

# ***CIVIL SERVICE BOARD MEETING POST SUMMARY***



***October 1, 2014***

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**Members Present:**            **Larry A. Bartlett, Chairman  
Gbenga Osagie, Member  
J. Mark Trimble, Member  
Troyce Lancaster, Vice-Chair  
Dr. Cephus Jackson, Member**

**Others Present:**            **Human Resources Director Renee Bright and staff; Civil Service Board Attorney Laurel Henderson; County Attorney Michelle Youngblood; Police Department Legal Advisor Kenneth Green; Sheriff's Office Assistant Chief Deputy Shawn Southerland; Chief of Police Gregory Porter; Deputy Chief of Police Gina Hawkins; Deputy Chief Michael Register; District Attorney Tracy Graham Lawson; Attorney Keith Martin; Donna Harris; Sherice Jones; Police Lieutenant James Long; Richard Meehan; various employees from County departments; and other individuals.**

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1. The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m.
  2. The Agenda was adopted with the following amendments: remove item 6 "Consider for approval the Civil Service Board's Advisory Opinion and Recommendation regarding the Satira Walker, Mark Cain, Lynda Cook, Kevin Humphries, Clide Moss, Rodney Lee and India Smith, Sheriff's Office – Involuntary Transfer, grievance hearing held on September 3, 2014", and item 8 "Consider for approval the Civil Service Board's Decision regarding the Cassandra Pitts, Sheriff's Office, demotion appeal hearing held on September 4, 2014" and place on the October 2, 2014, agenda.
  3. The Civil Service Board's Meeting minutes held on September 3, 2014, were approved.
  4. The Civil Service Board's Meeting minutes held on September 4, 2014, were approved.
  5. The Civil Service Board's Executive Session minutes regarding the Satira Walker, Mark Cain, Lynda Cook, Kevin Humphries, Clide Moss, Rodney Lee and India Smith, Sheriff's Office – Involuntary Transfer, grievance hearing held on September 3, 2014, were approved.

6. The Civil Service Board's Executive Session minutes regarding the Cassandra Pitts, Sheriff's Office, demotion appeal hearing held on September 4, 2014, were approved.
7. For the record, the request from Darlene Johnson Riggins, Solicitor General, for annual leave donation was approved on September 10, 2014.
8. For the record, the request from Tamikia Johnson, Tax Commissioner's Office, for annual leave donation was approved on September 23, 2014.
9. The request from Police Chief Gregory Porter to extend the probationary period of Mashaun Montgomery, Police Department, for an additional six months (until April 7, 2015) was approved.
10. The request from District Attorney Tracy Graham Lawson to extend the probationary period of Daniel Nagel, District Attorney's Office, for an additional six months (until May 10, 2015) was approved.
11. Calendar Call.
  - a. **Barry Cauthen, Sheriff's Office** – Termination Appeal continued at the request of Appellant Attorney Thomas Florio due to court conflicts.
  - b. **Sherice Jones, Police Department** – Termination Appeal filed October 24, 2011.
    1. County Attorney Michelle Youngblood, Appellant, Sherice Jones, and her attorney, Keith Martin, were present and ready to proceed.
  - c. **Sonja Sanchez, Sheriff's Office** – Termination Appeal continued at the request of County Attorney Youngblood due to unavailability of a witness.
  - d. **Enrique St. Louis, Sheriff's Office** – Termination Appeal continued at the request of Appellant Attorney Thomas Florio due to court conflicts.
  - e. **Joseph Rushin, Fire/EMS** – Termination Appeal filed October 1, 2012.
    1. County Attorney Youngblood was present and ready to proceed.
    2. Appellant, Joseph Rushin, was not in attendance.
    3. The Board agreed to contact Mr. Rushin and advise his appeal would be heard October 2, 2014, or it would be dismissed.
    4. County Attorney Youngblood advised the Board that Fire Chief Landry Merkison wanted to start the appeal hearing at 9:00 a.m., on October 2, 2014.
  - f. **Donna P. Harris, Sheriff's Office** – One-day suspension appeal filed October 19, 2012, and two-day suspension appeal filed December 20, 2012.
    1. County Attorney Youngblood and Appellant, Donna Harris, were present and ready to proceed.

2. The Board agreed to hear each appeal separately.
  3. The Board released all parties until 9:00 a.m. on October 2, 2014.
- g. **James S. Long, Police Department** – Three-day suspension appeal filed March 29, 2013.
1. County Attorney Youngblood was present and ready to proceed.
  2. Appellant, James Long, was present and Attorney Keith Martin stated he was just retained and requested a continuance.
  3. The County objected to the continuance request.
  4. The Board granted the continuance.
12. **Appeal** – Considered appeal filed on October 24, 2011, by Sherice Jones, Police Department, with regards to: Termination.
- a. The Board heard the appeal and voted unanimously to overturn the department’s decision to terminate Ms. Sherice Jones.
13. **Appeal** – Considered appeal filed on October 19, 2012, by Donna P. Harris, Sheriff’s Office, with regards to: I was suspended for one day for violations 7.13 neglect of duty and 7.16 requirement that employees complete all tasks to them as assigned.
- a. The Board heard the appeal and voted unanimously that the decision of the Sheriff’s Office to suspend Ms. Donna Harris for one day be upheld.
14. Discussion item.
- a. Selection of second meeting dates for November and December 2014.
    - i. The Board voted to meet only once in November and December. The Regular Meeting dates are as follows: Wednesday, November 5, 2014 and Wednesday, December 3, 2014.
  - b. Technology Upgrade for the Board.
    - i. Human Resources Director discussed possible changes and/or upgrades.
15. Other business.
- a. There was no other business.
16. The meeting was adjourned.