



Sunrise Lodge No. 80

P.O. Box 450086, Sunrise, FL. 33345

January 17, 2022

City Manager and Elected Officials,

The City of Sunrise Fraternal Order of Police has had enough of Chief of Police Anthony W. Rosa's unprofessional behavior as it relates to an open, active and confidential Internal Affairs Investigation. FOP Lodge 80 is aware of an incident resulting in a Police Sergeant's temporary reassignment to Administrative Duty. We support the Sergeant receiving a fair investigative process and await an unbiased and objective conclusion. However, we do not support Chief Rosa's bias, prejudicial and unprofessional behavior. Chief Rosa should not be opining as to his personal feelings or assisting in publicly ridiculing the Sergeant to the community or his subordinates. Most importantly, Chief Rosa should not be making provably false public statements to the media. Chief Rosa has clearly already made up his mind as to the outcome of the investigation before the investigation has even been thoroughly completed and before the Sergeant has even been able to provide his side of the story. Chief Rosa's conduct was unprofessional and unbecoming and embarrassing to our professional law enforcement agency. Furthermore, his actions/statements are in clear violation of the Sergeant's procedural and substantive due process rights and his own departmental policy and procedures.

The FOP Lodge 80 demands Chief Rosa immediately recuse himself from the Internal Affairs investigation against the Sergeant and if necessary, any disciplinary decision making thereafter. It is apparent that he has prematurely arrived at a conclusion without attaining all the facts. Furthermore, Chief Rosa should be investigated under Departmental Policy and Procedure Chapter 33, section 33.6.5.3. *"Employees who are participants in an internal investigation, the subject of the investigation, the investigator conducting the investigation, or a witnesses in the investigation, are prohibited from willfully disclosing any information obtained pursuant to the agency's investigation, including but not limited to the identity of the employee under investigation, the nature of the questions asked, information revealed, or documents furnished in connection with a confidential internal investigation, before such complaint document, action or proceeding becomes a public record."*

If Chief A. Rosa holds his employees accountable for their conduct in accordance with department policy and procedures, he should be held to the very same standards.



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To substantiate the FOP's concerns aforementioned, here are the undisputed facts:

November 19, 2021, Police Sergeant's alleged misconduct occurred.

November 24, 2021, the Police Sergeant was placed on Administrative Duty.

November 26, 2021, Police Command Staff attended patrol briefing to discuss the incident.

November 29, 2021, Police Chief A. Rosa (knowing the Internal Affairs Investigation has just begun and not even close to completion) personally attended 5 of the 12 patrol briefings to talk about the incident. Chief A. Rosa told officers he opened an Internal Affairs investigation after witnessing the incident through body worn cameras. He also stated to other officers that he is the complainant on the investigation. During the briefing, he released details about what happened in the patrol vehicle and what occurred outside the vehicle with the two employees. He told his supervisors and his officers in open briefing that the Police Sergeant was wrong.

December 15, 2021, WSVN 7 requested an exclusive interview with Chief A. Rosa.

January 13, 2022, WSVN 7 released the exclusive interview and body worn camera footage of the investigation. Chief Rosa redacted the faces of all officers except the Sergeant under investigation.

Chief Rosa provided a knowingly false public statement to WSVN 7 in reference to the alleged training provided to his police employees as it relates to their "duty to intervene". Chief Rosa is quoted by WSVN as saying: *"This officer intervening and stopping a situation from getting any worse **is a direct reflection of the training that we (Sunrise Police Department) do do at the police department**, and I think that it's important to note that the behavior is very unacceptable by the sergeant, but the behavior of the officer that intervened is exactly what society's asking their police officers to do right now."* There have been no training classes as it relates to verbal de-escalation nor on their duty to intervene because the Sunrise Police Department has not provided this type of training to its road patrol officers. Sunrise Police revised their Code of Conduct policy recently on May 18, 2021, without providing any valuable and important follow-up training. Chief Rosa's public statements were simply not true.

FOP Lodge 80 is the representative for our Police Officers and Sergeants. FOP Lodge #80 represents 81% of the sworn Sunrise Police Personnel. We are extremely displeased with Chief Rosa's unprofessional conduct during this investigation and we as an organization will not sit idle and allow it to go unaddressed or continue. We simply demand all our members receive a fair and impartial investigation without bias or personal prejudice as obviously displayed by Chief Rosa.

Respectfully,

Steve Negron

Steven Negron
FOP Lodge 80 President



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