



Derek Cid  
Chief of Police

## St. Marys Police Department

200 South 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
P.O. Box 130  
St. Marys, KS 66536  
Phone: 785-437-2311  
Fax: 785-437-2354

SMPD Press Release 04-27-20

Dear Saint Marys Community,

It was brought to my attention that there was an online media article which made reference to previous criminal investigations which were allegedly mishandled by the Saint Marys Police Department. The statements of victims of sexual abuse being told their allegations were "hearsay." and that they were "blown off" are honestly frightening, and not one anyone currently working at this police department would make without serious consequences.

It should further be noted that some of those involved parties and facilities referred to in the article are outside of the corporate limits of the City of St. Marys, Kansas, and not in our police jurisdiction. Thus, we couldn't have "botched" investigations we were never a part of.

I have been Police Chief here since November 2018, so anything before that was outside of my control. I strongly disagree under my tenure that there has been any negligence in our investigations or mishandling of any criminal cases.

My concern is by these organizations inaccurately portraying SMPD and others as somehow involved in "cover-ups" or not following through with investigations, there is the real potential for victims of sexual abuse to not come forward as they will feel their needs for help and justice will not be answered.

The Saint Marys Police Department is charged with keeping the peace, building and fostering community trust. We believe we do a good job of this by being fair, impartial, and transparent. I would encourage anyone who is a victim or may have information about any possible sexual abuse or any crime to please come forward to law enforcement.

Thank you for your attention,

---

Derek Cid  
Chief of Police  
Saint Marys Police Department