

MUFON - The Inside Truth

It is my guess, after this letter is distributed, I will no longer have the ability to file a complaint with the Professional Ethics Board, or the MUFON Board of Directors. At the time of this letter I am still the Director of the Case Review Team, Associate Producer of MUFON Media, Case Assistance member, C.M.S. Administrator.

I am writing this with great concern. Sometimes doing the right thing is not easy. This is one of those times. Let me begin with how I got to where I am now. I started as a Field Investigator in Indiana, went through all the steps to move up, eventually holding the Indiana State Director title. From there I began working more on the National side of things. Working with MUFON Media as Associate Producer, I also developed and directed Project Match (a joint effort between MUFON and NICAP), and I am now the National Director of the Case Review Team.

Working closely with National MUFON has allowed me to become better aware of how the organization operates internally. This is the very reason I am writing this. My concerns are real, and need to be shared with those who tirelessly dedicate themselves to MUFON and to those that are able to make changes for the betterment of the Organization.

Following are those concerns in no particular order.

1) I have found that some Investigators are having extensive background checks run on witnesses when they submit a report. Some of these background checks are more than typical. In such instances, a report will be closed without speaking or emailing a witness due to results from the background check. Only doing a random case check I have found several with comments surrounding these findings, which include Violent Criminal Acts, Child Molesting, and one report showing a comprehensive list of medications a witness is using with side effects from these medicines. Documenting this in a database open to many individuals within MUFON could possibly violate H.I.P.P.A. Laws. I addressed this issue with the Executive Director Jan Harzan along with the Director of Investigations Chase Kloetzke weeks ago and at the time of this letter the information is still attached to these reports. I told both Jan and Chase of the possible legal ramifications this could have to no avail it seems. With the small amount of reports I looked at, it is hard to judge how many reports or states are following this practice. In short if there is a criminal background result found, no contact or email will be sent to a witness as the Investigator clearly states in these reports and the case will be closed as Information Only or Insufficient Information. I guess it is possible there were permissions given to some states, I then question who is paying for this service. If this is common acceptable practice it is my hope MUFON trains its Field Investigators properly in this area and documents this guideline in its State Director / Field Investigator Manual.

2) The Special Assignment Team. This team works behind the scenes and completes cases that come into MUFON using a private Web Site to store cases and discussions. Unless you are a member you will not see this data. Members of this team are kept quiet. I have found that some High Value cases / evidence are moved to the S.A.T. in other ways.

Recently for example a reported U.F.O. crashed in Mexico near the U.S. border. There was a report that came in from a witness in Mexico. Mexico has no Investigators. I was aware this event had taken place due to being copied and direct emails from the D.O.I. Chase. Chase stated she had three MUFON investigators in Mexico but upon checking this was untrue. Using non MUFON investigators is against MUFON policy, not to mention witness information being kept private. The case that came in through the C.M.S. System was never assigned to an Investigator for two days, at which time the Director of International Investigations closed the case as Information Only (a normal practice when no International Investigators are available for that Country). I know that Texas MUFON was notified along with a Special Assignment Team member that lived 30 miles from the supposed crash site. What is concerning here is there was a report filed, never assigned, and then closed. It looks as if it was sent off to the Special Assignment Team with no visible report in the system. Evidence was a real possibility since initial reports state there were individuals picking up pieces of the crashed object. A true crashed U.F.O. or not the way

it was handled was not appropriate for a Public Organization as MUFON, which often states they are hiding nothing.

According to Chase the S.A.T. Team had investigated a possible case with a witness who has an implant. The implant was removed. MUFON had possession of the implant for study. This is where it gets strange. After all the work involved the implant was given to A.A.T.I.P. for examination. Never to be seen again according to Chase. Chase clearly stated her disgust with how this decision was made and the loss of potential evidence. I am somewhat taken back as to how Chase would let this happen with her background in evidence collection and chain of custody training. To state the obvious, why on earth would MUFON decide to give evidence away with even a remote chance it would not be returned.

3) MUFON Media. Where to begin. Having worked closely with the Director of MUFON Media for the last year I have come to realize the lack of control MUFON has over their Media Department.

The Director of MUFON Media is one of 3 paid positions in MUFON. However, when there is a media request from Headquarters it then becomes another bargaining situation. This has become such an issue it is being proposed to pay the Media Dept. for each Face Book post, each Website post any publication other than the MUFON Journal would require additional monies.

The Media Director Roger Marsh has even requested he be provided office help (his residence). This office help is his teenage relative who does work around the house for cash. This detail was told to me by both Jan, Roger and Chase. So in reality Mr. Marsh wanted MUFON members to pay his relative an income. I guess it is possible this relative has an extensive background in Media operations for a non-profit organization.

Starting in December Mr. Marsh basically disappeared from MUFON. This was an attempt to put a strain on Headquarters to negotiate a contract and obtain more money through an hourly pay raise. After Mr. Marsh's disappearance no one even knew if the monthly Journal would be published for January 2019. Again, this is a paid position in MUFON and what Mr. Marsh has done was nothing more than holding the MUFON Media department hostage to gain even more money. This went on from the first of December until January 10th, 2019. How do I know this information? I was included in numerous conversations and emails surrounding this including Roger, Jan and Chase with both Jan and Chase wanting a change in leadership in the Media Department. You can bet you will hear this is not true from both Jan and Chase but it is very true and has been heavily discussed. Jan actually asked me if I could write the MUFON Traffic Report if needed and also work with a publishing company to write a book surrounding MUFON's top cases over the years.

Another baffling fact, is Mr. Marsh received 2 bonuses at the end of the year. I was told by both Roger and Jan it amounted to two 500 dollar bonuses. Roger at first stated to me it was Christmas Bonuses. Jan did not give a Christmas bonus so he chose to just call it a year end bonus.

Another fact surrounds the 2018 MUFON Symposium. Mr. Marsh demanded his teenage relative attend the symposium with him. According to Chase (D.O.I.), Jan paid for both Mr. Marsh along with his teenage relative to attend the Symposium. This was an all expense paid agreement. Jan paid for lodging (separate rooms!), food, travel, and even paid money per day for expenses while attending the event. Truthfully, I can see the importance of having the Media person at the Symposium. Not so sure I can see paying for a relative to tag along.

4) Recently MUFON has decided to flatten the Organization. This has resulted in a split in MUFON. Steve Hudgeons Directs the MUFON International side of things, with the U.S. MUFON Division being run by Chase Kloetzke, the Director of Investigations. So how is this a problem? Simple, this has allowed one person to decide every aspect of how MUFON is run with specific concern for the U.S. side of things. Jan (H.Q.) has taken out his responsibility of the daily workings of the organization and made a scenario where one person's vision now controls how U.S. MUFON is run and the direction it takes, allowing one person to place " friends" in places of leadership and in some cases having no background at all in

Ufology (see #9). Flattening an Organization leaves an opportunity for a Dictator type scenario, as Team Directors, State Directors are noticing rather quickly and discussing rather often. No matter how small a change is, it has to be approved by Chase. Jan as Executive Director has the final approval, assuming he hears about it. If you are not a "YES" person you will not fit in this one-sided vision, period. If you are one of those "YES" persons it is out of fear.

5) MUFON's S.T.A.R. Team exists by name only and has for years. As we all have heard "We brag this Team Exists," it DOES NOT, stop saying it on every radio show that comes along. WE DONT NEED TO MAKE THINGS UP! Each State (those with anyone in them, see #7) is required to have two Star Team members. However this Team has not been used in many years. I recently tried to resurrect the Star Team in a very small way, using the Case Review Team to identify an Incoming case that could have an opportunity for evidence. This would result in that State's Star Team to be notified allowing that state to decide how to react to a particular case. This was quickly denied by Chase, however Jan had approved this just prior, with Chase stating "Wait, there are new STAR Team guidelines coming out in the edited edition of the State Directors Handbook". Truth is, this is another example of, "I am not in control of every aspect, and it is not going to happen". I am sure the rebuttal will be we are making changes, we have a plan, but this will be on paper only as normal and under extreme control by the D.O.I. Allowing one person to have a vision for us all will fail in due time.

6) Some time ago Mr. Ventre's (racial) comments were a concern to say the least. So why the hesitation to remove him from his position? The hidden truth was money. Mr. Ventre actually is listed under the 501-3c stats because MUFON has a Lab in PA. Upon inspection this lab is at his residence. Yep, along with MUFON 501-C3 records showing an income at that location. So he has his own nonprofit using the MUFON name. Now you know the hesitation in removing him. Money! Mr. Ventre at the time was Treasurer of several states, according to Jan and Chase, retaining a bank account with a substantial amount of money. According to the D.O.I. this continues to this day. This is not speculation, the facts are available and I am sure MUFON would be more than happy to release this information if asked.

7) Currently there are numerous States with no State Director or Field Investigators. I know of at least 8 states run by one person. And many others run by one person. Looking at this from a stats side, well over 1/5 or more States are run by only a few people. This will and does affect the overall effectiveness of the Organization. This creates a scenario where cases are closed quickly, many with no attempt to contact the witness, just to keep up, at least that is how it looks on paper. This makes overall statistics unusable in every aspect.

8) The Scientific Way is not the truth with MUFON. In extremely rare cases there might be evidence that is examined, however I have never heard of these results being made public. Seems the truth is we use everything but Science, alot of Math at best. A good example is I approached Mr. Harzan to discuss how best to utilize the Star Team and the importance of a fast notification should the event warrant it. Jan informed me he was not that concerned, as to date he has not seen anything much come out of a supposed landing, crash, or evidence from any event. This was concerning to me as I know many field investigators went out and purchased specific equipment as it states in the Field Investigators Manual. Some spending near or over a thousand dollars. Not to mention our mission, and beliefs. The small chance we have to solve this mystery might be lost to delay or lack of proper response.

9) MUFON has a few Special Teams. One of those teams is the Strategic Review Team Directed by a new person to the Organization. No Ufology experience, well she did tell me she was reading a couple of Ufology books. In realty this person lives a few miles from Chase (D.O.I.) and is a retired Naval Counter Intelligence Officer. She clearly stated she has the highest Security clearances and worked closely with (FORGIVE ME) either Congress or the Senate. I cannot even begin to express my concerns on this issue. How does someone with no experience in the field make strategic decisions for any organization when that person has no clue where even to begin? Who is the person(s) she will be listening to? No one knows who is on this team or the desired goals for this team. Clearly if it is marketing MUFON's name, I question why. Is this not what the Media Department is hired to do? Or something the Executive Staff can discuss, developing a plan of action?

10) Let's talk the "Good Ole Boys. " Chase is determined to remove, change, you pick a word, the good ole boy syndrome out of MUFON. Why, because as long as the good ole boys are still around she does not have full control and her "Yes" persons are not in place. I have found that it takes us all working together. The arguing, agreeing, ideas etc. to make an organization function. As it all works out in the end.

11) Since I was not following Chase's vision I was told to "Stay in my Lane" or I would be taken out of the conversation loop, along with a lovely comment from Chase that if I would like to go (be banned) to MUFON International I could and she would find another Director for my Team. As for me going to International MUFON, I have never made any comment as to wanting to go to International MUFON. This was nothing more than an intimidation tactic. Be a Team player or else. When in reality the D.O.I. Chase is far from a Team Player, it is her way or else. That includes who you talk to and what is said. I spoke with the Executive Director concerning this issue. Which Jan told me he would handle this issue on his end and for me to continue to do what was right. I can only assume from his tone during the conversation he has heard of this problem before.

12) I have saved the most puzzling and concerning issue for last: MUFON Media and upcoming TV Shows.

After some time I began to question facts surrounding upcoming TV opportunities which include Netflix, Discovery Channel, History Channel and how MUFON fits in to it all. What I found is MUFON is not fitting in at all. What is happening is MUFON Case reports are being used for upcoming TV shows but the name MUFON will not be used in any way. According to Chase and Roger Marsh (MUFON Media) MUFON cases will be used without the MUFON name. These cases will be presented on TV by Chase and one other Team member and 3 other people that are not with MUFON. They will be paid for their appearance on these shows. So in reality any case that MUFON has in its data base can be used and benefit only those involved in shows. Roger Marsh, according to Chase, will be paid a large amount of money for his part from the Media side of things. Getting paid per episode per TV Network. In Chases own words "Roger is making Bank."

I spoke with Jan about this, truthfully I was shocked this is how it works. He was somewhat hesitant but did confirm some of these statements. He also asked me why MUFON does not have its own TV series, he just could not understand it. I told him Chase had told me no networks wanted to be associated with the MUFON name due to the embellishing of each case for the Hanger 1 series. For whatever reason MUFON, i.e. Jan, is okay with handpicked members profiting off other's hard work. Also okay with having a paid employee (Media Director) getting a large amount of money (thousands per show) for other's hard work.

We (MUFON) DO NOT need to give away our work and dedication so a few can benefit. This is wrong. This is a nonprofit organization with a select few taking advantage of others. If this is not true, SHOW the contracts and who gets what. According to Chase there are no contracts with MUFON only. Chase, Roger, and one other Team member have contracts. According to Roger he chose those in MUFON who would be the actors in these productions.

If MUFON is benefiting it is only table scraps compared to what should be taking place. Will cases chosen for these TV series be altered or added to for the WOW factor for TV? According to Roger and Chase there will have to be WOW factors for each show. If so this hurts MUFONs credibility as a serious Investigative Source. According to the Director of Investigations Chase this is why Hanger 1 was cancelled. Chase stated to me the new shows will have a much worse effect on MUFONs credibility than Hanger 1 did by far. But yet some still choose to participate. Why? Fame and Fortune?

I have not embellished any part of this letter. I have stated to the best of my knowledge what I know for the truth as told to me. This information was shared directly with me by MUFON Executive Staff. Of course there is always more to the story. At this point clarification to the membership is something that is needed.

No one needs to take my word for this. Ask those questions, look for the truth. Ask for change and expect it. Most of all protect that which we all believe in. Stand up for those who can't.

I continue my job as Director of the Case Review Team with positive results and no complaints. The only way change takes effect is to make all of those involved informed. I have been dedicated to the future of MUFON from day one making positive changes along the way.

It is my hope that this letter be a Warning to those in MUFON. Question what is not right, continue the search for the truth. Clearly changes need to be made. Now it is a matter of whether those that are capable of making those changes are willing to do so.

I am sure the Membership would like a statement from the Board of Directors as many of these concerns involve MUFON finances. At this point constructed statements from Executive Staff will only be an attempt to diminish the seriousness of the concerns stated above.

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