

To: The Interested Citizens of the City of Houston
From: Otis Jordan, HBFFA President
DATE: SEPTEMBER 25, 2007
RE: Terrorist Threat in the Fire Department?

On Friday, September 21, 2007, I Captain Otis Jordan received notification from a District Chief in the Houston Fire Department that OIG (Office of Inspector General) had launched an investigation against Captain David Dean of Station 59 A. The District Chief informed me that he and Captain Dean were viewing a video tape of the August 28, 2007 City Council meeting where myself and several others spoke in an open forum before City Council. The District Chief stated that Captain Dean removed the videotape from the video recorder and stated "What do you think I should do to Captain Jordan? Do you think I should sue Captain Jordan or should I just shoot all of his members? (referring to the Houston Black Fire Fighters Association)". This statement was made in the presence of a District Chief Officer and several Fire Fighters of various ranks. This statement has the members of the HBFFA alarmed and concerned for their health, safety and welfare as well as the safety of their families. This statement by Captain Dean has placed members of HBFFA in fear of imminent serious bodily injury. It constitutes a "Terrorist Threat" according Texas Penal Code Section 22.07.

Other statements made by Captain Dean since the August 28, 2007 council meeting were "Captain Jordan better hope he doesn't have another heart attack while I am the paramedic Captain riding with him." Captain Dean made this insensitive statement in poor taste knowing I had suffered a heart attack a few years ago.

Captain Dean, who has sworn to serve and protect citizens of Houston, appears to be an out of control public servant. He continues to use the Houston Fire Department as a platform to espouse his racially insensitive views and now as a venue to make a Terrorist Threat against 300 plus Honored Black Fire Fighters. Captain Dean has a blatant disregard for his fellow minority Fire Fighters and is now considering shooting us.

Further, Officers at HFD Fire Station 59 on the (B) shift may have possibly interfered with an OIG investigation. It has come to our attention that an officer on the B shift at Station 59 is attempting to influence other officers to insinuate or lead others to believe that Captain Dean has already been disciplined because it has been discussed amongst the fire department ranks. As was brought to council's attention at the August 28, 2007 council meeting, Captain Dean is being investigated for calling female participants in local school parade "fat bitches". This is an attempt amongst management in the fire department to get other officers to say that they have already counseled or disciplined Captain Dean for his malicious behavior and past transgressions.

These are separate and distinct ongoing incidents that have not been individually dealt with. This is not a question of Double Jeopardy, these are factually new occurrences.

What we are asking for is help from Mayor White and City Council.

It doesn't matter what union we are apart of, what ethnic group or what gender category we belong to. A complaint has been filed with OIG and we are asking that these crimes are not to be taken lightly, or disregarded.

On August 28, 2007, Council Woman Toni Lawrence talked about credibility when I last spoke and brought these incidents to the attention of City Council. She talked about having documentation and paperwork to support what I am saying. Well when inadequate and superficial investigations are initiated, documentation becomes and remains scarce. Further, I am a veteran officer in the Houston Fire Department and the President of a local recognized labor organization in the City of Houston with over 300 plus members. I am not a member of Local 341, the collective bargaining agent that has through the years been linked to the past and present campaign contributions of many of our locally elected officials. Although I do feel I am a credible source, as I have been in the Fire Department through several administrations, I believe credibility of the messenger is not as important as the truth and veracity of these occurrences. What is important is the fact that school age children were labeled by a City of Houston public servant using profane and disturbing language. What is important is that a protected class in the Houston Fire Department has been threatened with serious bodily injury by a high ranking public servant in the fire department. This threat, real or perceived has caused a hostile work environment for members of HBFFA and caused a grave concern for our overall safety and welfare. Captain David Dean has and continues to show himself conduct unbecoming of an officer. He has brought a heightened sense of dissension, discord, conflict and fear in the Houston Fire Department with his threats of violence against HBFFA. As we have seen on recent occasions throughout school campuses nationwide, threats of violence and serious bodily injury cannot be taken lightly. Are these real and perceived threats? We should learn from others who have mistakenly taken reactive approaches. Ignoring a disturbed individual making this caliber of threats can result in deadly consequences. Captain Dean continues to be a cancer in the Houston Fire Department that must be dealt with now.

**Sincerely,
Otis Jordan**

Otis Jordan

President, Houston Black Firefighters Association