

February 12, 2016

Dear Mr. Barwin:

This writing will confirm our agreement to mutually terminate my contract of employment with the City of Sarasota, effective Monday, February 29, 2016.

I would like to thank you for the opportunity, albeit brief, to serve this city and to attempt to better the lives of the unfortunate, unsheltered, chronically homeless on our streets. I have thoroughly enjoyed working for you and collaborating with all the fine civic servants you have assembled as your team. The members of the municipal Police Department with whom I interfaced are devoted guardians of our safety and sensitive first-responders with the unsheltered population. I thank your entire staff for welcoming and accepting me.

I want to thank the members of the Commission for their support and guidance through these past few months. They embraced me personally, encouraged my initiatives and, I believe, they have served their constituents ably.

I am obliged to recognize two individuals, by name, for the assistance, friendship and comradery they provided me during my tenure. Mr. Don Hadsell of OHCD and Mr. Wayne Applebee of Sarasota County went out of their way to educate me and include me in their collaboration. Both are exemplars in leading the way for improvement of the lot in life of the local citizenry and I am proud to count them as friends.

As early as October 2015 we recognized that the ultimate local solution for homelessness would need to be fashioned by a non-governmental entity with a targeted focus on Housing First. We made our assessment known to the Commission and to the public. Government has a role to play as a convener and funder but the implementation needs to be performed by an institution free of the current restraints and bounds of government. I proceeded to encourage the formation of a private institution, offering advice and counsel to philanthropists and potential board members.

Recently we were advised that we could not play either an active or a passive role in this genesis. This has left some of my prior actions subject to a degree of scrutiny and challenge. It seems astounding to me that the philanthropic activities of those contributing to rowing, entertainment, or public safety in public facilities can be protected from the prying eyes of voyeurs and bounty hunters while those desiring to improve the lot of the homeless are forced into adversarial challenge.

We both have come to the conclusion that current legal interpretations have compromised my ability to lead this initiative proactively, from within a governmental position, and effectively. Therefore, I shall return to the private sector on February 29, 2016.

It has been an honor to serve you and I wish you, and the City of Sarasota, good fortune in the days ahead.

Sincerely,

Douglas Logan