Fire District Personnel Officer Terminated

Terminated for violating district policies, including using district credit card

By Meghan McCoy
The News

The Apache Junction Fire District (AJFD) terminated former personnel officer Barbara Hernandez-Chamberlain on July 25, 2008, after becoming aware of her violating multiple district policies.

Hernandez-Chamberlain began working in the AJFD in 1987 and became the personnel officer in 1995. She was placed on administrative leave in June 2008 after new Fire Chief Dan Campbell became aware of potential violations of district policies.

Barbara Hernandez-Chamberlain

A press release from the AJFD stated that "following an extensive report by an independent external investigator, which confirmed violations of district policy, including using a district charge card for non-district related expenses, Ms. Hernandez-Chamberlain's employment was terminated of July 25, 2008."

Following the termination of her employment, she appealed that termination to a state hearing officer. The AJFD has completed the first day of what turned into a two-day hearing, stated the press release.

According to district policies, Hernandez-Chamberlain is entitled to an appeal at the Arizona Office of Administrative Hearings where her appeal is presented to an administrative law judge, who is assigned by that state agency.

The second day of the hearing has not yet been set and after she completes the presentation of her appeal, the administrative law judge has 20 days to issue his ruling.

2 Rescued from Superstitions

By Christina Fuoco-Karasinski
The News

A 72-year-old Gold Canyon man and his nephew were rescued from the Superstition Wilderness Thursday, September 25, after losing their way during a 13-mile hike from the Peralta Trailhead.

Superstition Search and Rescue members Richard Carpenter and Bruce Horkin located Guenter Cohn and Mathew Cohn, who began their hike at 8 a.m. Wednesday, September 24, on the trail west of Weavers Needle. The two were out of water, lost, dehydrated and exhausted, said Robert Cooper of Superstition Search and Rescue.

After hydrating and assessing their condition, Superstition Search and Rescue called for an air extract because the Cohns were "very weak and still five miles from completing their journey," Cooper said.

"What they did right was they informed family of their plan and, once lost, stayed and slept on the trail," Cooper said.

"What they did wrong was not being prepared for the extended stay. Even the best plans can go bad. They had no light source or fire-making goods. The helicopter could have found them right away in the night if they had."

According to Cooper, the Cohns had a map, GPS, a knife and 10 liters of water before starting the hike.

"With the cool mornings and afternoon hot temps they quickly ran out of water. Once they were out of water, Guenter began eating the prickly pear fruit but couldn't get Mathew to."

Maricopa Search and Rescue also aided in the search and rescue.

The Superstition Wilderness has approximately 50 trails with many intersections and is 242 square miles.

Wilderness Hiking Tips

Make a plan and tell someone.
Never hike alone
Water— a gallon a day
Map of area
Compass or GPS
Matches/fire starter
Extra food
Extra clothing
Flashlight
Knife/Multi-tool
First Aid Kit
Signaling device
Body protection items
Survival items.

HOMETOWN HEROES

Andrew D. Baker, a 2008 graduate of Apache Junction High School, graduated from Air Force Basic Military Training at Lackland AFB on September 19, 2008.

Andrew is the son of Linda Baker of Apache Junction and because of his four years of service in the NJROTC program at the high school, Andrew graduated as an Airman 1st Class.

He is now stationed at Sheppard AFB in Texas to begin his training as an aeronautical crew chief.

Obituaries

Barry F. Delphia

Barry F. Delphia, 46, of Apache Junction, passed away on Thursday, September 11, 2008. Mr. Delphia, an electrician, was born in Burlington, VT. He is survived by his fiancee Stacy; daughter Caitlen; father Fredrick; sister Brenda; brother Brice. Arrangements were entrusted to Apache Junction Mortuary.

Emma Sue Martin

Emma Sue Martin, 75, of Apache Junction passed away on Friday, September 19, 2008, in Mesa. Mrs. Martin, a waitress, was born in Chickasha, OK. She is survived by her husband Nathan. Arrangements were entrusted to Apache Junction Mortuary.

Maxine L. Parker

Maxine L. Parker, 77, of Apache Junction passed away on Saturday, September 20, 2008, in Mesa. Mrs. Parker, a mobile home park manager, was born in Ely, MN. Arrangements were entrusted to Apache Junction Mortuary.

Pamela Dawn Severson

Pamela Dawn Severson, 57, of Apache Junction passed away on Friday, September 19, 2008, in Mesa. Ms. Severson, a speech pathologist for 33 years, was born in Moorhead, MN. She is survived by her parents Kenneth and Beverly Severson; sister Debra; brothers Steven and Mark. She was preceded in death by her grandparents Godeo and Grace Quam and Knute and Mary Severson. Funeral Services will be held in Iowa at a later date. Arrangements were entrusted to Apache Junction Mortuary.

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Layaways Welcome
480.982.0300

Police Record

The Apache Junction Police Department

Chief of Police, Jerald Monahan

September 17 - September 22, 2008

Arrests

September 17 - Justin M. Taylor, 34, of the 11400 block of East Caballero Street, Mesa, Donnell C. Perkins, 26, of the 4300 block of Mountain View, Snowflake, and Rowdy L. Simcox, 36, of the 2000 block of South Coconino Drive, were arrested for burglary, possession of burglary tools, criminal damage and theft.

September 17 - Cesar I. Hernandez, 20, of the 600 block of South Stardust Lane, was arrested for aggravated assault and disorderly conduct.

September 18 - Charles D. Johnson, 45, of the 1900 block of North Main Drive, was cited and released for dogs running at large.

September 20 - Justin A. Williamson, 18, of the 1800 block of South Moreno Drive, was arrested for assault/domestic violence and criminal damage.

September 21 - Douglas J. Harper, 47, of the 1400 block of North Gold Drive, was arrested for possession of dangerous drugs and possession of drug paraphernalia.

September 20 - David A. Duarte, 26, of the 200 block of North Valley Drive, was arrested for aggravated harassment.

September 21 - Kevin R. Hall, 23, of the 11300 block of East Broadway Road, Mesa, was arrested for aggravated assault, armed robbery and threatening and intimidating.

September 21 - Mahaley E. Jones, 72 of the 41300 block of North Rattlesnake Road, Queen Creek, was arrested for DUI and DUI w/ bac of .08 or above.

September 22 - Lincoln R. Schroeder, 28, of the 2500 block of West Orangewood Avenue, Phoenix, was arrested for criminal trespass.

September 22 - Justin B. Tulo, 25, of the 1100 block of West Second Avenue, was arrested for criminal trespass and disorderly conduct.

Incident

September 17 - Reported a nonresidential burglary in the 500 block of West Apache Trail. Miscellaneous merchandise was stolen.

September 17 - Reported criminal damage in the 500 block of West Apache Trail. Two front door glass partitions were smashed.

September 17 - Reported criminal damage to a motor home in the 1000 block of South Warner Drive.

September 18 - Reported theft from a motor vehicle in the 3300 block of South Conestoga Road. An HD TV receiver from stolen from a motor vehicle. The passenger side window was smashed to gain entry into the vehicle.

September 19 - Reported criminal damage to a motor vehicle in the 1700 block of South Warner Drive.

September 22 - Reported arson, criminal damage and criminal trespass in the 2000 block of West Southern Avenue.

September 22 - Reported criminal damage to a motor vehicle in the 1100 block of East Pima Avenue.

Sheriff's Record

The Pinal County Sheriff's Department

Sheriff Chris Vasquez, Pinal County Sheriff

Arrests

September 20 - Jess John Anaya, 53, of Gold Canyon, was arrested for fighting, disruptive behavior, criminal damage.

September 22 - Diane M. Cianci, 50, of AJ, was arrested for probation violation.

September 24 - Colette Renee Lofgren, 44, of Queen Valley, was arrested for disorderly conduct.

September 26 - Denise Downs, 28, of AJ, was arrested for theft of means of transportation.

September 25 - Kimberly Anne Switzer, 24, of AJ, was arrested for burglary 2nd degree, Unlawful means of transportation.

City Court

Apache Junction City Magistrate Court

300 E. Superstition Blvd.

Judge David Alexander, Presiding

September 23 - Jamie Kirkpatrick, 35, of AJ, guilty of possession of drug paraphernalia. Sentenced to 36 months unsupervised probation, 60 days jail suspended, complete Lifeskills substance abuse program, $209 fine.

September 23 - Joshua Bray, 22, of AJ, guilty of giving false information. Sentenced to 40 days jail to run concurrent with existing incarceration.

September 23 - Rebecca Kindred, 52, of AJ, guilty of disorderly conduct. Sentenced to 36 months unsupervised probation, $109, probation can be terminated in 12 months if all terms are met.

September 23 - Misti Anderson, 22, of AJ, guilty of disorderly conduct. Sentenced to 36 months unsupervised probation, complete 12-week anger management program, $209, probation can be terminated when all terms are met.

September 23 - Shawn McGann, 18, of AJ, guilty of underage alcohol consumption. Sentenced to 24 months unsupervised probation, complete Lifeskills program, $109 fine, probation can be terminated when all terms are met.

September 23 - Jack Ramsey, 29, of AJ, guilty of failure to appear. Sentenced to 36 months unsupervised probation, $301 fine.

September 23 - Christopher Skipper, 29, of Queen Creek, guilty of littering. Sentenced to 12 months unsupervised probation, $109 fine, probation can be terminated when all terms are met.

September 24 - Jessie Highberg, 28, of AJ, guilty of DUI. Sentenced to 36 months unsupervised probation, 10 days jail. 9 days suspended upon completion of alcohol screening, any recommended counseling, MADD impact panel, $1,485 fine.

September 24 - Christopher Conti, 38, of Florence, guilty of disorderly conduct. Sentenced to 36 months unsupervised probation, $393 fine.

September 24 - RaeAnn Bell, 24, of Mesa, guilty of theft. Sentenced to 36 months unsupervised probation, 15 days jail suspended, $393 fine.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PINAL COUNTY AIR QUALITY CONTROL DISTRICT

The District hereby gives notice that it proposes to approve the following permit(s) or permit revision(s). Each list includes the following, in order: the proposed permit number, company name, company address, facility location, facility type and the air contaminants to be emitted or potentially emitted. (Volatile Organic Compounds will be abbreviated as V.O.C.; Hazardous Air Pollutants are abbreviated as the HAPS; Benzene, Toluene, Ethyl Benzene, and Xylene are abbreviated as BTEX):

Permit No. S10088.000
Foothill Care Center, LLC
2012 W. Southern Ave.
Apache Junction, AZ 85220
Apache Junction Health Care Center
2012 W. Southern Ave.
Apache Junction, AZ
Facility Type - Nursing and Rehabilitation Facility
Emissions - Nitrogen Oxides, Carbon Monoxide, Sulfur Oxides, Particulate Matter

Permit No. S10090.000
Golden Vista RV Resort
3710 S. Goldfield Rd.
Apache Junction, AZ 85219
Golden Vista RV Resort
3710 S. Goldfield Rd.
Apache Junction, AZ
Facility Type - RV Resort
Emissions - Nitrogen Oxides, Carbon Monoxide, Sulfur Oxides, Particulate Matter

Permit No. S10089.000
MHC Golden Sun, LLC
999 W. Broadway Rd.
Apache Junction, AZ 85220
MHC Golden Sun
999 W. Broadway Rd.
Apache Junction, AZ
Facility Type - RV Resort
Emissions - Nitrogen Oxides, Carbon Monoxide, Sulfur Oxides, Particulate Matter

Permit No. S16036.000
Salt River Project Agricultural Improvement & Power District
P.O. Box 52025, PAB 352
Phoenix, AZ 85072-2025
Pinal Customer Center
3735 E. Combs Rd.
Queen Creek, AZ
Facility Type - Call Center
Emissions - Nitrogen Oxides, Carbon Monoxide, Sulfur Oxides, Particulate Matter

Under A.R.S. § 49-480, any person who may be adversely affected by the permit may file a written objection to the issuance of the permit and may request (in writing) a public hearing. Objections, comments or a request for a hearing are due during the public comment period, which ends upon the latter of thirty (30) days from the first publication of this notice, or close of business on the date of any hearing that may be held. Send objections/comments/requests to Pinal County Air Quality Control District, P.O. Box 987, Florence, AZ 85232 or deliver to 31 N. Pinal Street, Building F, Development Services, Florence, Arizona. The telephone number is (520) 866-6929.

Any objection shall state the name and mailing address of the objector, be signed by the objector, their agent or attorney, and clearly set forth the reasons why the permit should not be issued. Grounds for objections are limited to whether the proposed permit meets the criteria for issuance prescribed in A.R.S. § 49-480 or in § 49-481. The permit package, all comments and objections will be available for public inspection and/or copying at the above address Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. excluding Holidays.

PINAL COUNTY
AIR QUALITY CONTROL DISTRICT
DONALD P. GABRIELSON, DIRECTOR