

# Cross City seeks new city manager

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By Jeff M. Hardison

**CROSS CITY** - The Florida Department of Law Enforcement arrested Gary Pinner, 58, of Old Town on one count of official misconduct on May 1, the FDLE noted in a May 1 news release.

Pinner is charged with misusing city employees, city equipment, city inventory, and an inmate work crew to provide free water services to certain Dixie County residents, including his future son-in-law.

The FDLE investigation determined that on three separate occasions, Pinner, in his official role as Cross City City Manager, instructed Water Department employees to perform work on private properties utilizing city resources outside and beyond the scope of their job related duties.

Over the past several months, Pinner instructed two Cross City Water Department employees to install a water line (beyond the water meter) to his daughter and future son-in-law's residence (hundreds of feet through a livestock/horse pasture) utilizing city-owned equipment (trenching machine), city-owned supplies (PVC pipe), and a state inmate work crew (helped remove roots and other obstructions from the trench and laid the PVC pipe in the ground), the FDLE said.

Within the last two years, Pinner also instructed city employees to install water lines to two other residences, using city labor, the FDLE said. In addition, he allowed at least three city water customers to maintain excessive unpaid account balances for extended periods of time without having their water service terminated, the FDLE said.

The investigation has not revealed any other criminal wrongdoing, the FDLE said, other than the actions of Pinner.

Pinner was arrested today Monday, May 1) and transported to the Dixie County Jail. The case will be prosecuted by the Office of the Third Judicial Circuit State Attorney Jeff Siegmeister.

\* Since his arrest, Pinner posted bail and is awaiting court action, according to records. He also resigned from his office.

On Thursday afternoon (May 11), Heddie Thompson, a member of the City Council of Cross City, told members of the Dixie County Chamber of Commerce that Cross City is seeking a new city manager. Interested applicants should contact the City of Cross City, she said.