

# Police in Tennessee Cracking Down On Patriots Who Challenge Judiciary

By Pat Shannan

**D**arren Huff is a member of the Oath Keepers and proudly displays the large insignia on the doors of his new pickup. When he drove it from his home in the Atlanta area to Madisonville, Tenn. on April 20, the mere sight of the truck was enough for police to pull him over outside of town and remove him at gunpoint.

Oath Keepers was founded a year ago to remind soldiers and law enforcement personnel of their oaths to the constitution taken at the time of employment and to invite all to join their membership. In its by-laws Oath Keepers has ten “we will nots,” and No. 1 on its list is “We will not obey orders to disarm the American people.” However, to law enforcement personnel in today’s America, the Oath Keeper’s truth is anathema.

At this roadside stop, Huff was respectful but firm. He refused to allow the requested search of his vehicle without a warrant. When asked if he had any weapons with him, he replied in the affirmative and also showed his legal Permit to Carry issued by the State of Georgia.

He was asked by the police if he would surrender his weapons while he was in town and retrieve them on his way out, and he refused again. Finally, he was released without charges to attend the Walter Fitzpatrick hearing, which was reported in AFP’s recent issues.

Ten days later, Huff was in Tennessee again attempting to affect another citizen’s arrest on Gary Pettway, who has been illegally sitting as a court-appointed grand jury foreman since around 1983. Tennessee law makes it illegal for anyone to sit as foreman for more than one year, and Fitzpatrick had attempted to correct this on April 1 by arresting Pettway in the courtroom. Instead, Fitzpatrick was jailed for five days, and his case may go before the grand jury where Pettway still sits as foreman.

“You can’t make this stuff up,” says Fitzpatrick.

On April 30, while inquiring with county law enforcement regarding correct legal procedure to follow, Huff’s name apparently was put in the computer and a federal warrant stemming from the April 20 roadside incident outside of Madisonville appeared.

He was arrested and jailed—charged with creating civil unrest and “inciting a riot,” making it two men now who have attempted to lawfully proceed and are being prosecuted for doing so.

Furthermore, Tennessee law [39-17-301 thru 304] says that it is a Class A misdemeanor if one incites a riot but such an act requires that it involve an assemblage of three (3) or more persons which, by tumultuous and violent conduct, creates grave danger of substantial damage

to property or serious bodily injury to persons or substantially obstructs law enforcement or other government function [39-16-601].

So why is Darren Huff charged with a crime that requires at least three people, and one in which the situation was obviously scrutinized by county deputies and the Tennessee Highway Patrol at the roadside stop before releasing Huff with his weapons and no criminal charges?

AFP asked two lawyers for their input and both agreed it was not likely that charges could be made to stick at the state level.

Therefore, federal charges were contrived to charge Huff with “carrying a weapon across a state line with the intent to create civil unrest and incite a riot.” Hence, another thought crime is created from the good intentions of a law abiding citizen.


AFP has learned that FBI Special Agent Chuck Reed visited Huff on the evening of April 19. Huff told Reed that he was going to attend the Fitzpatrick hearing in Tennessee the next day. Federal agents then apparently followed him and alerted the Tennessee authorities of his arrival which led to the roadside stop.

Huff was arraigned in federal district court in Knoxville on May 3 and placed under house arrest pending trial. The next day Monroe County General Sessions Court Judge J. Reed Dixon found probable cause that Fitzpatrick had committed four Class A Misdemeanor offenses: Riot, Disorderly Conduct, Disturbing a public meeting and Resisting Arrest.

The question looming now is whether or not Gary Pettway will be illegally seated as grand jury foreman when it discusses Fitzpatrick’s case on June 3.

Fitzpatrick, an Annapolis graduate and retired Naval officer, told AFP, “This charade is not about me or Darren. It is about protecting Obama from a lawful prosecution for treason and fraud. If people believe that the Constitution is still in effect or that their government is not corrupt at every level, they’re delusional. From the Supreme Court to your local courthouse, justice in America no longer exists.” ★

Pat Shannan is the assistant editor of *American Free Press*. He is also the author of several videos and books including *One in a Million: An IRS Travesty* and *I Rode With Tupper*, detailing Shannan’s experiences with Tupper Saussy when the American dissident was on the run in the 1980s. Both are available from FIRST AMENDMENT BOOKS for \$25 each.



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