

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

K #: K07- 102

Date Opened: August 9, 2007

Name of investigator: Breno Penichet
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Allegations:

Mr. Michael Laventure, a Miami-Dade Firefighter, is owner of a shutter company. He did not file an authorization for outside employment in 2006. Mr. Laventure also failed to file financial disclosures for years 2005 and 2006. In violation of the Miami Dade County Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance to wit: Sec.2-11.1(i) *Financial Disclosure*.

Investigation:

COE Investigators initiated an investigation to determine if Miami-Dade employee, Mr. Michael Laventure, had complied with the provisions of the Ordinance.

1. COE Investigator Penichet contacted Sgt. Tonua D. Johnson, MDPD Internal Affairs unit in reference to the complaint. Sgt. Johnson advised that she was in the process of conducting an internal investigation involving Mr. Michael Laventure who is employed as a Firefigther with the Miami-Dade Fire Department. According to Sgt. Johnson, Mr. Laventure is the President of a for-profit corporation registered in the State of Florida under the corporate name of Keep-Safe Hurricane Shutters Inc. 9177 SW 72 Ave #L-2 Miami Fl. (Doc# P03000158213) active at this time.
2. According to Sgt. Johnson, Mr. Laventure had on several occasions during 2006 accepted money as down payments for shutter installations that were never completed. The money was paid in the form of checks paid to the order of Mr. Laventure.
3. Sgt. Johnson advised that she interviewed the victims and was advised that no work was ever completed by Mr. Laventure or any member of his corporation. Sgt. Johnson provided copies of all the checks along with proposals signed by the victims, as well as Mr. Laventure as President of the corporation.
4. Sgt. Johnson advised that she checked Mr. Laventure's file and was unable to locate any request for outside employment prior to May 20, 2007. On the form she provided dated May 20, 2007, it shows the required information. However,

in the box that asks the amount of money or compensation received, the answer was "fluctuates"-- no exact figure was given.

5. COE Investigator B. Penichet contacted Ms. Martha Gonzalez from the Miami-Dade Elections Department. Ms. Gonzalez was requested to check the files to verify if Mr. Laventure had filed his Financial Disclosure forms for years 2005 and 2006 as required. As of August 23, 2007, no Financial Disclosure forms were filed.

Conclusion:

Summary of investigation was turned over to Assistant Advocate Miriam Ramos for final review and charges to be filed.