

Sumner County detective resigns amid investigation

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Reported by Dennis Ferrier



HENDERSONVILLE, TN (WSMV) -

Maj. Don Linzy of the Sumner County Sheriff's Office has resigned amid allegations of misconduct.



Sumner County Sheriff Sonny Weatherford said Linzy sent him an email on Thursday resigning effective immediately. No reason for the resignation was given in the email.

Channel 4 has confirmed the TBI investigation stems from Linzy's role in handling evidence from a closed case that was marked for destruction.

Linzy is a 22-year veteran of the department and head of the Criminal Investigations Unit. Before his resignation, he was on unpaid administrative leave, pending the outcome of the investigation.

According to the TBI, the investigation was requested by Weatherford and 18th District Attorney General Ray Whitley.

"Right now, it's kind of a one-time deal that we were looking into, so I don't know what they've found out. Like I've said, we've turned it over to the TBI to investigate," Weatherford said.

The TBI released this statement: "The investigation is preliminary, active, and ongoing, with the full cooperation of all agencies involved."

It is unclear at this time what the evidence was or what Linzy was doing with it, only that it was marked for destruction.

"This could almost only be drugs or firearms, money. It's got to be drugs or firearms, which are critical to criminal investigations," said attorney David Raybin.

Raybin wrote Tennessee's criminal code. Even if this is one case, he said if the charge has substance, every case Linzy testified in or worked on will be reevaluated.

"The fact it may be one case, one closed case, that doesn't matter," Raybin said. "The entire spectrum of cases that officer touched are in jeopardy because his credibility is in question. And I am not just talking about the cases that went to trial. This would include plea bargains and agreements as well. This is catastrophic."

Channel 4 could not reach Linzy for comment.

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