

Excerpt from Bail Bond Oversight Meeting, October 12, 2011

Jaimee George:

So I guess there was some concern last month about the cash machines, the cash bail machines at Purgatory and there was one up in Davis County. If I am correct. Are there any others that I am not aware of?

Name: ?

Not that I am aware of.

Jaimee George:

Okay, so I guess those are the two.

So I went and spent an afternoon at Purgatory just watching what was going on, as I get a lot of complaints out of there, and actually talked to the Sergeant about the cash bail machine and I also called the company that is administering this cash bail machine. The cash bail machine, the intention of it, was to alleviate someone at the window to take cash bail, not to post bail bonds. Okay, so instead of housing someone at the window 24/7 they have now allowed a machine to take some of that burden to post cash bail, not bail bonds, ok. So it is a handling fee, the 8% is a handling fee, and a \$10.00 surcharge for cash bail, not bail bonds. How it is posted is that the company is just the administrator to get the money from point A to point B. Someone in Minnesota can bail their son out for cash bail, not bail bonds, but for cash bail, through the website. The transaction is done, the jail is given notification. The jail then proceeds to process the cash bail paperwork, and then they release the person. From what we have determined it is not our jurisdiction for cash bail.

Brad Jenkins:

Does that satisfy everybody? Any questions?

Gordon Wright:

So they are not allowed to use it, for just say you go into jail for a DUI and it is \$1,500.

Not audible ...

Jaimee:

It is cash bail.

Name(s): ?

Not audible

Jaimee:

It's cash bail.

Name(s): ?

Not audible.

Gordon:

It can be \$1,500 bond or cash, you can do either. You can do either.... So, you can put cash in the machine for a bondable bail.

Jaimee:

For cash bail.

Jaimee:

It has to be the entire amount.

Names: ?

Not audible.

Jaimee:

It has to be the entire amount.

Brad:

But it can be a bondable bail. It's not just the cash only. They kinda told you part of the story.

Gordon:

But they didn't tell you the whole thing, you can post cash or a bond...not audible.

Name: ?

But people can do that in the booking area. If some guy's got his credit card he can bail himself out.

Jaimee:

They did it to alleviate the person at the window 24/7 to process the cash bail. They used this machine to alleviate that person that is there at 1:00 in the morning that may or may not take a cash bail. That's the whole purpose of this machine.

Gordon:

So the department has no regulation on cash bail, so if I get a call on cash bail, it's the wild, wild West, I can do whatever I want?

Perri Babalis:

We are not going to comment on that. Seriously.

Gordon:

I can charge, 100%.

Perri:

We can't say you can do whatever you want.

Gary Walton:

But Gordon has a long standing position with the Department of Insurance.

Brad:

Ok, next, Legality, Perri.

Perri:

Jaimee already said it. Because it is not a bond, it is not within our jurisdiction to regulate.

Brad:

Very good. Let me hear a motion to adjourn.

Gordon:

Second.

Brad:

All in favor?