




City of Flagler Beach

P.O. Box 70 • 105 South 2nd Street
Flagler Beach, Florida 32136

Phone (386) 517-2000 • Fax (386) 517-2008

MEMO

DATE: January 4, 2013
TO: Elected Officials
FROM: Bruce C. Campbell, City Manager 
SUBJECT: Allegations/Suspensions/Investigation within Flagler Beach Fire Department

As we have discussed during the past two days, serious allegations have surfaced regarding violations of our City's Administrative Policy within our Fire Department as related to four (4) members of our personnel.

Attached for your review you will find copies of the formal written allegations that I received on Wednesday, January 2, 2013, from six (6) of our Fire Department personnel. In addition, you will see a "summary" from Commissioner Shupe, Libby Kania and Robert Smith as they were made aware of the allegations. Lastly, you will see a copy of today's correspondence with each alleged member of personnel.

Due to the seriousness of the allegations the below actions are underway:

1. Placed the four (4) alleged personnel on paid administrative leave effective today, January 4, 2013. Those persons are: Chief Martin Roberts, Assistant Fire Chief Shane Wood, Fire Fighter Jacob Bissonette and Fire Captain of Fire Police Steve Wood. (The leave will effect Steve Wood's Fire Police and Sanitation Driver positions within our City.)
2. An internal investigation will be conducted and completed in a timely manner by a 3rd party unrelated to the City of Flagler Beach.
3. Pending the outcome of the investigation appropriate action will then be taken.
4. Robert Pace will serve as acting Fire Chief during the investigation period.
5. The paid administrative leave will end when the internal investigation is completed and any appropriate action taken.

Upon your review if you have any additional questions please advise. If contacted by anyone I suggest the answer given is – "Allegations within our Fire Department have been made and we as a City are currently conducting a thorough and timely investigation into these matters as related to our City's Administrative Code.



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January 4, 2013

Jacob Bissonnette
P.O. Box 353503
Palm Coast, FL 32135

Mr. Bissonnette:

Allegations have been submitted to me that after your shift on December 25, 2012 you consumed at the Fire Station alcohol which had been stored by you at the Fire Station.

This letter is to document my decision to place you on paid administrative leave immediately pending an investigation into these allegations. This leave will continue until such time as the investigation regarding these allegations has been completed and a determination of disciplinary action has been made.


Bruce C. Campbell
City Manager



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January 4, 2013

Martin Roberts
34 Union Mill Place
Palm Coast, FL 32164

Chief Roberts:

Allegations have been submitted to me that you consumed alcohol during the Fire Department holiday party on December 14, 2012 and immediately thereafter responded to a fire in a City vehicle. There are further allegations that you directed volunteer Steve Wood to respond to the same fire scene driving the Tower Truck, who, with your knowledge had also consumed alcohol at the same party.

This letter is to document my decision to place you on paid administrative leave immediately pending an investigation into these allegations. This leave will continue until such time as the investigation regarding these allegations has been completed and a determination of disciplinary action has been made.


Bruce C. Campbell
City Manager



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January 4, 2013

Shane S. Wood
40 Robinson Drive
Palm Coast, FL 32164

Mr. Wood:

Allegations have been submitted to me that after your shift on December 25, 2012 you consumed at the Fire Station alcohol which had been stored by you at the Fire Station.

This letter is to document my decision to place you on paid administrative leave immediately pending an investigation into these allegations. This leave will continue until such time as the investigation regarding these allegations has been completed and a determination of disciplinary action has been made.


Bruce C. Campbell
City Manager



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January 4, 2013

Steven W. Wood
520 Daytona Avenue, #4
Flagler Beach, FL 32136

Mr. Wood:

Allegations have been submitted to me that you consumed alcohol during the Fire Department holiday party on December 14, 2012 and immediately thereafter responded to a fire in a City vehicle.

This letter is to document my decision to place you on paid administrative leave from your City employment immediately pending an investigation into these allegations. This leave will continue until such time as the investigation regarding these allegations has been completed and a determination of disciplinary action has been made.

Bruce C. Campbell
City Manager