

October 17, 2011

Director Sweat,

I am writing this letter to explain the events which took place on the night of August 6, 2011. I had been communicating on and off throughout the night with Rich. We had been discussing our past relationship and the friendship we had. I had been contemplating leaving the Volusia County Beach Patrol in order to seek employment in a different law enforcement agency for a few weeks. My stress level on the night of August 6th was very high and I had asked Rich to come over to my house so that we could talk in person about our feelings. Rich initially declined to come over to talk to me. As we spoke on the phone I became increasingly upset and decided I didn't think I wanted to work for the Beach Patrol any longer. I asked Rich to come over and take my duty gun because I no longer felt I needed it. Rich came over around 1:00am and took my duty gun as well as my personal weapon. I gave Rich my personal weapon because at the time I felt as though I couldn't carry it if I wasn't working for a law enforcement agency. At no time that night or ever before or since then have I desired to harm myself in any fashion. When I awoke on the morning of August 7th, I felt foolish for what I had done the night before and also that I wished to continue my employment with the Volusia County Beach Patrol. I contacted Rich and via text message and explained my change in feelings, we agreed to meet up so that he could return my weapons to me. I subsequently met with Rich around mid-morning and retrieved my weapons from him. There was no further discussion as to my employment status or desire to resign and there are none currently. If there are any further questions regarding this matter or clarifications which need to be made, I may be contacted on my cellphone at

Respectfully,



Cara L. Gittner