

Join the Citizens Police Academy!

Are you curious about police operations, eager to build positive relations with law enforcement, and passionate about making our community safer? Look no further! The Citizens Police Academy (CPA) is here to educate YOU on police functions, policies, and the daily experiences of our dedicated officers. The program starts on April 4th and runs until May 23. Every Thursday from 6 pm to 8 pm, you'll have the opportunity to gain valuable insights and foster community cooperation. To learn more or to apply, contact Officer Randall Hancock at rhancock@valdostacity.com. Take the first step toward a safer and more informed community. Together, we can make a difference!



\$96,000 May Be Missing from City of Enigma's Funds

By Carol A. Gasser Moore
BERRIEN COUNTY, Georgia – As the Lanier County News (LCN) goes into print, the LCN has received a credible but still unconfirmed report that the City of Enigma, Berrien County, Georgia may be missing \$96,000 from its' funds. The source understands that the money came from Enigma's SPLOST money. WALB TV, a media source, has reported that in the February Enigma's City Council meeting that the Berrien County Board of Commissioners reported that multiple checks dating as far back as 2018 through 2023 were not cashed by the City of Enigma. That source indicates that the checks totaled over \$96,000. When questioned about the checks, Enigma officials blamed the failure on multiple problems with the United States Post Office (USPS).

No additional information is available at this time. However, the City of Enigma made news in December, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) charged Cecil Giddens (79) of Enigma, with simple battery, two counts of simple assault, two counts of battery, and two counts of disorderly conduct. Giddens is the Mayor of Enigma. He turned himself in without incident to the Berrien County Jail.

As yet, there has not been an update on the December Enigma Mayor arrest, but readers cannot help but wonder whether the two events are somehow related in some way. For readers who are unfamiliar, the SPLOST law, enacted by Georgia legislators in 1985, authorizes a county tax of 1% on items subject to the state sales tax for funding capital projects. It is neither a municipal tax, nor a joint county-municipal tax such as the regular Local Option Sales Tax (LOST). Information regarding these events in Enigma will be provided as the story updates.



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