

**Where Does He Live?
By James Collins**

We moved to New Hampshire in 1975 and encountered a new phenomenon -many of the names were French. In New York, the French passed through a couple of hundred years earlier and there were very few French names left in the general populace.

I received a new job as Director of Manufacturing Engineering and inherited a couple hundred people. Two of them had the same name--Bill Dion. One was a senior-level manager reporting to me directly and the other was an engineer working in a remote facility. Since I just took over the department, I asked for a list of personnel files on each of my employees, started at the top, and worked my way down. To my great surprise when I reached the engineer Bill Dion, I found that he had been absent 54 days in the past year. I sent for his manager, brought him into my office, and asked him what was wrong with Mr. Dion. He told me, that to the best of his knowledge nothing. I said, "He's been out for 54 days. Has he brought in doctors notes for each of these events?"

"No, we received nothing from him, but since we didn't bill him against the job, we didn't say anything."

"That is totally unacceptable. Nobody takes off 54 days without formal doctor notes. I noticed that the absences were primarily on Mondays and Fridays. Bring this to the attention of personnel and tell them I want him removed from my payroll. Mr. William Dion was formally terminated."

Two months later, I received a visit from Bill Dion, the senior-level manager reporting directly to my office. He said, "Jim, we have to talk."

"Sure, what's the problem?"

"The ex employee Bill Dion has been aggravating me and honestly he's impacting my work output."

"How can he do that? He's never in the facility. I haven't seen him around in a couple months."

"I get dunning messages from Exxon, Mobil, various restaurants, Visa, and other financial operations or billing locations that Bill Dion has stiffed. Since we both have the same name and the credit cards reference Kollsman as his employer, I get all the dunning calls. It's interfering with my work and I keep getting distracted. Can you do something with personnel to help me get rid of this series of unwanted messages and calls?"

"I'll give it a shot. I'll get back to you."

I called personnel because I learned that Bill Precob, the manager at that location, used to carpool with the troublesome Mr. Dion. I got on the phone and said, "Bill we are trying to find Bill Dion who used to be in your carpool."

"Yeah I remember him but I haven't seen him in a couple of months since he was terminated."

"I heard he used to be in your carpool and what we're trying to do is physically locate where he lives so we can notify the credit companies that he has stiffed."

"I'm sorry I can't help you there, I have no idea where he lives."

"What do you mean you don't know where he lives? He was in your carpool for two years. Isn't that correct?"

"Yeah he rode with three of us in the carpool but Bill Dion never let us know where he lived."

"How did he do that?"

"Every day we drove, he would call us in the morning and tell us what intersection in one of the towns on our trip he would be at so we could pick him up. At night, we would drop him off at that same corner. When he drove, he came to our homes to pick us up and then he dropped us off at night." Therefore, we never knew where he lived."

"You mean for two years this guy gave you different locations every time you had to pick him up and then you dropped him off there at night and you didn't think this was suspicious?"

"A little unusual but he had clearance, so I didn't think much about it."

"You are a senior-level manager in personnel and you did not think it suspicious that you did not know where your car pool member lived for two years?"

"Well we didn't know anything about this until the other Bill Dion called us and asked us where this Dion lived. When we gave him the address, he checked it out and found it is an empty lot."

"Why didn't you bring this to my attention?"

"It was only couple of months ago and he no longer worked for us so we didn't pay much attention to it."

"So nobody knows anything about this man, where he lives or even if that's his real name. How did he pass security?"

"He only had confidential clearance, so no investigation was done by the FBI."

"Notify security immediately and have them notify the FBI. Make sure they give them the entire story."

Security notified the FBI. We never heard about Mr. Dion again.

THE END