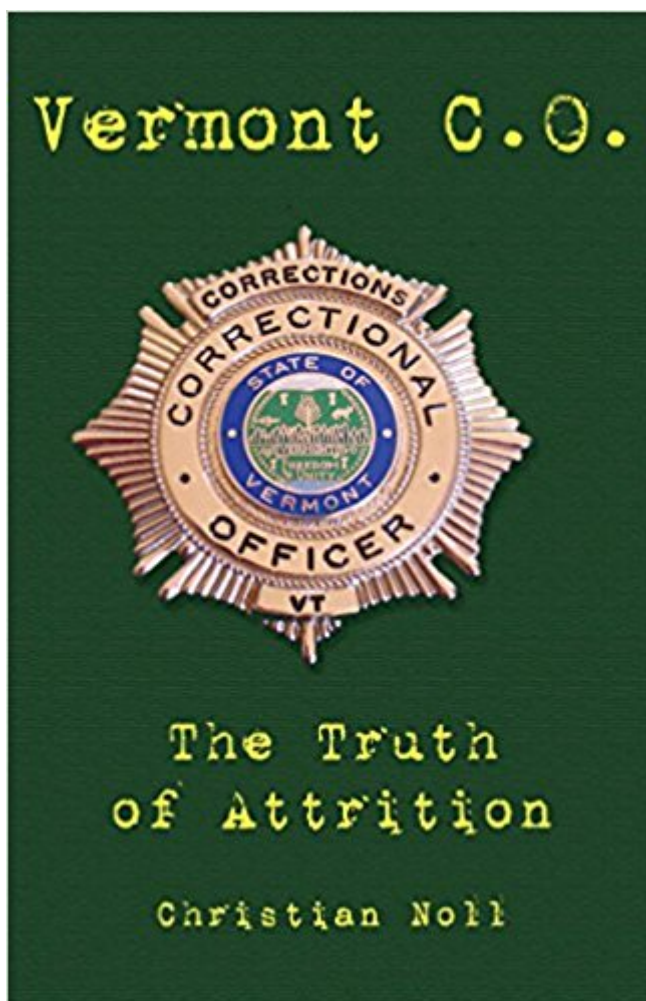


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Vermont C.O. The Truth Of Attrition



Synopsis

How does a state like Vermont; which brought us Civil Unions, Senator Bernie Sanders and Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream, manage to rank 49th in the nation for governmental integrity? According to The Better Government Association's Alper Integrity Index in 2011, Vermont scored a flat zero in two areas; Conflict of Interest Policy and Whistle Blower Protections which dragged its overall rating down to 49th in the nation. Vermont also has the highest police misconduct rate IN THE NATION per capita of police officers (NPMSRP). With a police misconduct rate three and a half times the national average I decided to take a closer look. What I found was hard to believe. I discovered that our little state of Vermont which used to be known for its progressive and openly accepting, diverse and "Green" culture, has in fact, this dark evil side which few would care or dare to know about. "In all of my fourteen years of studying criminal justice, nothing else horrified me more than this." "I have a civic, ethical and personal responsibility to document crime and corruption where ever present and since I'm experiencing it first hand, what better platform to divulge it from?" Our Constitutional Bill of Rights are slowly disappearing under the new American Battle Cry "Post 9/11." The military industrial complex is accompanied by numerous others including Police, Corrections, Health Care and Education. "I have unequivocally discovered the industrial complex of police and corrections in my home state of Vermont." Follow if you can in both first and third hand narratives describing this testimony from the Green Mountain State of Vermont. Here is a whistle blower bravely describing corruption and harassment in the Vermont Department of Corrections. A true life account of how veteran correctional staff, profile and harass rookie correctional officers, thus contributing to the enormously high 56 percent turnover rate for Vermont's first year officers. Veteran officers are able to escape justice while continuing to target and harass newly graduated correctional officers (CO's) under the pretext of inmate hostility. Noll uses his own documented experiences and corroborates them with a multitude of reports and testimony revealing the true causes of what costs the Vermont tax payer millions of dollars. He describes in his own words the systematic and flagrant abuse of Vermont's most valuable resource, its employees.

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Customer Reviews

During both my undergraduate and graduate studies in criminal justice, corrections was usually the lesser of my interests. It wasn't that I didn't find Corrections important, it was just that I had other interests in the field of criminal justice. These experiences reaffirm the unpopularity of the subject. They do so by exposing a pattern of repeat behavior which has brought the Vermont Department of Corrections, Champlain College and local law enforcement to new depths. It should be titled; "The Vermont Department of Corruptions"

Do not waste your time with this book. Whining and complaining through out with loads of editorial errors. A waste of time

I can't believe that I paid ten bucks for this piece of crap. I was hired at CRCF six months after the author was fired, and never experienced anything of what he reports. Although, I must admit that I never carried a recorder around hidden in my pocket (which by the way is a serious security breach in of itself). What I read from this is sour grapes. I found the majority of officers I worked with to be supportive and persons of high integrity who take their duties and moral responsibilities seriously. I achieved the rank of CFSS in under four years, because of the things I learned at that facility. The author was never a C.O. who wrote a book; he was a writer who became a C.O. to write a sensationalist, inaccurate portrayal of a difficult profession. It's a hard job, the hours are brutal and it changes a person. However, it builds a camaraderie and brotherhood that this poor excuse of a writer was never privy to. I have a four year degree, and I was never persecuted because of it--in fact it has helped in every aspect of my career for the Vermont DOC. With all his education, all this author is able to produce is a disjointed and often unintelligible account of "people picking on him." A sad effort, and not worth pulling your credit card out for.

I myself am a CO in Vermont and his story mimics mine to a t. I had to fight for almost three years

against a vicious group of co-workers before I secured myself a permanent position with the state. To this day I still face ridicule and obscurity. The events and scenarios in this book mimic closely my own experience. I have always wanted a way to speak out and reading this book has made me very angry that this type of behaviour is condoned and sometimes even applauded in our work place. It is archaic the kind of harassment and initiation that is allowed to take place amongst staff in Vermont Corrections. If you are a correctional officer, read this book. I gave it four stars because I did not like the way the text and story was laid out. It read more like a complex instructional manual rather than a biography. I was able to read it fairly easily, being an officer, but for the layman who is not familiar with our jargon it may be difficult.

Both powerful and alarming... NO ONE, especially no one with an advanced education, should consider a career in Vermont law enforcement before reading this book cover-to-cover. It will certainly make a potential applicant wonder who has the enviable position, the man with the badge, or the man behind the bars. Ed Samson, retired network executive and author of *A Private Affair*.

The careful work of the author in documenting "occurrences" led him to discover a system of abuse by a few officials in perpetuating corruption in the dept. of corrections. This takes a special kind of person with great courage, conviction, and persistence. And although this book deals with law enforcement, the same systems of abuse may be found in local town officials who have been in office for a long time. There is danger in assuming that elections will be fair or honestly reported, or that budget items such as building and road repairs represent the optimum price for the town tax payers. The estimates by state engineers may be double or triple the fair repair price if federal government grants are involved. The public pays for this through taxes, and the officials may get increased influence and income. This book illustrates how some smiling and trusted officials of authority can be very devious. The public watch and reporting is the only way to assure an honest system. Read this book.

As a former federal whistleblower myself, I can tell you there is no script when you encounter something that requires you to speak up or blow the whistle. Few possess the courage, fortitude and conviction to keep after it when others would have given up long before you. Indeed, there are many injustices in our country and anyone who willingly takes on the personal hardships that come with outing corruption or being a whistleblower for anything deserves our gratitude. Indeed, few understand that by standing up in this way you are enhancing the public good one person at a time.

The imprisoning of offenders has always been problematic. But the new trend towards institutionalizing of incarceration (including the privatization movement steadily making grounds in the nation today), needs to be brought to public disclosure and debate. That's why "Vermont C.O. The Truth of Attrition" by Christian Noll is such a valued, timely, and documented contribution to our national discussion with respect to prison reform and prison practices. This 230-page compendium is in a fully revised and updated second edition is enhanced with the inclusion of a Glossary and should be considered mandatory reading by governmental policy makers, prison officials, and non-specialist general readers with an interest in prison reform.

When hundreds of mouths remain silent, Vermont C.O. shouts the truth. Join Ryan Mason in his remarkable firsthand narrative that uncovers the secrets behind the closed doors of Vermont's correctional facilities. In one of the darkest places men have tread--the prison system--Mason's story reveals the failures of the "justice system" as he exposes the secrets, the lies, and the injustices that have put Mason on the system's "wanted" list.

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