

Monroe A. Miller, Jr.
2200 Camp Branch Road
Waynesville, NC 28786
November 11, 2021

Subject: Email dialog with Jordan Wilkie, CPP. Two companies vying for New Jail Design? WTF?

The following is an enlightening email dialog with Jordan Wilkie, of the Carolina Public Press. Wilkie wrote four (4) articles on “Raising Jails” in WNC. The Mountaineer started republishing his articles starting October 28, 2021. The Mountaineer people took it upon themselves to start altering the original article, which is where this dialog begins (yet to be resolved).

Jordan Wilkie acknowledged my email, and in addition, added an astounding comment. Haywood County (i.e. **Kevin Ensley** and **Bryant Morehead**) are considering not one, but two jail designs.

WTF?

Even though there is apparently no RFQ or RFP, **Morehead** and County Commissioners are already spending money on this project by initiating soil testing and God knows what else.

This, of course, triggered my sending a Request for Public Information to **Bryant Morehead** to find out what this was all about.

An interesting sideline, I had copied various folks at the Mountaineer on my original email, and they stuck. So it would appear that the folks at the Mountaineer were caught equally flat-footed as I was about this whole thing.

Let’s follow this and see where it goes...

Monroe A. Miller, Jr.
Haywood County Taxpayer.

Legend: If a name is in **bold**, it can’t be a good thing.

Subject: Altering Content - RAISING JAILS: NC counties base jail decisions on controversial consultant work
Date: Sat, 30 Oct 2021 11:42:20 -0400
From: Monroe Miller
To: Jordan Wilkie <jwilkie@carolinapublicpress.org>
CC: Vicki Hyatt <vhyatt@themountaineer.com>, Jonathan Key <jkey@themountaineer.com>, Becky Johnson <bjohnson@themountaineer.com>

Mr. Wilkie,

I read a reprint of your article that appeared on our local paper, the Mountaineer, entitled: RAISING JAILS: NC counties base jail decisions on controversial consultant work.

https://www.themountaineer.com/news/raising-jails-nc-counties-base-jail-decisions-on-controversial-consultant-work/article_1f994f8e-3749-11ec-b871-0fb3f2d19ddc.html

I compared that with your original article:

<https://carolinapublicpress.org/49037/nc-counties-base-jail-decisions-on-controversial-consultant-work/>

Someone at the Mountaineer altered your original article, and placed your photo of Kevin Ensley at the beginning of your article, replacing your photo of the two jail cells.

Did you give the Mountaineer permission to alter your work?

I was at the county commission meeting wwhen personnel from Moseley gave their presentation, and I put their power point presentation on my website:

[Review of Jail Needs Assessment - Chief Deputy Jeff Haynes; Moseley Architects Vice Presidents Todd Davis, Sr. and Dan Mace; Captain Glen Matayabos, 11/2/2020 County Commission meeting, Administrative/Agency Reports/Presentations, 11/2/2020. 12/8/2020...](#)

Heretofore, I believed that the new jail was inevitable. However, I am struck the the direct conflict of interest Moseley has in this whole matter. For that, I thank you for bringing this to my attention.

Monroe A. Miller, Jr.

Haywood County Taxpayer

Subject: Re: Altering Content - RAISING JAILS: NC counties base jail decisions on controversial consultant work
Date: Tue, 9 Nov 2021 18:56:23 -0500
From: Jordan Wilkie <jwilkie@carolinapublicpress.org>
To: Monroe Miller
CC: Vicki Hyatt <vhyatt@themountaineer.com>, Jonathan Key <jkey@themountaineer.com>, Becky Johnson <bjohnson@themountaineer.com>

Hi, Monroe,

I'm sorry it took me so long to respond. I have forwarded your message about altering our content to my editor who deals with republication.

I'm thankful that my reporting was able to bring some of the process behind jail construction to light. Moseley is currently one of two companies that Haywood is considering for hiring to design a new jail.

Best,
Jordan

Jordan Wilkie, Reporter, Report for America Corps Member

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phone: (919) 533 - 5620 (o); (214) 392 -1888 ©

Twitter: @jojot_wilkie

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Subject: Re: Altering Content - RAISING JAILS: NC counties base jail decisions on controversial consultant work

Date: Tue, 9 Nov 2021 18:59:26 -0500

From: Monroe Miller

To: Jordan Wilkie <jwilkie@carolinapublicpress.org>

CC: Vicki Hyatt <vhyatt@themountaineer.com>, Jonathan Key <jkey@themountaineer.com>, Becky Johnson <bjohnson@themountaineer.com>

Jordan,

One of two companies? Can you tell me the second company, otherwise, I have to make a Request for Public Information.

Thanks,

Monroe A. Miller, Jr.

Subject: Re: Altering Content - RAISING JAILS: NC counties base jail decisions on controversial consultant work
Date: Tue, 9 Nov 2021 19:14:23 -0500
From: Jordan Wilkie <jwilkie@carolinapublicpress.org>
To: Monroe Miller
CC: Vicki Hyatt <vhyatt@themountaineer.com>, Jonathan Key <jkey@themountaineer.com>, Becky Johnson <bjohnson@themountaineer.com>

Hi, Monroe,

I don't have the second company in my notes, only that Haywood is choosing between two. I'm confident you can shoot a short email to Kevin Ensley or Bryant Morehead asking for the two companies currently being considered to design the jail expansion.

If they give you gruff, please let me know. There isn't currently an RFQ open for architectural design of the jail expansion, so the circumstances may have changed since I last spoke with them.

Best,
Jordan

Subject: Request for Public Information - Companies being considered for jail expansion design. #1.

Date: Tue, 9 Nov 2021 19:18:32 -0500

From: Monroe Miller

To: Bryant Morehead <bryant.morehead@haywoodcountync.gov>

CC: Vicki Hyatt <vhyatt@themountaineer.com>, Jonathan Key <jkey@themountaineer.com>, Becky Johnson <bjohnson@themountaineer.com>, Jordan Wilkie <jwilkie@carolinapublicpress.org>, Frank Queen <Frank.Queen@haywoodcountync.gov>, Sheriff Greg Christopher <Greg.Christopher@haywoodcountync.gov>, KEVIN "Adjudication" ENSLEY <Kevin.Ensley@haywoodcountync.gov>

Mr. Morehead,

Please read the following e-mail dialog. This is a Request for Public Information. If Haywood County is considering another company to design the jail expansion, please provide the following:

- The name of the company
- Any proposals by this company
- Any slide show presentations by this company
- Proposed number of cells and cost for the design.

Thank you,

Monroe A. Miller, Jr.

Subject: Re: Request for Public Information - Companies being considered for jail expansion design. #1.
Date: Wed, 10 Nov 2021 01:28:41 +0000
From: Bryant Morehead <Bryant.Morehead@haywoodcountync.gov>
To: Monroe Miller
CC: vhyatt@themountaineer.com <vhyatt@themountaineer.com>, Jonathan Key <jkey@themountaineer.com>, bjohnson@themountaineer.com <bjohnson@themountaineer.com>, Jordan Wilkie <jwilkie@carolinapublicpress.org>, Frank Queen <Frank.Queen@haywoodcountync.gov>, Sheriff Greg Christopher <Greg.Christopher@haywoodcountync.gov>, Kevin Ensley <Kevin.Ensley@haywoodcountync.gov>

Monroe,

Thanks for your email. I'll get you what information I have before the end of the day on Friday.

Thanks,
Bryant