

Huckleberries has learned that the city of Post Falls, PFPD and the city prosecutor's office have fielded numerous calls and emails protesting the arrest of a 9-year-old boy for stealing bubblegum. The city prosecutor's office was targeted after a national blog Anti-Media provided readers its number, even though the arrest warrant was issued by the Kootenai County Prosecutor's Office. Here's a sample of the emails that are civil enough to post here:

JamalP: "Its sickening to know that a 9 year old boy gets an arrest warrant for missing court on a pack of gum. This is outrageous i bet if this was your child you wouldn't put them thru this type of ordeal again over a pack of gum. This is so petty i really can't believe it. The people of Idaho should be embarrassed to even support something like this and what kills me is that after people complain you release a statement saying we could of helped the family get to court when it shouldn't even be court again over a pack of gum. Also the store owner should be a shamed of themselves. They should have called the little boys parents."

Anna Marie: I am truly disgusting in your department. How cowardly are you people? Over a pack of gum? What has the police come to, to arrest a 9 YEAR OLD BOY? When I stole a piece of candy when I was 9, my mother whooped my ass and made me give it back! Did I get arrested? No, but I learned my lesson. Let me guess...this boy happens to be black right? Too many things are running through my mind to even write out a thoughtful e-mail. I am truly ashamed of police these days. I used to be an avid believer that police are here to serve and protect. But after seeing what I have in real life and through social media, my faith has been shattered and I am bitter. Over a pack of gum? Don't you think the parents should have doled out the punishment for their 9 year old child? This poor kid is probably scarred for life because of such utter nonsense. Have a shame-filled day.

JimW: Really! After reading the story about a nine year old child being arrested for stealing a pack of gum, placed in detention, and served a warrant for arrest? Then you want to go further and are going to investigate the under child protection? Do you not have anything better to do? Do you realize how ridiculous you look to the world? Nine years old, a pack of GUM, police, courts, attorney, and judge? What are you going to do next? Arrest Mr. Potato? Statistically, you should be concentrating on real crime, since your town has a higher than average rating nationwide for its size. Just ridiculous!!! I can just see the town prosecutor around the break room discussing 5 to life for the gum stealing child.

JamesG: I'm not really sure how you could be that retarded. I'm also not sure how you figure out how to put pants on each day, being as stupid as you are. But regardless, I sincerely hope you get hit by a bus or struck by lightning for what you are doing. Someone who has made the decision that you have made has no business being in any position of authority over anything. You show a complete lack of intelligence and morality in what you have done. Please do the world a favor and hang yourself.

ZacharyS: I hope your rinky dink department AND county goes bankrupt. You people should just as well seize the parents house in order to pay the restitution for the package of gum that was no doubt put right back on the shelf in the store. Or did you guys place it in an evidence bag to use as evidence for the prosecution during his trial? Sick. Find something else to do with your time. Get a new profession because you obviously don't belong in law enforcment.

AllejandroV: YOU PEOPLE SHOULD BE ASHAMED OF THE ACTINS TATE ON A NINE YEAR OLD! ALL INVOLVED SHOULD BE FIRED! LET THE BOY GO HOME!

RichardP: What kind of jackass issues an arrest for on a nine year old boy for stealing a pack of gum. This is political correctness to the nth degree. Get a life Simon and while you're at it see if you can't find a heart.

CrystalM: Really can't think of a reason that would justify putting a nine year old in jail. Not even one. And certainly not for a pack of gum. I don't know you, and I don't claim to understand the circumstance surrounding this case, but I must say, I am completely appalled at our system. I only pray for that little boy. How very very sad.