



CITY OF WARWICK
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
3275 POST ROAD
WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND 02886
TEL. (401) 738-2000, ext. 6221
FAX (401) 732-7640
T.D.D. 739-9150

SCOTT AVEDISIAN
MAYOR

JUDY WILD
CITY CLERK

March 22, 2016

Robert Cote
Captiana1@aol.com

Dear Mr. Cote:

Thank you for your public records request of March 15, 2016.

This letter will complete this request.

Response complied by: James G. McLaughlin, Fire Chief

Record(s) Requested:

1. "In response to the attached letter sent to me, please forward as public records, the review and recommendations that were to be completed as stated by then Chief Armstrong in the attached letter sent to me, pertaining to the apparatus being used for shopping."

Response: Documentation attached.

In accordance with RIGL 38-2-8, you may wish to appeal this decision to Mayor Scott Avedisian (3275 Post Road, Warwick, RI 02886). You may also wish to file a complaint with the Department of the Attorney General (150 South Main Street, Providence, RI 02903) or the Rhode Island Superior Court of the county where the record(s) are maintained. It is also my understanding that additional information concerning the Access to Public Records Act may be available through the Attorney General's website at www.riag.ri.gov.

Thank you for your interest in keeping government open and accountable to the public.

Sincerely,

/s/ Judy Wild
Judy Wild
Warwick City Clerk

James G. McLaughlin
Chief



Headquarters
(401)-468-4049
Fax # 468-4001

111 Veterans Memorial Drive.
Warwick, R.I.
02886

March 21, 2016

Mr. Robert Cote
74 Janet Drive
Warwick, RI 02886

Dear Mr. Cote:

In response to your request the Department has a shopping policy in place that has been adopted by the Board of Public Safety on January 12, 2016

Attached is a copy for your review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. G. McLaughlin".

James G. McLaughlin
Chief of Department

1. The Warwick Board of Public Safety recognizes that the nature of the fire service places unordinary working conditions on fire personnel; these include but are not limited to:

- work schedule
- inability of workers to take work breaks
- maintaining fire crew integrity at all times (safety)
- the inability to have a normal eating and working conditions due to EMS and Fire calls
- extended and consecutive working shifts

2. The Board of Public Safety also recognizes that the routine visits to grocery stores, pharmacies, and other businesses:

- Are required to maintain suitable and safe working conditions for the reasons listed above.
- Aids in the familiarization of department personnel with the layouts and operations of local businesses.
- Adds valuable income/revenue to area businesses when fire personnel expend money in the city.

3. IAFF Local 2748 recognizes that:

- The use of fire department vehicles for special visits to grocery stores, pharmacies, and other businesses shall be limited to necessities and should be scheduled together.
- It is important to conserve city resources by not abusing this right/privilege.
- It is important for crews to remain in their geographic district.
- It is important for public safety and perception that multiple apparatus not be using this right/privilege at the same location at the same time.

In recognition of the above, the Board of Public Safety sets the following policies::

1. The use of fire apparatus to go to grocery stores, pharmacies, and other businesses shall be allowed.
2. Fire Crew integrity shall be maintained at all times.
3. The Company commander shall have the authority to determine when such trips are appropriate and needed.
4. The use of businesses in the geographic district of the apparatus shall be used.
5. The use of vehicles for out of district trips shall require the prior approval of the Battalion Chief.

6. Whenever possible, the use of vehicles for such trips shall be scheduled so as multiple tasks are completed at the same time, and in conjunction with official department trips (i.e. trips to headquarters, when returning from fire/EMS calls).

7. Food or beverages purchased at restaurants or coffee shops shall be consumed after departure from the restaurant. At no time should personnel sit at a table, or loiter in the parking lot to consume food or beverages.

8. Multiple Fire Apparatus shall not visit the same location at the same time for such trips.

9. Fire Apparatus shall not be parked in a manner that blocks or obstructs the front entrance of the business, private vehicle access to the business' parking lot, or handicapped parking.

10. Apparatus shall be parked in a position (front end out) to allow for immediate exit from the business' parking lot, in the event an emergency call is received while at the business.

11. Class B uniforms must be worn into all businesses.

12. Fire Personnel entering a business shall each have a portable radio with them and turned on in anticipation of being dispatched to an emergency.

13. One member will remain with the vehicle at all times.

14. The enforcement of this policy and any related disciplinary action shall be done by the Chief and/or administration of the Warwick Fire Department in accordance with Warwick Fire Department policies and guidelines.

WILD JUDY

From: captiana1@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 1:09 PM
To: WILD JUDY; Bristow Karen
Subject: Fwd: Response
Attachments: 20151202123346466.pdf

Dear Judy,

In response to the attached letter sent to me, please forward as public records, the review and recommendations that were to be completed as stated by then Chief Armstrong in the attached letter sent to me, pertaining to the apparatus being used for shopping. This email shall serve as a request for public records.

Thank you

Rob Cote

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

From: Bristow Karen <karen.bristow@warwickri.com>
To: 'captiana1@aol.com' <captiana1@aol.com>
Sent: Wed, Dec 2, 2015 12:42 pm
Subject: Response

Edmund B. Armstrong
Chief



Headquarters
(401)-468-4044
Fax # 468-4001

111 Veterans Memorial Drive.
Warwick, R.I.
02886

December 2, 2015

Mr. Robert Cote
74 Janet Drive
Warwick, RI 02886

Dear Mr. Cote:

Mayor Avedisian has forwarded to me the numerous text messages and emails that you have sent him since last Friday concerning the Warwick Fire Department. I am in the process of reviewing many of the policies and procedures of the Department. Upon reviewing policies and procedures of other departments in this state, I will make recommendations to the Board of Public Safety for any changes I think are appropriate. I do not anticipate that my review will be complete for several weeks.

Thank you again for your interest in the Warwick Fire Department.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edmund B. Armstrong".

Edmund B. Armstrong
Chief of Department

EBA:kb