

# Lee, MA Police Department Target of Investigation by FBI: No Transparency

Sunday, November 25, 2012 14:52

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(Before It's News)

News 10 reports:

LEE, Mass. - Special Agents with the FBI and Massachusetts State Troopers assigned to the Berkshire County District Attorney's Office conducted an investigation at the Lee Police Department on Monday, November 19th.

Investigators were at the Lee Police Department Monday with a court order. FBI Supervisor Mark Karangekis tells NEWS10 there was also an investigation at a Pittsfield residence on Monday, but would not say whether the two investigations are connected.

X → Investigators did say they got all the information they needed and do not intend on returning.

Karangekis says he cannot disclose the details of the investigation into the police department, except telling NEWS10 that it's not a "common occurrence" and it's ongoing.

"I can't discuss targets of an investigation," he said.

Police Chief Joseph Buffis says he has retained a lawyer, but did not say why. He was at work Tuesday, the day after the search.

Additional sources: [Berkshire Eagle](#), [Boston Herald](#)

Submitted by Joe.

[Lee, MA Police Department Target of Investigation by FBI: No Transparency](#) is a post from [Cop Block - Badges Don't Grant Extra Rights](#)



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## Mystery surrounds FBI investigation of Lee Police Dept.

Posted: Nov 19, 2012 7:37 PM PST

Updated: Nov 21, 2012 7:59 AM PST

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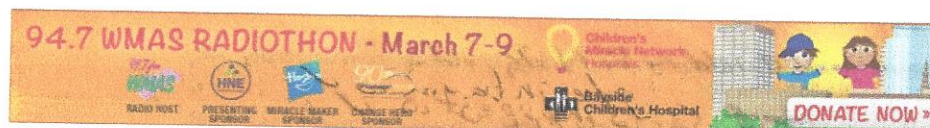
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Police Chief Joseph Buffis says he has retained a lawyer, but did not say why. He was at work Tuesday, the day after the search.

The head of the FBI's Springfield office says no one has been arrested.

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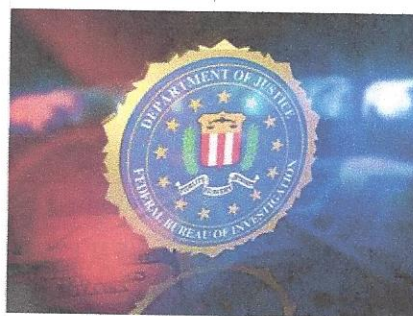



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Map



## FBI searching at Lee Police Department

Updated: Monday, 19 Nov 2012, 3:15 PM EST  
Published: Monday, 19 Nov 2012, 3:04 PM EST

Ryan Walsh, 22News Investigative Reporter

LEE, Mass. (WWLP) - **FBI special agents** conducted a search of the **Lee Police Department** Monday. **Springfield FBI Supervisor Mark Karangekis** told 22News it's part of an ongoing investigation.

State Troopers assigned to the Berkshire County district attorney's office assisted in the search. Karangekis told 22News no one was arrested, but he could not say specifically if anything was seized or what they were looking for.

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State Troopers assigned to the Berkshire County district attorney's office assisted in the search. Karangekis told 22 News no one was arrested, but he could not say specifically if anything was seized or what they were looking for.

**WNYT.com****FBI involved in search of the Lee Police Department**

Posted at: 11/19/2012 6:08 PM  
Updated at: 11/19/2012 11:19 PM  
By: WNYT Staff

BERKSHIRE COUNTY - NewsChannel13 has developing news out of Berkshire County, where the FBI was involved in a search of the Lee Police Department on Monday.

FBI agents confirm a number of special agents, and the Berkshire District Attorney's office spent five to six hours in the police station.

Some people in Lee said they thought it looked like a raid.

The FBI will not tell us why they're investigating the police department.

So far, no one has been arrested.

The FBI confirms that they also investigated a home in Pittsfield, as part of the investigation.

We went to the Lee Police Chief's home on Monday evening, but he wouldn't comment.

No other information is being released at this time.





Printed from: *Boston Herald* (<http://bostonherald.com>)

## Lee Police Dept. target of investigation by FBI

Friday, November 23, 2012 -- Anonymous (not verified)

Local Coverage <sup>[1]</sup>

Samantha Tatro <sup>[2]</sup>

Friday, November 23, 2012

The Lee Police Department is the target of an investigation by the FBI, officials said yesterday.

On Monday, special agents from the FBI conducted a probe of the department.

"Special agents of the FBI of the Springfield office and troopers assigned to the Massachusetts State Police Detective Unit in the Berkshire District Attorney's Office conducted an investigation at the Lee Police Department," FBI supervisor Mark Karagekis said.

The investigation was the result of a "court-ordered action" and there were no arrests, Karagekis said. The probe is ongoing, he said.

Berkshire District Attorney David Capeless said he did "not think it was appropriate to comment."

Attempts to reach police Chief Joseph Buffis were unsuccessful.

A police department employee referred questions to Town Administrator Robert Nason, who declined to comment.

**Source URL:**

[http://bostonherald.com/news\\_opinion/local\\_coverage/2012/11/lee\\_police\\_dept\\_target\\_investigation\\_fbi](http://bostonherald.com/news_opinion/local_coverage/2012/11/lee_police_dept_target_investigation_fbi)

## FBI search of Lee Police Department centers on Chief Buffis

LEE — An FBI investigation, leading to the search of the Lee Police Department, appears to be zeroing in on Police Chief Joseph Buffis.

Agents of the FBI, assisted by State Troopers assigned to the Berkshire County District Attorney's office, investigated the offices of the Lee Police Department and the home of Chief Buffis on Monday, Nov. 19.

Witnesses of the investigation at the police station have described it as being akin to a raid.

"Special agents of the FBI from the Springfield office and state troopers assigned to the Berkshire County District Attorney's office conducted an investigation at the Lee police Department on November 19," said Mark Karangekis, supervisor at the FBI Offices in Springfield, in comments to *The Beacon*.

"The investigation was the result of a court ordered action. There were no arrests. The investigation is ongoing and we will not comment on specifics," said Supervisor Karangekis.

"State troopers assigned to our office assisted the FBI with their investigation yesterday in Lee," said Fred Lantz, spokesman for the Berkshire County District Attorney's Office, confirming their assistance.

The FBI was able to confirm they also searched 131 Elaine Dr. in Pittsfield, the home of Chief Buffis. Agents of the FBI were reported at that address on Nov. 19 as well.

"We can confirm that agents of the FBI were involved in court-authorized activity at 131 Elaine Dr.," said Supervisor Karangekis.

The U.S. Attorney's Office in Boston had no comment on the matter other than, "The warrant is under seal."

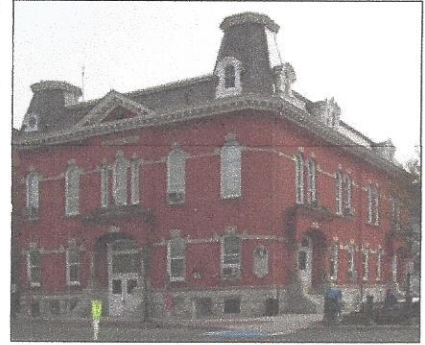
The chief also confirmed he has retained an attorney.

The Lee Board of Selectmen and Lee Town Administrator Bob Nason are refusing to comment on the matter at this time.

"Have a great day," said Chief Buffis when asked by *The Beacon* about FBI agents coming to his house.

Chief Buffis chose to give no comment on the FBI's investigation at the Lee Police Department's offices.

*The Berkshire Beacon* is continuing to investigate this story and will update it as new information is found.



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Posted by [Kameron Z. Spaulding](#) on November 20, 2012. Filed under [Featured News](#). You can follow any responses to this entry through the [RSS 2.0](#). You can leave a response or [trackback to this entry](#)





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## FBI searches Lee Police Department

**The Berkshire (Mass.) Eagle / November 21, 2012**

LEE, Mass. (AP) — The FBI has carried out a search of the Lee Police Department headquarters, but exactly what they were looking for and what, if anything, they seized, has not been disclosed.

An FBI spokesman confirmed to The Berkshire Eagle (<http://bit.ly/10tk11i>) the agency carried out a court-authorized search at the Lee Police Department on Monday and at a home in Pittsfield.

Police Chief Joseph Buffis says he has retained a lawyer, but did not say why.

He was at work Tuesday, the day after the search.

The head of the FBI's Springfield office says no one has been arrested.

The FBI, as well as state and local law enforcement agencies said they do not comment on active inquiries.

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Information from: The Berkshire (Mass.) Eagle, <http://www.berkshireeagle.com>

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