

**Public statements of Audit Committee Member
Commissioner Paul Pinkston regarding employees of
the Mayor's Office at the Special Called Meeting of
September 10, 2007 Receipt of Travel Pay Audit
Report from Richard Walls, Knox County Auditor**

"These people have been doing things illegally."

"These people would be looking at jail time for what they've done."

"Our government is running wild."

"Some form of a dictatorship."

"In the private sector, I believe they would call that stealing."

"Fraud, stealing or something."

"How are we going to ask them questions about what they've done wrong?"

"Hasn't been another scandal like this since John Beeler and the BFI thing."

"They have broken every rule."

"I want everybody to understand that they disobeyed the rules, the guidelines..."

"They need to be standing before a judge."

"Five years in the pen, which some of them may deserve."

"Mike Arms is running around...he may be out here spending the county's money right now."

"Dwight Van de Vate, who gets paid \$140,000 a year to spin the truth."

**Public statements of Audit Committee Member
Commissioner Paul Pinkston regarding employees of
the Mayor's Office in the Knoxville News-Sentinel**

Thursday, April 24, 2008

"These people have done wrong," Pinkston said. "It's not going to go away until it's settled...there's some reason they're slow-walking everything."

Friday, March 14, 2008

"But I do not feel like I've done anything unethical because I was dealing with unethical people."

Friday, March 7, 2008

In an interview with WBIR television "It's not right. It's not right," Pinkston said. "They have taken taxpayer money illegally in my opinion, and I've stated that since June the 7th."

Thursday, March 6, 2008

Commissioner Paul Pinkston wished DeFreese "the best of luck. I've been trying to get that for months. I support her 100 percent. These people should be prosecuted."

Tuesday, January 29, 2008

Pinkston said, "I think it's about taking county money inappropriately."

Tuesday, June 26, 2007

"I think (suspending card usage) is a step in the right direction, but you've got to realize these people broke the law," Pinkston said.

Friday, May 25, 2007

"This doesn't sound kosher to me," Pinkston said. "I feel like it's a disguise. It looks like fraud."

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

"He's taken money illegally or through disguised compensation. It was not approved by County Commission."

Wednesday, August 8, 2007

"I've been throwing up every road block I can," Pinkston continued. "I've been trying to take the power away from (Ragsdale) every way I can. There's a lot of things I've been doing to try to stop this guy. We have to operate with the assumption that our leaders are honest. The honesty is questionable."