



The Informer

Local, County, State and National Social and Political Issues

*Knowledge is power
and elections have consequences!*

Earnestine D. Pittman Former Council Member and Mayor of East Point, GA
Currently: Member of Housing Authority of Fulton County Board of Commissioners
<http://www.earnestinedpittman.com> edpittman26@bellsouth.net (404) 344-3710

April 29, 2024

To: Commissioner Robb Pitts, Chairman of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners
Commissioner Khadijah Abdur-Rahman, Vice-Chair, District 6
Commissioner Bridget Thorne, District 1
Commissioner Bob Ellis, District 2
Commissioner Dana Barrett, District 3
Commissioner Natalie Hall, District 4
Commissioner Marvin S. Arrington, Jr, District 5

**Re: The Removal of Chairman Antavius Weems and Vice-Chair Lamar White From The
Fulton County Housing Authority Board of Commissioners**

Dear Chairman Pitts:

I am requesting the removal of Chairman Antavius Weems and Vice-Chair Lamar White from the Fulton County Housing Authority Board of Commissioners (Board) due to the failure to carry out their duties and responsibilities in accordance with their Oaths of Office, Board's BY-LAWS, and HUD Policies. Our Board is totally dysfunctional. The Board has been hijacked by Chairman Antavius Weems and Vice-Chair Lamar White.

Chairman Weems' bullying, lack of respect for women, intimidation, manipulation, lying, hiring friends for non-posted jobs, no professionalism in conducting a meeting and working with a Board along with a lack of interest and commitment from many of the Board Members have drained the life out of the Board. Vice-Chair White has supported Chairman Weems in creating a hostile environment for staff and Board members; engaging in hiring practices that violated hiring protocols resulting in conflict of interests; failing to follow procurement protocols; constantly involved in day-to-day operations and making decisions without Board knowledge or approval. Chairman Weems and Vice-Chair White used "suggestions" from a discussion in the April 21, 2024, Board Meeting to perform a hostile takeover of the "Executive Directors' Office and Job".

I have made serious and grave accusations, some of which may prove to be criminal. I have written as well as visual and recorded documentation to support each of the following allegations /violations.

- 1. Chairman Weems intimidated an Interim Executive Director to hire an East Point Council Member (who happened to be one of his bosses) for a nonexistent job**

- position in the Housing Authority with a \$60,000 salary that increased to \$75,000 with no job description within six months. This was an act of pre-selection and violated the hiring policies of the Housing Authority although the job was nonexistent.
2. In the February 15th Board Meeting, Chairman Weems stated that he was hiring a person that he knew to assist/consult with Interim Executive Director Garcia although HUD Policy states that the Executive Director is the only employee of the Board. Again, he proposed to violate the hiring policies by using pre-selection for another nonexistent job.
 3. Chairman Weems called for a vote in Executive Session and when he was told that voting was not allowed, he stated that he needed to get a consensus before voting in the Regular Meeting.
 4. Chairman Weems dismissed trained Hearing Officers for tenants to perform the Hearings himself complete with a robe. The cost for the Hearing Officers was cheaper than the cost for the bailiff hired by him.
 5. Chairman Weems and Vice-Chair White refuse to accept the vote of five Board Members (one by proxy) at the February 28th Special Call Meeting to hire Interim Executive Director Tanray Gracias as the permanent Executive Director. They refuse to call her by her title and have accused her of making an error in her professional signature in a public Meeting.
 6. Chairman Weems, Vice-Chair White and Atty Andrew Patterson have stated that the Special Call Meeting had legal issues because Chairman Weems said that he did not receive the email that I sent to all the Board Commissioners and Atty Patterson. They used this to cast doubt on the legality of the Special Call Meeting and to nullify the hiring of Ms. Garcias as the permanent Executive Director. However, all the other motions voted on had been adhered to until the Board Meeting on April 18, 2024. The day of the hostile takeover of the Executive Director's Office.
 7. Chairman Weems and Vice-Chair White are again trying to violate the procurement process via pre-selection for an audit position.
 8. At the February 15th Board Meeting, Chairman Weems directed Interim Executive Director to bring in all the Staff Members and once they entered the room, he directed them to state their names and then they left. This was a power play and was meant to intimidate them and show how powerless Ms. Garcias was. I later learned that the sealed enveloped given to Atty Patterson contained complaints from eight of the fourteen Staff Members concerning Chairman Weems.
 9. Currently, there are four EEOC complaints filed against Chairman Weems from Interim/ Permanent Executive Directors and two Staff Members.
 10. Chairman Weems's poor management skills in conducting Board Meetings have caused the Board not to hear the Executive Director's Report since the February 15th Board Meeting. Therefore, the Board has not had the opportunity to review invoices or any financial transactions, but that has not stopped Chairman Weems and Vice-Chair White from directing Executive Director Garcias to pay invoices and make other financial transactions not approved by the Board.

I suggest that before you begin reading the "Exhibits" that you read the emails that were written between Commissioner Barbara Duffy and myself, then begin with items "1

through 10". Written documents have been attached for of the items listed except for items except 2 and 3. Item 2 is on ZOOM, and item 3 took place in Executive Session. I ask that you please read them all and I know if that is done, Board Chairman Antavius Weems and Vice-Chair Lamar White will be removed from the Board.

Thank you for your cooperation in advance.

Respectfully yours,

Earnestine O. Pittman

Board in a Crisis

From: Earnestine D Pittman (edpittman26@bellsouth.net)

To: bduffy@hafc.org; canzeri@icloud.com; edpittman26@bellsouth.net

Date: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 at 12:32 PM EDT

Good Morning Fellow Commissioners,

It is with deep regret that I am writing this, however I am compelled by my Oath of Office, the BY-LAWS of the Board and HUD Policies to address the crisis that exists with our Board and the Housing Authority. First, let me state why I made the strategic decision to state that I would be "resigning at the Fulton County Board of Commissioners Meeting". After the inconsiderate announcement that the two Tenant Representatives would have to vacate their seats due to State Law, I could not risk the remaining five Members to vote to remove Weems' Chairmanship and White's Vice-Chairmanship. Based on the five Members, the best of the worst outcome would have been a two to two tie.

I am disavowing any knowledge or support for the Hostile Takeover of the Housing Authority Executive Director's Office by Chairman Weems and Vice-Chairman White. Our Board of Commissioners has abdicated our authority to remain as a viable organization to effectively enforce and support our own BY-LAWS and HUD Policies. From the emails that have been written by Chairman Weems and Vice-Chairman White, they are in all reality in-charge of the Executive Director's Office. I am very disappointed and angry concerning our Board's failure to support our own vote to hire Ms. Garcia as our Executive Director. We should have demanded that she be addressed as such by Chairman Weems and Vice-Chairman White. I believe that our Board is dysfunctional and needs to be dissolved.

I have no idea by whose authority, title or financial considerations that Chairman Weems and Vice-Chairman are using in their Hostile Takeover of the Executive Director's Office. I hope that all five Board Members will participate in the Meeting to be called by HUD. Hopefully, we will gain important information that will be beneficial to our Board, Fulton County Board of Commissioners, and HUD in deciding whether to close the Housing Authority, dissolve our Board or both. I will formally request the Fulton County Board of Commissioners to dissolve our Board if things have not changed at their Board Meeting.

I remain a committed Member of our Board, and I stand ready to do whatever it takes to restore the integrity needed to make our Board a viable entity in keeping with our BY-LAWS and HUD Policies. The decision is yours.

Sincerely yours,

Earnestine D. Pittman

(404) 344-3710

Former Mayor, City of East Point

E. D. Cubed Inc.- 501(3)c Nonprofit, Founder

INFORMER-Website

<http://www.earnestinedpittman.com>

Knowledge is Power and Elections have Consequences!

Re: Board in a Crisis

From: Barbara Duffy (bduffy@hafc.org)

To: edpittman26@bellsouth.net; canzeri@icloud.com; canzeri@peachtreefg.com

Date: Friday, April 26, 2024 at 11:26 AM EDT

Ms. Pittman,

I have been thinking over your phone call on Tuesday and your email on Wednesday. I agree with you that our recent HAFC meetings have been difficult and not productive. I share your frustrations.

I want to be clear in my hopes for HAFC moving forward. To that end, I want to outline my current thoughts which have changed somewhat with the loss of our Resident Commissioners.

I continue to fully support our Board Attorney Andrew Patterson who has provided legal counsel for decades. I seek, value and support his advice. Obviously, his contract should have been posted for bid before now. Until that procurement process has been completed, he will be paid from Enterprise funds.

I accept our Attorney's opinion that the Special Called meeting was invalid due to notice issues. Therefore, I concur that votes taken at the Special Meeting including the selection of Ms. Garcia as Executive Director are mute. It is not helpful to continue to revisit this.

You have heard me express my desire for new leadership on the board. Unfortunately, I no longer think that is possible given the recent dismissal of our Resident Commissioners due to Attorney Patterson's reading of the authorizing law that requires resident commissioners to live in unincorporated Fulton County. Near total incorporation over the last two decades has made this requirement impossible. We must appeal to the BOC to support new legislation to remedy this law which means a delay of up to a year before we can once again hold an election for new Resident Commissioners.

The additional recent resignations of Commissioners Andrew Morrow and Hazel Jacobs leaves the current HAFC board at only five members until appointments in districts S & Y are forthcoming from the Fulton County Board of Commissioners.

I am sorry to say that I am now 80 years old and do not want and will not accept the Chairman position at this time. I have been on the HAFC Board since 2002 and served as Chair several times including the four years before Chair Weems was elected. For your information Stuart Canzeri has also served as Chair in the past.

Given the current composition of the Board, the only opportunity for a change in the Chairmanship position that I see at this point would be if Vice Chair White was willing to be Chair. At the April Board meeting, after you left the room, Commissioner Canzeri suggested that Chair Weems resign the Chair position and Commissioner White be elected Chair with Commissioner Duffy (me) as Vice Chair. Chair Weems declined to resign as Chair. However, to reduce growing tension with staff, Chair Weems requested Vice Chair White be the direct contact with Acting Interim Executive Director Garcia going forward.

I believe staff leadership must be an immediate priority. Interim Executive Director Tyus is to return from FMLA at the same time Acting Interim Executive Director Garcia believes she has been chosen to replace

her. Ms. Garcia is on medical leave this week. She was feeling poorly and went to Urgent Care immediately after our April Board meeting.

I have responded to the request from Mr. Hudson for a meeting with HUD representatives to discuss HAFC. At this point, only myself and you have replied.

We all want what is best for the Fulton County residents and the families we serve. In this time of increased housing needs across our County, we must find ways to work together to maintain and ensure housing opportunities for those in need.

Thank you for the opportunity to put my thoughts in writing.

Barbara Duffy
Member, HAFC
404-213-2934

From: Earnestine D Pittman <edpittman26@bellsouth.net>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 12:32 PM
To: Barbara Duffy <bduffy@hafc.org>; canzeri@icloud.com <canzeri@icloud.com>; edpittman26@bellsouth.net <edpittman26@bellsouth.net>
Subject: Board in a Crisis

Good Morning Fellow Commissioners,

It is with deep regret that I am writing this, however I am compelled by my Oath of Office, the BY-LAWS of the Board and HUD Policies to address the crisis that exists with our Board and the Housing Authority. First, let me state why I made the strategic decision to state that I would be "resigning at the Fulton County Board of Commissioners Meeting". After the inconsiderate announcement that the two Tenant Representatives would have to vacate their seats due to State Law, I could not risk the remaining five Members to vote to remove Weems' Chairmanship and White's Vice-Chairmanship. Based on the five Members, the best of the worst outcome would have been a two to two tie.

I am disavowing any knowledge or support for the Hostile Takeover of the Housing Authority Executive Director's Office by Chairman Weems and Vice-Chairman White. Our Board of Commissioners has abdicated our authority to remain as a viable organization to effectively enforce and support our own BY-LAWS and HUD Policies. From the emails that have been written by Chairman Weems and Vice-Chairman White, they are in all reality in-charge of the Executive Director's Office. I am very disappointed and angry concerning our Board's failure to support our own vote to hire Ms. Garcia as our Executive Director. We should have demanded that she be addressed as such by Chairman Weems and Vice-Chairman White. I believe that our Board is dysfunctional and needs to be dissolved.

I have no idea by whose authority, title or financial considerations that Chairman Weems and Vice-Chairman are using in their Hostile Takeover of the Executive

Conflict of Interest- Councilwomen Karen Renee

From: Sherrika Bellamy (sbellamy@hafc.org)
To: tgarcia@hafc.org
Cc: edpittman26@bellsouth.net
Date: Saturday, February 17, 2024 at 04:30 PM EST

Good Evening,

We have discussed the employment of Councilwoman Karen Renee being a full-time employee for HAFc. I have expressed my concern and the uproar her employment has caused among staff. Chair Weems informed Mrs. Lolita that we had to hire Ms. Karen Renee and he decided her salary and work hours. Mrs. Grant met with you, Mrs. Brown, and me to inform us that Karen Renee would be started that Monday if we liked it or not. We were told she only had to be in the building 3 days a week but could work remote the other days. Chair Weems on November 22nd told staff nobody can work remote but Ms. Karen Renee.

As the HCV Manager I have no knowledge of what Councilwomen Karen Renee is working on, due to the fact she is supposed to be working side-by-side with me. There are days she is supposed to be in the office, but she does not come in, but submit full working hours timesheets.

Staff finds this offensive, because they are required to work a full 40 hours a week in the building. They have expressed unfair treatment on several occasions. Ms. Karen Renee salary is fair above the caseworker, and she only take complaint calls. Most complaint calls come to me as the HCV Manager first.

While on Facebook I came across a video with Ms. Karen Renee speaking at the City of Jonesboro council meeting. That is when I searched her name and found out she was on the City of East Point board as a council member. It's a violation of HUD CFR 982.161 Conflict of Interest.

§ 982.161 Conflict of interest.

(a) Neither the PHA nor any of its contractors or subcontractors may enter into any contract or arrangement in connection with the HCV program in which any of the following classes of persons has any interest, direct or indirect, during tenure or for one year thereafter:

- (1) Any present or former member or officer of the PHA (except a participant commissioner);
- (2) Any employee of the PHA, or any contractor, subcontractor or agent of the PHA, who formulates policy or who influences decisions with respect to the programs;
- (3) Any public official, member of a governing body, or State or local legislator, who exercises functions or responsibilities with respect to the programs; or
- (4) Any member of the Congress of the United States.

(b) Any member of the classes described in paragraph (a) of this section must disclose their interest or prospective interest to the PHA and HUD.

(c) The conflict of interest prohibition under this section may be waived by the HUD field office for good cause.

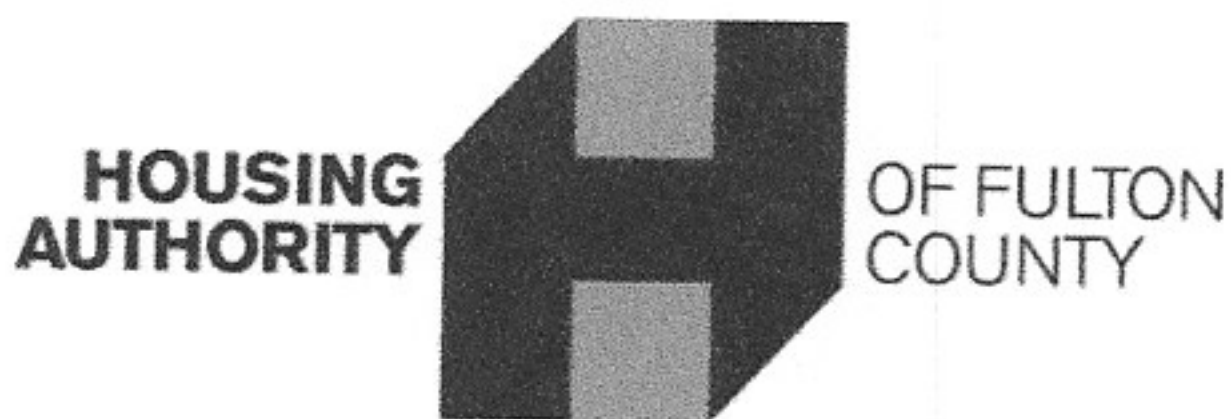
Please advise

Thank you,

Mrs. Sherrika Bellamy
HCV Manager



4273 Wendell Drive SW
Atlanta, GA 30336
Tel: (404) 588-4950
Fax: (404) 935-5296
Email: sbellamy@hafc.org
Website: www.hafc.org



Building Something Better

Note: This electronic mail (including any attachments) may contain information that is privileged, confidential, and/or otherwise protected from disclosure to anyone other than its intended recipient(s) is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please notify us immediately by reply e-mail so that we may correct our internal records. Please delete the original message (including any attachments) in its entirety. Thank you.

1, 4, 5, 6

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CALLED MEETING OF THE
HOUSING AUTHORITY OF FULTON CONTY, GEORGIA**

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2024

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:	James "Hank" Harper Jr., Earnestine Pittman, Stuart Canzeri, Debra Allen, Barbara Duffy via Proxy
COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:	Antavius Weems, Lamar White, Hazel Jacobs
STAFF PRESENT:	Tanray Garcia, Sherrika Bellamy, Zakiya Brown
CONTRACT EMPLOYEES:	Attorney Andrew Patterson
VISITORS:	NONE
REFERENCE:	ZOOM Reference

The Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of Fulton County, Georgia (HAFC) was held on Thursday, February 28, 2024, at the Housing Authority of Fulton County main office located at 4273 Wendell Drive, Atlanta, GA 30336. There were sufficient members of the Board of Commissioners present to constitute a quorum.

I. CALL TO ORDER

A motion was made by Commissioner Pittman for Commissioner Debra Allen to chair the meeting in the absence of the Board Chair & Vice Chairman, seconded by Commissioner Harper, and passed unanimously.

The Special Called meeting was of the Housing Authority of Fulton County (HAFC) Board of Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner Debra Allen at 1:21 pm.

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Attorney Patterson stated the bylaws set forth the procedures for calling a Special Called Meeting. A meeting can be called by two members of the Commission requesting of the chairman that it be called with proper notice given. Attorney Patterson stated Chairman Weems called last night stating he was not aware of the meeting and did not receive any notification of the meeting. Chair Weems stated to Attorney Patterson the address to where the notice was sent was no longer used by him. Attorney Patterson advised the Board we have to determine whether the email went to the proper address. Commissioner Pittman called for a Point of order. Commissioner Pittman stated that under which circumstances a Special Called Meeting can be held. Commissioner Pittman stated according to our policy when the Chairman is not available the Vice-Chairman assumes all responsibilities and

duties of the Chairman. Commissioner Pittman advised that she used the email on file that she received as a new Commissioner. Commissioner Pittman stated Vice-Chair White was aware of the meeting because he sent out an email to all Commissioners. Commissioner Pittman stated there is no problem because both the Chairman and Vice-Chair received notice. Attorney Patterson stated he suggests that the Executive Director provides us with information as to where exactly the email was sent. Ms. Garcia responded aweems@theweemsfirm.com. Ms. Garcia asked Commissioner Pittman if the email bounced back. Commissioner Pittman responded no, this is the email that was used when working with him in East Point. Commissioner Canzeri stated he had a verbal conversation with Chair Weems telling him about this meeting. Commissioner Allen stated she did not receive notice of the meeting until speaking with Commissioner Harper.

Commissioner Allen called for the approval of the agenda. Commissioner Pittman asked to make an amendment to the agenda. Commissioner Pittman motion asked to remove old business, public comments, resolutions, legal matters and legislative matters. Commissioner Pittman stated the new Agenda would replace the removed items with Executive Session: Special Called Meeting personnel items, Discussion-recommendation for Board actions, Adjournment. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Commissioner Allen called for discussion, all members present were in favor of the motion.

III. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Allen called for a motion to move into Executive Session at 1:35 pm to discuss personnel matters and Board actions. All members unanimously agreed to adjourn the Special Called.

6 **Commissioner Pittman called for a motion that the Housing Authority of Fulton County Board of Commissioners hire a permanent Executive Director and recommended Ms. Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Harper, and passed unanimously.**

Commissioner Canzeri called for a motion to require all Commissioners to communicate only with the Executive Director of the Authority except as directed by policy, seconded by Commissioner Pittman, and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Canzeri called for a motion that all communication to the Executive Director by commissioners shall be made by email, seconded by Commissioner Pittman, and passed unanimously.

4 **Commissioner Harper called for a motion that no Commissioner shall perform the duties as Hearing Officer as recommended by HUD, seconded by Commissioner Canzeri, and passed unanimously.**

Commissioner Pittman called for the motion of the Board moving forward with the removal of Commissioner Weems as Chairman and Commissioner White as Vice-Chair, seconded by Commissioner Harper, and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Pittman called for the motion that the Board moves forward with requesting the Fulton County Board of Commissioners to remove Commissioner Antavius Weems from the Housing Authority of Fulton Board of Commissioners, seconded by Commissioner Harper, and passed unanimously.

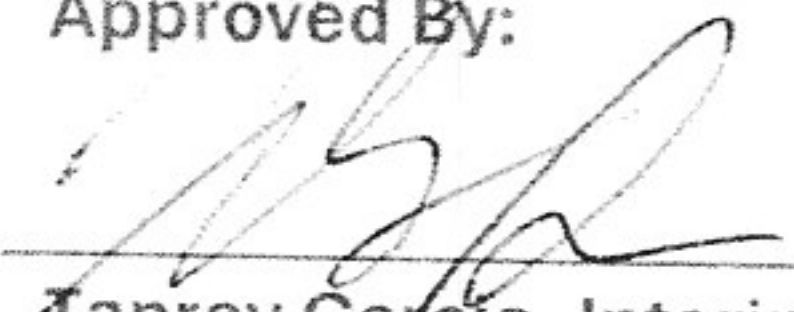
1 Commissioner Allen called for the motion that the Board directs the Executive Director to solve the employment issue as discussed in Executive Session, seconded by Commissioner Harper, and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Allen called for the motion that the Keeper of the Executive Session minutes shall be the Attorney for the Authority, seconded by Commissioner Canzeri, and passed unanimously.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Pittman called for the motion to adjourn the special called meeting at 3:12 pm. A motion to adjourn the special called meeting was moved by Commissioner Pittman, seconded by Commissioner Harper, and passed unanimously.

Approved By:



Tanray Garcia, Interim Executive Director

3-3-24

Date

Antavius Weems, Board Chair

Date

Fwd: Error in Professional Signature

From: Earnestine Pittman (edpittman2646@gmail.com)

To: edpittman26@bellsouth.net

Date: Sunday, March 24, 2024 at 08:20 PM EDT

----- Original Message -----

Subject: FW: Error in Professional Signature

From: Tanray Garcia <tgarcia@hafc.org>

Sent: Friday, March 22, 2024, 2:16 PM

To: "James Harper Jr." <jharper@hafc.org>, edpittman2646@gmail.com

CC:

fyi

Tanray A. Garcia

Executive Director

Housing Authority of Fulton County

Office 404-588-4950 x7012

Cell 470-650-1292

tgarcia@HAFC.org

“Build something better !!”

From: Antavius Weems <antavius@weemsfirm.com>

Sent: Friday, March 22, 2024 2:14 PM

To: apatterson@sgrlaw.com

Cc: lamar.white1911@gmail.com; Tanray Garcia <tgarcia@hafc.org>

Subject: Re: Error in Professional Signature

I agree with you, Atty Patterson. And thank you for answering my question

On Fri, Mar 22, 2024, 1:48 PM Patterson, P. Andrew <APATTERSON@sgrlaw.com> wrote:

Good afternoon,

I agree with Commissioner White as well. It is my opinion that the designation will not harm us from a claims standpoint.

5

Instead of Internal Executive Director, I suggest that Ms. Garcia be referred to as Acting Interim Executive Director.

P. Andrew Patterson

Andrew Patterson
Attorney at Law

p | 404-815-3708
 f | 404-685-7008
 e | APATTERSON@sgrlaw.com
 1105 W. Peachtree St. NE | Suite 1000 | Atlanta, GA 30309
www.sgrlaw.com | [My Bio](#) | [vCard](#)



From: Antavius Weems <antavius@weemsfirm.com>
Sent: Friday, March 22, 2024 1:03 PM
To: Lamar White, PhD <lamar.white1911@gmail.com>
Cc: Tanray Garcia <tgarcia@hafc.org>; Patterson, P. Andrew <APATTERSON@sgrlaw.com>
Subject: Re: Error in Professional Signature

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Attorney Paterson

I would agree with Comm White. Question, understanding that our IED is our on FMLA, if this has been widely disseminated, does it harm us from a claims standpoint?


On Fri, Mar 22, 2024, 12:37 PM Lamar White, PhD <lamar.white1911@gmail.com> wrote:


Good afternoon Ms. Garcia,

5

I recently noticed that your professional signature says "Executive Director"; please change your title to the correct title of "Internal Executive Director". We do not want to mislead anyone regarding your official title and role with the Fulton County Housing Authority.

--
 Lamar White, M.A., PhD
 Fulton County Housing Authority - Commissioner - District 5
 (323)514-4140

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26.7kB

RE: Housing Authority 2024

From: Patterson, P. Andrew (apatterson@sgrlaw.com)

To: edpittman26@bellsouth.net; canzeri@icloud.com; jharper@hafc.org; lamar.white1911@gmail.com; bjacobs@hafc.org; bduffy@hafc.org; antavius@weemsfirm.com; lenamae_44@yahoo.com; tgarcia@hafc.org

Date: Friday, March 29, 2024 at 11:10 AM EDT

Good morning,

After much thought, I have decided that it is necessary to respond to Commissioner Pittman's communication to you of March 27, 2024.

As I have stated previously, I do not represent Chairman Weems or any particular Commissioner of the Authority. I represent the Housing Authority of Fulton County, Georgia. It is my ethical and professional responsibility to provide my best advice to the Authority. I have always done this with the Housing Authority of Fulton County, Georgia. My opinion on any given matter can be accepted or rejected. I recognize that some may be dissatisfied with my opinion, but I have satisfied my responsibilities once given.

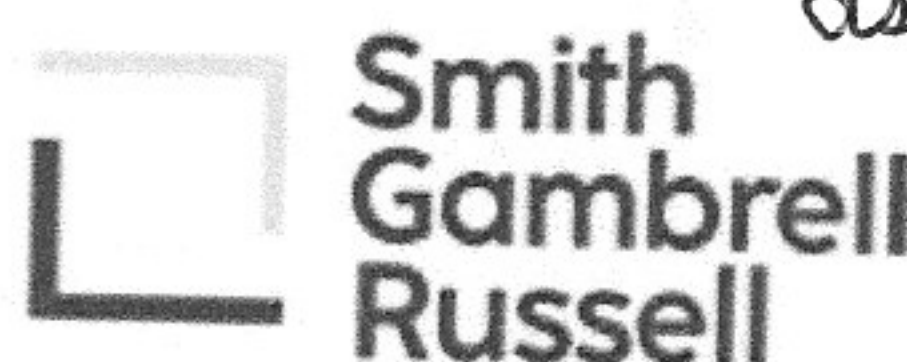
Commissioner Pittman has suggested that I have consulted with Commissioner White regarding the titles to be assigned to Ms. Garcia and Ms. Grant. That is simply not true. I have never spoken with Commissioner White outside of a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners. I responded to his email regarding titles because Ms. Grant has been granted relief under the Family Medical Leave Act. She will be returning next week. It is important that she be returned to the position that she was in at the time of her request for leave. She was Interim Executive Director. She must be returned to that position, at least initially. To avoid confusion, I suggested that Ms. Garcia be referred to as Acting Interim Executive Director. If Ms. Grant is not returned to the position she held when she departed, the Authority will be subject to sanctions by the federal government.

For the record, in the event I was not heard, I expressed my opinion that the appointment of a Resident Commissioner by the Fulton County Board of Commissioners was valid unless or until the Fulton County Board of Commissioners invalidated the appointment.

P. Andrew Patterson, General Counsel
Housing Authority of Fulton County, Georgia

Andrew Patterson
Attorney at Law

p | 404-815-3708
f | 404-685-7008
e | APATTERSON@sgrlaw.com
1105 W. Peachtree St. NE | Suite 1000 | Atlanta, GA 30309
www.sgrlaw.com | My Bio | vCard



Note: Ms Grant was hired to be the Finance Director. When the Executive Director quit, Ms. Grant was asked to be the interim Executive Director without giving up her job as Finance Director.
C.D. Pittman

From: Earnestine D Pittman <edpittman26@bellsouth.net>
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2024 7:20 PM

1, 4, 8, 9

Communication From Sherrika Bellamy to HUD et al.

From: Patterson, P. Andrew (apatterson@sgrlaw.com)

To: antavius@weemsfirm.com; lamar.white1911@gmail.com; Imorrow@hafc.org; bduffy@hafc.org; canzeri@peachtreefg.com; dallen@hafc.org; hjacobs@hafc.org; jharper@hafc.org; edpittman26@bellsouth.net

Cc: tgarcia@hafc.org

Date: Monday, February 19, 2024 at 10:37 AM EST

Good morning,

I am sharing the email below because it appears that all commissioners were not copied. As counsel for the Authority, it is my view all commissioners should be made aware of this communication:

Andrew Patterson
Attorney at Law

p | 404-815-3708
f | 404-685-7008
e | APATTERSON@sgrlaw.com
1105 W. Peachtree St. NE | Suite 1000 | Atlanta, GA 30309
www.sgrlaw.com | My Bio | vCard



From: Sherrika Bellamy <SBellamy@hafc.org>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 11:24 PM
To: Vilardi, Erica L <Erica.L.Vilardi@hud.gov>; Thomas, Latrecia M <Latrecia.M.Thomas@hud.gov>; marzine.Q.Hudson@hud.gov <marzine.Q.Hudson@hud.gov>
Cc: Edpittman26@bellsouth.net <Edpittman26@bellsouth.net>; Tanray Garcia <tgarcia@hafc.org>; James Harper Jr. <jharper@hafc.org>; Barbara Duffy <bduffy@hafc.org>; barbaraaduffy200@yahoo.com <barbaraaduffy200@yahoo.com>
Subject: Urgent/ Staff Harassment/ EEOC Complaints/ Board of Commissioners

HAFC staff are currently having a major issue with the Chair of the Board, (Chair Antavius Weems).

Chair Weems has involved himself in day-to-day operation without the board's knowledge. Chair Weems has been harassing, verbally abusing staff, and causing a hostile work environment. Staff are in fear of their jobs and fear of being in the presence of Chair Weems. The staff requested someone to hear their concerns regarding Ms. Lolita Grant absence, and leadership that was causing a hardship on the agency. Chair Weems came into the office on November 22, 2023, very aggressive, disrespectful, and held all staff hostage until 10:00 pm. During his meeting he told staff that he was the "Big Bad Wolf". He also stated that he would fire all staff and he and the board will do the work. He was yelling aggressively about him having to come down to the agency. He then proceeded to leave the building but instructed all staff that they could not leave the building until he spoke to each staff individual. The last staff left the building after 10:00 pm. He also stated staff could not receive payment for staying late, but Ms. Garcia (Interim E.D.) made sure staff were compensated.

The next day all staff members sat in a staff meeting crying due to the treatment from Chair Weems. Many staff members stated their spouses were upset with how they were treated and wanted to request a meeting with the ED. Due to this aggressive, harassment meeting two staff members resigned from their position.

Chair Weems has taken over the Proposed Informal Hearing Process. He told Ms. Garica (E.D.) and me that we had to fire the qualified hearing office, because he wanted to do it. He came into the office with a deputy police officer, dressed in a court judge's robe, and required all tenants to be sworn in as if they were in court. I informed Chair

4 Weems that these are informal hearings, and we must conduct them as such. Chair Weems aggressively told me this is the format he wants and that is what we are going to do. After Ms. Garcia specifically gave directives to have the hearing office show up to conduct the hearings. Chair Weems contacted the HCV Admn assist instructing her to postpone the hearing regards to our resident time so he can do the hearings after the board meeting. Chair Weems does not have the authority to give directions to staff. During the most recent Board meeting Chair Weems stopped the board meeting and commanded all staff to stop working and come into the meeting to introduce themselves.

1 Chair Weems has demanded the agency to employ Councilwoman Karen Renee of the City East Point (Where he worked as the legal counsel) as a full-time employee. Chair Weems stated he wanted Councilwoman Karen Renee in the building because his personal office was receiving complaints. I have expressed my concern and the uproar her employment has caused among staff. Chair Weems decided her salary, work schedule and job description. During a management staff meeting, Mrs. Lolita Grant told us Councilwomen Karen Renee would be starting that Monday if we liked it or not. We were told she only had to be in the building 3 days a week but could work remotely the other days. Chair Weems on November 22nd told staff nobody can work remote but Councilwoman Karen Renee.

1 As the HCV Manager I have no knowledge of what Councilwoman Karen Renee is working on, due to the fact she is supposed to be working side-by-side with me. There are days she is supposed to be in the office, but she does not come in, but submits full working hour timesheets. Staff found this offensive, because they are required to work a full 40 hours a week in the building. They have expressed unfair treatment on several occasions. Ms. Karen Renee's salary is far above the caseworker, and she only takes complaint calls. Most complaint calls come to me as the HCV Manager first, and I have yet to know what Councilwoman is doing work wise.

While on Facebook I came across a video with Ms. Karen Renee speaking at the City of Jonesboro council meeting. That is when I searched her name and found out she was on the City of East Point board as a council member. It's a violation of HUD CFR 982.161 Conflict of Interest.

8 On February 15, 2024, we held our usual Wednesday meeting. During the meeting and other several meetings, the staff expressed their concerns and harassment of Chair Weems in front of Ms. Garcia and me. We informed them if they had a complaint, they could submit their concern confidentially to Attorney Patterson, because Ms. Garcia has already addressed their concern to Chair Weems, and he dismissed the complaints.

8 The staff letters were placed in a confidential envelope sealed and addressed to Attorney Patterson at 9:30 AM, at the front desk to be handed to him when he arrived for the Board Meeting. During the board meeting Attorney Patterson gave the confidential letter to Chair Weems. After the meeting Chair Weems was walking out of the office with the letters in his hand and made a sarcastic remark to the Vice-Chair Lamar White saying, "you can't say anything to these people", and looked at Ms. Brown and said, "that is one of them". Chair Weems has created such a hostile-work environment that staff stated that they wanted to call off work because he was in the building. Due to him being in day-to-day operation, harassing the staff, and fear of relations I cancelled all informal proposed termination hearings for the safety of staff.

Chair Weems walked around the building yelling so loud that you could hear him throughout the whole building. He is disruptive to the day-to-day operation. He comes to the building without notice making demands.

9 Several previous and present staff members have filed an EEOC complaint. I filed an EEOC complaint along with other staff members on Friday, February 16, 2024, 10:00AM. A few hours later I was forwarded a harassment email from Ms. Garica that was sent from Chair Weems. I decided not to respond, because the allegations are not true, and I know this is the start of his harassment.

Attached you will find anonymous letters from staff, Councilwoman Karen Renee information, and HAFC Board of Commissioners by-law.

I am asking HUD to please investigate as soon as possible for the safety of staff. We must get this situation resolved so this agency can continue to grow. We have made great progress, but Chair Weems is interfering with the day-to-day operations.

I am requesting that my email and attachments be directed as high up the chain of command as possible.

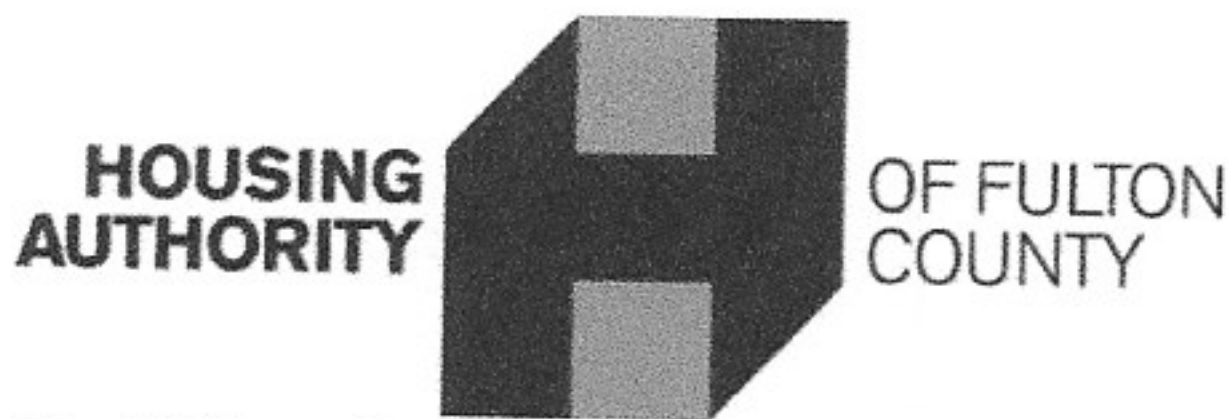
Please Help

Thank you,

Mrs. Sherrika Bellamy
HCV Manager



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