

## New Smyrna Beach Police Department INTER-DEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM

To:

Carol Hargy, HR Director

From:

Cayla G. Bartolucci, Code Enforcement Administrative Specialist II

Date:

4/8/2019

Memo#:

PD-0125

Subject:

Bartolucci Official HR Complaint Regarding Harrassment & Defamation

Cc: Memo Archive (dbolinsky)

Dear Ms. Hargy,

For the past three months, I have been consistently bullied and publicly slandered by an individual in our community for performing my role here at the City of New Smyrna Beach and the situation is affecting me both professionally and personally.

It all began when I blocked a verbally abusive user named Cristina March from the Police Department's Twitter page for 2-3 hours after she consistently tagged the PD account with foul and inappropriate language in tweets about an ongoing issue I was not aware of at the time (a fence on Buck Lane).

In the moment, I honestly thought I had opted to mute her notifications (removing them only from our notifications feed) but I was quickly made aware by Ms. March that I had indeed blocked her. When I became aware she was blocked, I immediately unblocked her and notified my direct supervisor, Sergeant Robert Claudio, of the incident. I was informed that Ms. March was "always like that" and she was to be ignored.

From that day on, January 3, 2019, Ms. March has relentlessly and vulgarly attacked my character, my credibility, my morality, my physical appearance, my ethics, my professionalism, my intelligence and, as the evidence supplied with this statement clearly indicates, pretty much any sort of information she could find on me, she shared and twisted into false statements to slander me with—including things like images of me, the university where I obtained my Bachelor's degree, my home state, my professional experience, etc.

In addition to the screenshot evidence included, I am also providing a statement I made three weeks into the situation, on January 25, 2019, as it was my initial statement I provided to

my superiors regarding my feelings after a particularly alarming statement of Ms. March stating she was looking for me at a recent community event.

All in all, this has been a very difficult situation and to sum it up quite simply, it has made me feel unsafe in my community, unsafe and threatened in my professional career and personally distressed and anxious in my day to day life. I find the entire ordeal to be emotionally upsetting and exhausting as well as professionally distracting.

In summary, I would like this situation to end. I am not sure what avenues or rights I have as a government employee but what is happening to me as a private citizen is wrong, unjust and has to stop. I am only six months into what I hope to be a long and healthy career with the City of New Smyrna Beach. I want to continue the work I have been given the opportunity to do and I would like to do so knowing that I am safe from personal attacks and libel.

I believe this situation is to a point where I really need the guidance and support of someone with your experience and knowledge and I thank you in advance for your time and attention to this issue. It is something I take very seriously and look forward to learning what options there are in regards to finding a resolution.

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Best.

Cayla G. Bartolucci