

Question 36: Coincidence...or Plagiarism? The Bossier City Connection

36) Charges virtually identical to Sisney's allegations against the district were being investigated by the FBI in Bossier City, LA starting in the June 2008 timeframe. Sisney allegedly told Flippo that if she didn't get the board to agree to what he wanted, he would "go public with the Air Assurance story" in July 2008. Are these similarities due to coincidence, or plagiarism?

Bossier City: "Air Repair received \$8.6 million worth of air conditioning work from the school system during the past four years, according to school system record."

Sisney's federal lawsuit: "In total, from July 2002 to present, Air Assurance and the Rampeys have been paid \$3,100,000.00 by the BASD."

Bossier City: "...[the employees] are accused of conspiring to illegally affect the awarding of air conditioning work so that Air Repair received a vast majority."

Sisney's federal lawsuit: "Employees of the School district engaged in an ongoing enterprise with AA to keep AA's competition from competitively bidding work for the Broken Arrow School District. The ongoing criminal activity damaged other HVAC vendors in the area by eliminating competition."

Bossier City: "Air Repair, which got millions of dollars in air-conditioning work on parish schools, overcharged for work that was done, billed for work on rooms that didn't exist and replaced air-conditioning units that were working properly."

Sisney's federal lawsuit: "AA, over extended periods of time, padded their invoices to the District – by overcharging, by charging for services not performed, or by providing unnecessary repairs and parts."

The Bossier City statements are from articles on the KTBS Channel 3 website.

Note: a major difference between Bossier City's and Broken Arrow's handling of the suspected fraud is that Bossier City called for an FBI investigation when the suspicious activity was first discovered, and did not inform the media. Broken Arrow informed the media and did not involve law enforcement until 8 months after the suspicious activity was discovered.