay raises must be rescinded and I believe a large amount of the first round will be removed as we prepare to re-badge the outsourced employees in the first month."

Ellis added that he hopes to determine the fiscal outlook for the office within his first week.

"The management and structure of the Viera and Titusville offices will have been reworked. We will have an auditor and paralegal on board to sort through what has happened over the last two years as we meet with members of the Clerk's staff. We are going to see what we have legally in past expenditures and contracts as well as what exactly the current financial situation is of the office."

Posted by Charles Parker at 7:02 AM

+2 Recommend this on Google

#### 15 comments:



Anonymous January 5, 2013 at 4:02 PM

WELCOME BACK SCOTT!!!!:)

NOW MAYBE YOU CAN PAY THE SCHOOL BOARD ADMINISTRATION OFFICE A VISIT AND FIRE AND HIRE SOME WORKERS????



Anonymous January 6, 2013 at 9:59 AM

There is a new sheriff in town and his name is Scott Ellis - thank god.

What happens to all the people Rose hired at Blueware to do the digitizing contract - do they get fired, does she get in trouble for making flase promises to so many people - I know once again she will blame some one else for the actions she has to take. If it was up to me I would keep you all on board but the bad man named Ellis is making us do it - I can hear her now saying,

I think the reloaction people need to reexamine the tax rebates and incentives they gave her to come down here. I believe they meant you need to hire and keep employed 192 people - not just hire and fire people to make your numbers and get your money.

If she has already taken \$1 million dollars maybe she should give us the brand new building she purchased and we will call it even - or actually we won't be able to call her if she is in jail. If she calls we will accept the charges and say even.

Do the prison jump suits come in blue? I do know how much she loves blue.

Scott - STOP THE MADNESS!!!!!!!

Reply



Anonymous January 6, 2013 at 12:42 PM

Welcome back Scott!! Finally, things will get back to normal, although it will take time for you to actually see how much damage Mitch Needleman has done. He definitely has ripped-off the citizens of Brevard County. Wonder what will be on Needleman's agenda next? Prison? Stealing from the clerk's office will land him there. Aidios Needleman, you did nothing for the COC...just screw us all over!!

Reply



Dspangler January 6, 2013 at 6:15 PM

Welcome Back Scott the chaos is almost over. And it feels really good to not have to hide behind an Annonymous name.

Thank the Lord for answering prayers, and thank goodness the Clerks office will have the right man to restore the damage that has been done.

kenlyn January 7, 2013 at 1:47 PM



This comment has been removed by the author.

Reply



keniyn January 7, 2013 at 1:48 PM

cott Ellis Please keep us up to date on that Blueware scam. With schools closing and good people out of work we do not need this place to be attached to Brevard County. We need you to step up to the plate and do what is right. Thank you Mr. Ellis

Reply



Anonymous January 8, 2013 at 10:15 AM

Well perhaps if Rose does have the \$1million then she would kindly repay the money she owes my company which put us and our staff through some very difficult times during this global recession; nearly forcing us into liquidation. Thanks Rose



Anonymous January 8, 2013 at 10:51 AM

oh, scott. you are a joke. it will not take too many years for you to quit again. as soon as you spend all the excess money that was left to you, you will be right back where you were before.

Reply

Replies



Anonymous January 9, 2013 at 2:28 PM

Eric and David you really need to work on your punctuation. Or maybe it was libbe trying to learn English and practicing on blogs.

FYI - there is no extra money - everyone knows that and you can try to paint Scott as the bad guy but that is not true. We all know the truth.

Here are some questions for you to ponder?

Why has Rose and Jennifer went to go hide in the UK if the reason they moved to Melbourne in the first place was because of all the opportunity here in Florida?

How come no one from your office has answered any of the questions regarding the contract that was signed - afraid of the truth?

The truth will set you free.

Reply



Anonymous January 9, 2013 at 2:32 PM

"Historic Downtown Melbourne will be enhanced by the siting of BlueWare in the heart of downtown. Revitalization, together with 190 new high-tech, high wage employees in the growing health care sector, combine to form an outstanding development arrangement. We appreciate the State and Brevard County for helping expedite this business location," said Cindy Dittmer, Planning and Economic Development Director, City of Melbourne.

Then why is their office located next to the interstate - this makes no sense?????

Reply



Anonymous January 9, 2013 at 2:39 PM

I am still stuck on the whole comment from above. You are telling me that Rose paid for us to move her to Melbourne and buy her a building and other tax incentives and the reason was to higher local folks and to develop local business and now her and her followers are in the UK?

Does anyone besides me see this as a problem?

How much are we going to let this woman get away with and what idiots are continuing to work for

If you moved to Florida to do business don't you think you should do more than one contract before

You don't think she is hiding over there because her world is about to fall apart??? I heard she does not like bad news and often hides from it than facing it.

Reply



Anonymous January 10, 2013 at 2:47 AM

Re Rose and all her followers in the UK. Quite simply, no. She has no followers in the UK, at least

	News: Ellis Plans Moneysaving Changes In
	to my knowledge. It is a phoney business
	Reply
	Anonymous January 10, 2013 at 8:02 PM
	Those are some pretty strong words -
	A phoney business means you do not have a product, you sell people vaporware, you negotiate contracts for things you really cannot do and when you are asked questions about it you cannot provide answers.
	My apologies you are right - it is a phoney business.
	Reply
<u> </u>	Anonymous January 13, 2013 at 8:52 AM
	the final audits and accounting of funds in the clerk's office, by INDEPENDENT auditor firm an public record, why don't you all go and READ them before shooting off your mouths about things you know nothing of? gripes me that people always speak authoritatively with no information, stupic unwashed masses
	Reply
	Anonymous January 13, 2013 at 9:16 AM
	Mitch it is good to see you have some extra time to blog these days. I am so glad you want to spea authoritatively about something. If you are so open why did you give a job to a company that had no experience in doing the job for three times more than any one else would do it for? Why did you right hand man Matt get such a big payout for bringing you this cozy vendor - there were no vendors in Melbourne who could have done this? Why did you try so hard to keep everything under wraps while you were in office? Why would you pay money to a vendor for a product that is due in five years with payment upfront? Why did you give so much work to one vendor if the all the businesses in the county need work? Why would you even hire a vendor to do a job when we have county staff that car do it and equipment sitting in our offices that can do it? Why would you pay a company to do the work who never did it before, buy them a building to do it in and then pay them from your EDC to have the people do it? None of this makes sense.
	So before you get on your high horse and talk about people who know nothing, we are not stupi and can smell a fix a mile away. You are a self serving individual who only cares about lining you pocket at the expense of others and then you have the nerve to ridicule us when we question how you did it.
	Do you ever wonder when it all went wrong. Is it something systemic and you neer really had an business skills and your only writue in life was the hustle. It is so sad when you look back at you legacy the only thing people will read is this about you and what you have accomplished.
	I would rather you go to your house and wait for the authorities to come knock on your door to tak you away then add more to this pathetic memory we all have of your regime.
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