TENNESSEE COMPTROLLER OF THE TREASURY

COMPTROLLER'S INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

Millington Police Department

August 07, 2026

Jason E. Mumpower
Comptroller of the Treasury

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATIONS

Tennessee Comptroller of the Treasury

Jason E. Mumpower
Comptroller

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City of Millington Mayor and
Board of Aldermen
7930 Nelson Road
Millington, TN 38053

City of Millington Officials:

The Office of the Comptroller of the Treasury conducted an investigation of selected records of the Millington Police Department, and the results are presented herein.

Copies of this report are being forwarded to Governor Bill Lee, the State Attorney General, the District Attorney General of the 30th Judicial District, certain state legislators, and various other interested parties. A copy of the report is available for public inspection in our Office and may be viewed at http://www.comptroller.tn.gov/ia/.

Sincerely,

Jason E. Mumpower
Comptroller of the Treasury

JEM/MLC

INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

Millington Police Department

The Office of the Comptroller of the Treasury investigated allegations of malfeasance related to the Millington Police Department. The Comptroller's Office initiated the investigation after a Millington city official reported questionable time-reporting practices pertaining to Lieutenant Bryan Childress. The investigation was limited to selected records for the period January 1, 2023, through December 1, 2025. The results of the investigation were communicated with the Office of the District Attorney General of the 30th Judicial District.

BACKGROUND

The Millington Police Department (department) provides assistance to citizens and responds to crimes in Millington, Tennessee. The mission of the department is to preserve the peace and protect the lives and property of those within the city.

Protos Off-Duty Services (ODS) is a private company headquartered in Norwalk, Connecticut, that coordinates off-duty law enforcement security assignments throughout the United States. Through ODS, off-duty law enforcement officers may accept security assignments for organizations and receive compensation for services performed outside their government employment.

Bryan Childress was initially hired as a police officer by the department on April 22, 2000, and resigned on March 4, 2007. After leaving the department, Childress was employed by the Tipton County Sheriff's Office until his employment was terminated on June 6, 2012, for misconduct. The department rehired Childress on February 9, 2013, and he resigned on February 21, 2014. The department hired Childress again as a full-time employee on April 30, 2016.

Childress was promoted to police sergeant on January 6, 2018, and began serving as the department's General Department Instructor (GDI) on October 19, 2018. As GDI, Childress was responsible for scheduling and overseeing department training and ensuring that all officers met training requirements as established by the Tennessee Peace Officer Standards and Training Commission.

On October 8, 2022, Childress was promoted to lieutenant over the Criminal Investigation Division. As a lieutenant, he supervised detectives and school resource officers, handled internal complaint investigations, and planned and coordinated special events.

On December 1, 2025, the department placed Childress on paid administrative leave pending the results of this investigation. On April 4, 2026, the department suspended Childress without pay for failing to properly perform his assigned GDI duties.

RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION

1. MILLINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT LIEUTENANT BRYAN CHILDRESS IMPROPERLY RECEIVED AT LEAST $2,971.89 IN UNEARNED WAGES AND EMPLOYER-PAID BENEFITS

Between January 1, 2023, and December 1, 2025, Childress improperly received at least $2,971.89 in unearned wages and employer-paid benefits from the department as follows:

A. Childress improperly received at least $2,206.88 in unearned wages

Investigators compared Childress' department timesheets with his ODS timesheets for the period January 1, 2023, through December 1, 2025. Investigators determined that Childress reported working for both the department and ODS during the same time on 59 days, with an overlap of 66 hours, a practice called "double-dipping". As a result, Childress received at least $2,206.88 in unearned wages from the department for the 66 overlapped hours.

The chart below presents Childress' duplicate time reporting on May 9, 2025.

Millington Police Department Timesheet		ODS Timesheet		Overlap in Time	Overlap in Hours
Start Time	End Time	Start Time	End Time		
7:00 a.m.	11:00 p.m.	4:59 p.m.	11:00 p.m.	4:59 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.	6 hours

Officers with the department are employees of the City of Millington (city). The city's outside employment policy explicitly states that employees must disclose secondary employment **(Refer to Exhibit 1)**.

Exhibit 1

Q. Outside Employment

Employment with the City is the primary employment of all full time employees. Regular Full Time employees shall not accept any outside employment without advance written approval from the City Manager, which must be on file in the Personnel Office. Service in any branch of the US military, including reserves and National Guard, shall not require advance written approval.

Full time employees are not permitted to work outside the City's employ if the outside employment:

1. is likely to interfere with employee's satisfactory performance of his or her duties and responsibilities,
2. is incompatible with City employment in any way, including the appearance of any conflict of interest, or
3. is likely to cast discredit upon or create embarrassment for the City.

All outside employment must be ceased when an employee is on paid sick leave or workers compensation and not working for the City due to an illness or work related injury or on other unpaid leave.

Any part time employee may work for another employer(s) without City approval.

City of Millington Outside Employment Policy

During the investigation, investigators were provided with copies of several Forms 1099 found in Childress' office at the department. These Forms 1099 documented Childress' outside employment in 2023 and 2024. In addition to ODS, the records showed that Childress performed work for six other companies.

Childress confirmed to investigators that he performed security work for various companies and left the Forms 1099 in his office at the department. Childress also acknowledged that he did not obtain the required approval for his outside employment and knew he should have completed the outside employment forms for the jobs. Childress stated to investigators that he understood he was supposed to perform work for ODS when he was off duty with the department.

B. Childress improperly received at least $765.01 in unearned employer-paid benefits

Childress improperly received employer-paid benefits totaling $765.01 for time not worked as identified in Finding 1A above. This amount represents prorated employer-paid contributions for Social Security, Medicare, pension, health, and life insurance.

Summary of Bryan Childress' Misappropriation	
Description	**Amount**
A. Unearned Wages	$2,206.88
B. Unearned Employer-Paid Payroll Benefits	$765.01
Total Misappropriation	**$2,971.89**

On August 4, 2026, the Shelby County Grand Jury indicted Bryan Childress on one count of Theft of Property over $2,500, and one count of Official Misconduct.

The charges and allegations contained in the indictment are merely accusations of criminal conduct, and not evidence. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt and convicted through due process of law.

Millington Police Department Investigation Exhibit

INTERNAL CONTROL DEFICIENCY

Our investigation revealed a deficiency in internal controls, which contributed to Childress' ability to perpetrate his misappropriation without prompt detection.

<u>Deficiency</u>: The department's police chief failed to provide adequate supervisory oversight over the department

The department's police chief did not provide adequate supervisory oversight over the department. Investigators determined that the police chief failed to enforce and monitor controls over employee timekeeping and secondary employment. Specifically, the department did not have procedures to verify officers' presence during scheduled work hours or to reconcile outside employment for conflicts with scheduled duty hours. Establishing adequate internal controls related to timekeeping and secondary employment improves accountability and reduces the risk of fraud and abuse.

City of Millington officials indicated that they have corrected or intend to correct the deficiency.