

# Kendall sheriff: County did not pay for bar bill

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By STEVE LORD slord@stmedianetwork.com

**YORKVILLE --** Kendall County Sheriff Richard Randall said Tuesday he found there was no misuse of a county credit card by one of his commanders, in an incident referenced by a candidate for the Kendall County Board.

Randall said he checked into the incident in which a county credit card might have been used to pick up a bar tab and found the commander used his personal credit card, not his card issued by Kendall County.

He said the incident happened several years ago after an Illinois Chiefs of Police meeting in Tinley Park. Randall said Cmdr. Phil Smith used his personal credit card to pick up a bar tab for a gathering.

"It's clear Cmdr. Smith personally paid for it, not the county," Randall said.

The sheriff said earlier on Tuesday he would look into the situation after a County Board meeting at which Todd Milliron, a Green Party candidate for the board, brought up the incident.

Information on the matter was contained in a sworn deposition of Smith taken in a sexual harassment lawsuit brought by a former sheriff's employee against Deputy Chief Terry Tichava. The county settled that lawsuit earlier this year.

In the deposition, taken Dec. 10, 2009, Chicago attorney Andrew Levenfeld asked Smith if Tichava had ever instructed him to put a bar tab on Smith's county credit card. Smith said Tichava had.

But, Smith testified, he put the charge instead on his personal card, because "I didn't think a bar tab was warranted to be put on my county credit card."

When asked if he would question Tichava at all about telling another commander to use the county credit card, Randall said he was satisfied that in the end they did the right thing.

Several weeks ago, when Milliron questioned Sheriff's Department bills in general, some members of the County Board said they also have trouble getting specific bill information from

the department. Randall countered that with a statement that his office is open about its policies and expenses.

On Tuesday, County Board Chairman Anne Vickery gave out a press release from the entire board reinforcing that the state's **internal control** statute gives the board overall budgetary control over elected officials, but does not give them the authority to review specific expenditures.



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mother of 1 wrote:

For anyone who would like to see copies of account information please go to Yorkvilleinsider.org. There is a video of Tichava being pulled over in 08 and giving the Rookie officer a rather blatant talking to. This website is very informative!

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kendall county taxpayer wrote:

The Same Names Keep Turning Up In The Kendall County Sheriffs Dept. Gee What a Surprise.How long Before Somebody Does Something. Kendall County Sheriffs Dept Gets To Do Whatever They Want I Guess. And Randall Just Keeps Protecting Tichava. Wonder What Hes Got On Him? Both Of Those Names Are Always In The Picture.

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