

RECEIVED
BY _____ DATE 7/19/17
Russell McGillivray

Chief Russell McGillivray
East Greenwich Fire Department
284 Main Street
East Greenwich, RI 02818

July 19, 2017

Dear Chief McGillivray,

I am writing this letter to issue a formal complaint (SOG 01-04 Workplace Harassment) against town council president Susan M. Cienki in regards to verbal threats and sexual harassment which took place at a meeting on June 12, 2017 at 9:15am.

As you know, on June 6, 2017, I requested a meeting via email with Town Council President, Sue Cienki, Vice President, Sean Todd, Town Manager, Thomas Coyle, and yourself to meet with the executive board of the East Greenwich Firefighters to address the unprovoked attack towards the fire department pertaining to the June 5, 2017 town council meeting at swift community center.

The meeting took place on June 12, 2017 in the first floor conference room at town hall. In attendance was Sue Cienki, Sean Todd, Thomas Coyle, Russell McGillivray, Michael Jones and myself. During this meeting, we addressed issues we had with what was happening in town. Sue Cienki brought up several times that she was unhappy with the lateral transfers because they come with "history". I asked her who she was referring to and she said Dave Gorman "he is a sociopath" and she stated "I will cut his balls off and feed them to his god damn dog." During the conversation, I attempted to assure her that she would have no problems with Dave Gorman or anyone else. I explained to her that, as the Union President during a time when his employer was trying to take away his members benefits, Gorman was simply doing his job by fighting for his members. She then stated she has a huge concern with Dave Gorman and she was going to trust us to handle him, and if we didn't she would literally come fight me and cut my fucking balls off and feed them to my dog. Everyone in the room looked shocked, except Sean Todd, who laughed. Sue had referenced several times during our meeting that we are not the problem so don't become the problem: "this has nothing to do with the fire department".

On July 1, 2017, the Union filed a grievance based on a clear violation of our collective bargaining agreement. After this, I feel the harassment and retaliation continued after this point.

On July 10, 2017, after the town council meeting ended abruptly, an article and attachments were added to the town website, and the East Greenwich Town Facebook page in which someone sponsored, which clearly blamed the East Greenwich Firefighters for “tremendous discord and disruption”. This is inaccurate. Before the posting however, Sean Todd and Andy Deutsch were seen by multiple witnesses passing out salary documentation on Main Street with the salaries of the fire department employees highlighted. As Sean Todd and Andy Deutsch walked away from the fire department, Sean was startled and said to employees, “we left something in the mailbox for you guys, we figured you should be the first to know. We are going hot with this press release,” and then they continued to walk Main Street towards Town Hall. Three salary packets were stuck to the 3 finance office windows between the glass and screen facing inwards towards the employees, and packets were also placed under windshield wipers of cars parked on Main and King Street.

I am requesting an immediate investigation into this matter. Because current Acting Town Manager appears to have a close, personal relationship with Ms. Cienki, I am concerned as to whether Corrigan will be able to conduct an impartial investigation. However, I am willing to sit down and discuss this matter with the Town Solicitor provided my attorney is present. I hope the Town will take this matter seriously and take appropriate actions to prevent continued hostile behavior from Sue Cienki and other members of the Town Council.

As Union President, please know I am reluctant to file this complaint as I fear for retaliation against myself, my family and my fellow firefighters. But, Ms. Cienki's behavior is completely inappropriate and I am concerned that if it remains unchecked, it will only get worse.

If you have any questions, please let me know.



Lt. William Perry,
East Greenwich Fire Department