INT. POLICE STATION - ALPERT’S OFFICE - NIGHT

POLICE CAPTAIN JACOB ALPERT sits behind his enormous desk, taking notes. MR. JOHN PARKER and PRINCIPAL BALLARD sit across from him.

PARKER
I want to file every possible charge I can against Bob Stevens. Attempted murder, kidnapping, assault, robbery, identity theft.

ALPERT
Identity theft?

PARKER
I’m pretty sure that rotten bastard has been using my library card.

ALPERT
I don’t know if that counts as -

PARKER
I’m filing it!

BALLARD
With all these charges I imagine Bob is going to be put away for the rest of his life.

PARKER
(giddy)
I’m so happy to be a part of Bob’s downfall. This truly is one of the happiest days of my life.

ALPERT
You don’t hear that too often from people that have been held hostage.

PARKER
It’s not like I haven’t been held at gunpoint before. Bob is just the first non-family member.

(CONTINUED)
BALLARD
You lead a frightening existence John.

The intercom buzzes.

INTERCOM (O.S.)
Captain Alpert.

ALPERT
Yes?

INTERCOM (O.S.)
There is a man here to see John Parker and Diane Ballard.

ALPERT
We’re busy at the moment. Tell him to wait.

INTERCOM (O.S.)
He says it’s an emergency.

Parker and Ballard exchange curious glances.

BALLARD
We’ll go see what it is. We’ll only be a minute.

ALPERT
(sighs)
All right.

Parker and Ballard stand and leave.

CUT TO:

INT. POLICE STATION - HALLWAY - MINUTES LATER

Parker and Ballard come out of Alpert’s office to see a chubby man, DAVID WATTS pacing around.

WATTS
Diane! I raced over here as soon as I got you’re call.

BALLARD
David? I didn’t think you were going to come down to the police station.

(CONTINUED)
WATTS
I had to, I just had to. Especially after I heard about everything.

Watts and Ballard hug.

PARKER
I feel like I should know who you are.

WATTS
I’m David Watts.
(no reaction from Parker)
I’m on the school board.
(no reaction from Parker)
I’m the one who hired you.

PARKER
Ohhhh! See, I knew you looked familiar.

WATTS
(sarcastic)
Still charismatic as ever I see.

BALLARD
Why are you down here, David? It seems unusual that a member of school board would show up.

PARKER
Maybe they wanted to make sure I was all right.

WATTS
No. Not at all.

PARKER
Figures.

WATTS
I’ve come here with a special request for John.

PARKER
Which is?

WATTS
John, on behalf of the school board, I would like you to drop all charges against Bob Stevens.
PARKER
(chuckling)
...what?

WATTS
Drop the charges. In fact we would like you to keep this on the down low.

PARKER
(confused)
...what?

WATTS
Bob Stevens is running Centerville High School into the ground.

PARKER
Hell, I could have told you that years ago.

WATTS
Well his path of destruction has become more visible as of late. His little act of fraud has done a world of damage for us.

BALLARD
I thought the board said everything was fine.

WATTS
We fibbed a little.

BALLARD
How little?

WATTS
The county cut our budget by 35%.

BALLARD
That seems noteworthy enough to tell me.

WATTS
A lot of people in the Indiana government think with all the terrible things that’s happened this year -

BALLARD
(overlapping)
It hasn’t been that bad of a year.
WATTS
Really, Diane? Think about it. That Davidson girl killed herself; that idiot history teacher burnt down the science wing; two teachers dismissed for inappropriate behavior are mysteriously hired back; an exchange student is deported for messing around with the principal’s daughter; and Bob Stevens, in less than a month, has committed both fraud and kidnapping.

BALLARD
What about the positives.

WATTS
Like...?

Long pause.

BALLARD
Our soccer team won their first game in six years.

WATTS
What else?

BALLARD
Screw it. This was a year from hell.

WATTS
Because of the budget cuts, we’ve been struggling financially. Even I’ve been hit by it. Instead of vacationing in Hawaii this spring, I had to settle for Chicago.

PARKER
(sarcastic)
Devastating.

WATTS
The board feels that if this whole hostage thing leaks, we’re going to lose more funding to the point where we won’t be able to keep the school open.
BALLARD
Close the school? That’s crazy!

WATTS
Why not? Why finance a school that has a new problem and bad press every week. It’d be easier to save them money to merge with Richmond High School.

PARKER
Would that really happened?

WATTS
I think I can talk with some higher ups and get the school another year or so of financing. But that’s if, and only if, you drop the charges against bob. Let this thing quietly disappear. Can you do that, John?

PARKER
Yeah, I could do that -

WATTS
Fantastic!

PARKER
-But there is a small problem.

WATTS
What kind of small problem?

CUT TO:

EXT. HOSPITAL - ER ENTRANCE - LATER

Watts, Parker, and Ballard get out of a car. A large amount of KKK swamp the front entrance, protest signs in hand. Media vans are starting to show up.

WATTS
What the hell is this?!

PARKER
You see, David, I don’t know if you know this, but Bob was, sort of, in the KKK.

WATTS
(shocked)
...What?

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

PARKER
Yeah. See I had this big final "screw you" planned for Bob and well, I didn’t realize the school was in such finical dire straits.

Devastated, Watts falls to the ground.

PARKER
(to Ballard)
Did our soccer team really win their first game?

BALLARD
(sad)
...it was a tie.

SMASH CUT TO BLACK.

END OF WEBISODE.