



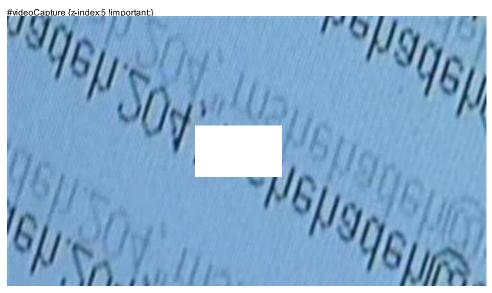


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Judge Denies Motion to Dismiss Homestead 'Racy Texts' Lawsuit

Judge denied City of Homestead's motion to dismiss violation of privacy suit

By Brian Hamacher | Thursday, Oct 13, 2011 | Updated 11:58 AM EDT



Parks Director Robert Landen has been suspended for sending sexually explicit and racially offensive text messages on government-owned Blackberrys on city time, sources said.

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A judge denied a motion by the City of Homestead Thursday to dismiss a case by a former city official who claims her privacy was violated after some racy text messages were released.

PHOTOS AND VIDEOS

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Miami-Dade Circuit Court Judge Lester Langer denied the motion to dismiss the case brought by former Deputy City Manager Johanna Faddis.

Faddis filed the lawsuit against the City of Homestead and its six council members last month. She claims the city and council violated her privacy when they released copies of private emails and text messages that included alleged untoward and unwanted sexual advances from former City Manager Mike Shehadeh.

The text messages, sent on city time and on city Blackberrys, included this one from Sept. 9, 2009, from Shehadeh to Faddis:

"I have a problem!! I can not entertain another woman in my mind beside you. I'm deeply in

love with you girl. I'm getting deeper and deeper

into it!"

Shehadeh was fired in February 2010 for "conduct unbecoming a public official."

Faddis' lawsuit claims the release of the communications "caused her outrage, mental suffering, shame, and/or humiliation as she is a person of ordinary sensibilities."

Another hearing in the case was set for next month.

Find this article at: http://www.nbcmiami.com/news/local/City-of-Homestead-Seeking-to-Dismiss--131782958.html

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