

CITY OF COHOES

Charles Valenti, Chairperson
David Emanatian, Member
Deborah Gilchrist, Member
Melody Nadeau, Alternate



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BOARD OF ETHICS

DECISION: COMPLAINT NO. 23-4

BACKGROUND

PRIOR TO THE JUNE 26,, 2023 MEETING OF THE COHOES BOARD OF ETHICS (THE “BOARD”) COMPLAINT No. 23-4 WAS RECEIVED AND DISSEMINATED TO ITS MEMBERS. THE BOARD REVIEWED THE COMPLAINT AND INVITED THE COMPLAINANT TO APPEAR AT THE JUNE 26, 2023 MEETING. THE COMPLAINANT WAS GIVEN ALL THE TIME NEEDED TO PRESENT DOCUMENTATION AND EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF THE COMPLAIN AT THE JUNE 26, 2023 MEETING.

ALLEGATION

THE COMPLAINANT ALLEGED THAT FIRE CHIEF JOSEPH FAHD SENT LETTERS CONCERNING THE AMBULANCE SERVICE IN THE CITY OF COHOES ONLY TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE 4TH, 5TH, AND 6TH WARDS AND NOT TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE 1ST, 2ND, AND 3RD WARDS IN VIOLATION OF SECTION 36-4 OF THE CODE OF ETHICS OF THE CITY OF COHOES. WHICH PROHIBITS A MUNICIPAL OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE FROM USING HIS OR HER MUNICIPAL POSITION OR OFFICIAL POWERS TO SECURE A FINANCIAL OR MATERIAL BENEFIT FOR HIMSELF OR HERSELF.

DISCUSSION

THE BOARD CONSIDERED THE DOCUMENTATION AND TESTIMONY PRESENTED BY THE COMPLAINANT, AS WELL AS THE RESULTS OF AN INVESTIGATION OF THE MATTER BY THE BOARD.

CONCLUSION

AFTER CONSIDERING THE DOCUMENTATION AND TESTIMONY PRESENTED BY THE COMPLAINANT, AS WELL AS THE RESULTS OF AN INVESTIGATION BY THE BOARD, THE BOARD DECIDED TO DISMISS THE COMPLAINT AS UNFOUNDED SINCE FIRE CHIEF JOSEPH FAHD DID NOT USE HIS MUNICIPAL POSITION TO SECURE A FINANCIAL OR MATERIAL BENEFIT FOR HIMSELF IN VIOLATION OF SECTION 36-4 OF THE CODE OF ETHICS OF THE CITY OF COHOES. CONCERNING THE AMBULANCE SERVICE IN THE CITY OF COHOES. THIS DECISION SHALL CONSTITUTE THE FINAL DETERMINATION BY THE BOARD.

CONCUR

CHARLES VALENTI, CHAIRPERSON
DEBORAH GILCHRIST, MEMBER
MELODY NADEAU, ALTERNATE MEMBER

EXCUSED

DAVID EMANATIAN

JULY 31, 2023