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Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics and Public Trust

Memo

To: Michael P. Murawski, Advocate
From: Manuel W. Diaz, Investigator
Date: January 18, 2013
Re: K 12-124 - John Riley

This investigator made several attempts to contact Commissioner Dorothy Johnson leaving messages at her office in City Hall. The Commissioner never returned my calls.

At the Advocate's suggestion, this investigator contacted her attorney, Benedict P. Kuehne Esq., 100 SW Second Street, Suite 3550, Miami, Florida 33131. Kuehne was advised as to the scope of the investigation. He advised that he would contact Johnson and request that she contact the COE to discuss the allegations made in her letter of September 13, 2011. (Copy in File) The Commissioner again failed to contact the COE.

This investigator was able to contact the Commissioner via her cellular telephone. At first she ranted that she was not going to cooperate with COE in any investigation. She later calmed and said that she did not wish to pursue the allegations made in her letter requesting the removal of John Riley from the Opa-Locka Civil Service Board. She later relented and agreed to contact her attorney, Kuehne, to seek guidance in of cooperating with the COE. To date she has not contacted the COE.

I researched City of Opa-Locka public records concerning the allegations made by the Commissioner in her letter. I was able to determine that the letter was introduced to the Commission at the regular meeting on September 14, 2011. After a short discussion, the Commission decided to conduct an investigation of the Commissioner's allegations against Riley.

I contacted the Opa-Locka City Clerk to obtain a copy of any investigation that was conducted. The Clerk advised that no investigation was ever conducted and the allegations contained in Johnson's letter were never re-introduced to the Commission. As far as she knows the matter has been dropped and the allegations never addressed.

Since the Commissioner does not wish to cooperate in the investigation and her cooperation is critical to any successful prosecution of the case, I recommend that the case be closed with no further action.

If additional information is received that case can be re-opened.