



FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

FORT LAUDERDALE LODGE #31

January 2, 2019

Ms. Jessica Lipscomb
Staff Writer, Miami New Times

Dear Ms. Lipscomb:

On behalf of the Ft. Lauderdale Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #31 ("FOP"), thank you for your interest in this matter. We are disappointed that Mr. Jacques has chosen to repudiate all of the very good deeds, generous and genuine acts, and extraordinary support extended to him by our fraternal organization and membership these many years. The FOP and our membership went above and beyond for Mr. Jacques' and his family, and I personally find it reprehensible that he would now resort to baseless and utterly false racial allegations against the organization that so vigorously supported and defended him. As I am sure you are aware, the FOP does its best to stand behind its members in their time of need, however, the circumstances related to Mr. Jacques' termination from the Fort Lauderdale police department were virtually impossible to defend.

As President of the FOP, I know personally, and with absolute certainty, that Mr. Jacques could never look himself seriously in the mirror, let alone straight-faced in the eyes of myself or any other brother or sister of our great organization, and truly believe even a mere fraction of the false allegations contained in his suit. To knowingly cast such ill-founded aspersions anyhow at this juncture seems to be yet another example of the disingenuous actions of Mr. Jacques. Further, Mr. Jacques appears to have a pattern of dishonesty and misconduct which was also recognized by the City of Fort Lauderdale through its internal investigation of Mr. Jacques by way of the case evidence, which included his own sworn testimony. Sadly, the facts contained within the investigation are what caused Mr. Jacques to be terminated from his employment, not the color of his skin.

That said, the desire of Mr. Jacques to blame his termination by the City as a race-based issue involving the FOP, rather than accept personal responsibility for his own sustained misconduct is hard to fathom. We look forward to defending our actions in a court of law, and we are confident the truth will assuredly vindicate our organization from this disgusting and baseless suit. Mr. Jacques can rest assured the FOP fully intends to vigorously defend itself against his frivolous allegations, and to vigilantly pursue any and all legal remedies available to ensure our complete remuneration therein.

Sincerely,

Mike Tucker, President