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Forrest Cole /R10/USDAFS

12/21/2007 06:39 AM

To: Karlene K Hale/HCM/USDAFS@FSNOTES

cc

bcc

Subject: Re: Glen Ith update 

I am good to go with the statements from Zane and Elaine. While the comments may not be specific other statements add some clarification and if necessary witnesses can attest to him working on projects he was told not to do. Patty Grantham and his supervisor can be very specific.

Forrest Cole
Forest Supervisor
Tongass National Forest

Karlene K Hale

----- Original Message -----

From: Karlene K Hale

Sent: 12/20/2007 07:01 PM

To: Melvin Shibuya

Cc: Forrest Cole; Olleke Rappe-Daniels; Alexandro Montano; Duane Padilla

Subject: Glen Ith update

Melvin - When we spoke a week ago you asked me to develop a letter to Mr. Ith introducing the two new sworn statements given to the misconduct investigator, Carol Kittson. At the time, you indicated that you did not need to see the sworn statements.

I haven't been able to meet that commitment as of this time. I did forward the investigative sworn statements to OGC-Region 10 for review and comment. The response they gave was concern for a lack of specificity in the information. I.e., the statement makes clear that Mr. Ith discussed (in part) that he was spending time doing work that he was directed not to do, and that he knew he could lose his job for doing this work but he thought it was worth it.

OGC comment is that it doesn't say what work. OGC thought it could be work as simple as cleaning up the parking lot (for example). Based on this feedback I wondered if we should ask Carol if she wanted to address this with the interviewee's?

I am sure that Forrest Cole is ready to make the decision to remove Mr. Ith, but we all want him to have the most defensible case available to us. I haven't been able to discuss this with Carol Kittson yet, but wanted you to be aware of the delay.

I'm interested in your opinion regarding this concern as well. Thank you. Karlene

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