



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT  
OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

AVERY D. NILES, COMMISSIONER

A MESSAGE FROM THE  
**OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS**

**AFTER D-A CALLS DJJ POLYGRAPH DIRECTOR AS EXPERT WITNESS..  
DEFENSE TEAM WITHDRAWS THEIR OWN POLYGRAPH EVIDENCE**

*DJJ News Story by Public Information Officer Jim Shuler*

**(BRUNSWICK - GA)** When an investigation at the Department of Juvenile Justice requires testimony that's been lie detector-tested, investigators put in a call for DJJ's Polygraph Director, **Jerry Rowe**.

Rowe is a 30-year retired Agent for the Georgia Bureau of Investigation where he specialized in sex cases. He spent seven of those years at the GBI working polygraphs. And as a local newspaper once described him while he worked polygraphs for the Bartow County Sheriff's Office, "You bare your soul to Jerry Rowe."

Last month, the District Attorney in Brunswick called-in DJJ's Polygraph Director Jerry Rowe as an expert witness to help refute polygraph testimony for a hearing in a high profile Coastal Georgia homicide case. But before that hearing concluded, Jerry Rowe's case research resulted in the defense team withdrawing their own polygraph evidence altogether. And the opposing polygraph examiner, who came to testify on behalf of the defense, admitted in open court that he'd been caught in a lie.

Now the District Attorney's chief investigator is conducting an investigation to determine if the defense polygrapher lied under oath. All this happened without Jerry Rowe ever having to testify. He just listened and did his homework.

During the July hearing, the defense polygrapher testified the defendant showed no deception on crucial lie detector questions about causing harm to his family. Under cross examination, the defense polygrapher first told the District Attorney he personally reviewed the lie detector results and exercised his own quality control measures to ensure his polygraph findings were correct.

But later the defense polygrapher also testified he showed his lie detector results to an Atlanta polygraph expert who then verified there was no evidence of deception. However his testimony came under immediate suspicion when the District Attorney revealed the Atlanta polygraph expert whose name was cited was actually on a trip in South Africa, making it impossible for him to verify the defense testimony results.

Behind the scenes, DJJ's Director Jerry Rowe had already spoken with the Atlanta expert who was travelling outside the country. The Atlanta expert told Jerry Rowe the defense had not shown him polygraph results or even spoken to him while he was travelling and he was willing to come testify if needed.

Before cross examination was over, the defense polygrapher admitted to the District Attorney that he'd been caught in a lie for saying that it also wasn't necessary to use a motion sensor during the course of a polygraph exam. Rowe said the sensors are essential for testing accuracy and required in the professional bylaws.

Director Jerry Rowe has a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Kennedy Western University. He's a member of the American Polygraph Association, the American Association of Police Polygraphists, the Georgia Polygraph Association, and the Alabama Association of Polygraph Examiners. While at the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Rowe earned the Director's Award, the Deputy Director's Award and the GBI Medal of Valor.

Read the full story in the July 18<sup>th</sup> edition of the Florida Times Union at this link:

<http://jacksonville.com/news/crime/2013-07-18/story/guy-heinze-jrs-polygraph-examiner-under-investigation-truthfulness-court> .