

**McDonough County Sheriff's Office
110 S. McArthur St.
Macomb, IL 61455
PRESS RELEASE**

February 6, 2018

I would like to first point out that the recent allegations are strictly political. James Hoyle is supporting Bryan Baca in the upcoming Sheriff's race and is attempting to use this incident to advance his candidate. It is unfortunate that some candidates cannot stand on their own merits to get elected rather than trying to drag people through the mud. The fact that this incident is almost a year old should speak volumes.

On April 4th 2017 I was driving into Macomb when I experienced the onset of what felt like Vertigo. I had been to my doctor about the problem prior to this incident. I pulled off Jackson Street onto a lane and then into a driveway hoping to let the feeling pass. I did speak with a man who was concerned and I did mention getting comfortable and I also told him that I just needed a minute. I did not explain what was going on since I did not want him calling an ambulance. The feeling passed and I left. I went straight home and I would have been home or very close to home when the call went out. The deputies did what they should have done by searching the area where the call came from before locating me at my house. I had been at my house for a period of time prior to the deputy's arrival. What was covered up? Nothing.

I have been your Sheriff for over a decade and in that time a lot of good things have happened here at the Sheriff's Office. During that time I have also made enemies that will seize upon this opportunity make baseless allegations. I will continue to do the job you hired me to do to the best of my ability until I retire later this year.