

Honorable Mayor & Pension Board Chair Elicker, Attorney Kone, Mr. Lucas & Corporation Council King,

I hope you are all well. Please see below for a detailed public information request per the state FOI Act

As a Retiree, with standing, I am requesting a full impartial investigation into if fees, administrative costs and other expenses that may have been raided from the pension fund to pay legal fees to Attorney Kone, her firm and for funds to pay Jerry Sagnella's contract in direct violation of the city charter.

This is a pension fund that is dedicated to the hard working firefighters and police officers, many who have risked life and injury serving this great city. The investigation shall include if Attorney Kone violated her duty to ensure the pension board comply's with Charter, laws and ordinances of the city of New Haven by permitting these funds to be raided for her and others benefit from the pension fund.

One only has to look at the State of Connecticut to see that not properly funding the pension fund creates a structural imbalance that ends up exponentially falling on the tax payers. If it is true that fees, legal fees and contracts are being paid out of a fund than it is my understanding that is a clear violation of the Charter.

While I am not an attorney, If I could determine the plain terms in the Charter after 15 min of research than one can think that it is not plausible that a seasoned pension attorney would fail to comprehend it. Is she incompetent, complicit or just violating her sworn duty operating as a political operative placing the pension and the retirement security of firefighters and cops at risk?

I am confident under the great leadership of the new mayor, who has not had an opportunity to submit fees to the Alders and through proper due process that it can be easily determined if the fund is being raided for pension consultants and pension lawyers. Considering how egregious it is to take from a fund that is dedicated to compensating retired cops and firefighters this demands to be investigated to determine fault and an a audit should be completed to determine if or how much funds have been raided and for how many years.

Per The State of CT Freedom of Information Act please provide:

1. All submissions to the Mayors office from the pension board for the last 5 years of its estimated expenses necessary to carry out the purpose of the fund per [Sec. 202 of the City Charter](#).
2. All submissions from the mayor office shall include said estimate in the estimates to be submitted to the board of aldermen in accordance with charter requirements relative to annual estimates and appropriations for the city of New Haven per [Sec. 202 of the City Charter](#). For the last five years.
3. [Per Sec 124](#).- All records indicating Payment by City of New Haven paid to the retirement board for the last five fiscal years, . All records that indicate the payment including the total administrative and other expenses of the retirement fund for each year for the last five years.
4. All records of funds paid to Attorney Kone and her law firm for fees, opinions and other legal work for the last five years.
5. All records that indicate the source of the payment to Attorney Kone or her law firm.
6. All records that indicate the the lawyer of the board and board members have a fiduciary responsibility to the board, pension and retirees.
7. Any documents of a contract entered into by the city with Jerry Sagnella or any company he works for.
8. Any records of appropriations approved by the Board of Alders for payment of Jerry Sagnella's contract.
9. Any records of work product or opinions produced by Jerry Sagnella in execution of his contractual responsibilities of Jerry Sagnella.
10. Any records from the Police and Fire Pension Board where the Board limited benefits of any retiree after their official retirement of a retiree.
11. Any records signed by any New Haven Fire Fighters President and any Labor Director abrogating their authority and right to settle greavances extinguishing their rights under MERA and CBA.

Sec. 202. - Estimates of expenses, reports by board.



The **pension** board shall submit annually to the mayor, prior to the first of September, a schedule of its estimated expenses necessary to carry out the purpose of the fund and the mayor shall include said estimate in the estimates to be submitted to the board of aldermen in accordance with charter requirements relative to annual estimates and appropriations for the city of New Haven.

(Special Laws 1957, Act 531, § 4; Amd. of 7-6-93; Amd. of 9-23-98)

Sec. 124. - Payment by city.



The City of New Haven shall pay to the retirement board such amounts to fund the benefits provided by this article as shall be determined by the retirement board based on sound actuarial principles. For each fiscal year, the city's payments shall be a percentage of the estimated total payroll of all participating members of the retirement fund. The city's payment shall also include the total administrative and other expenses of the retirement fund for each year.

(Ord. of 12-1-69, Art. I, § 4; **Amd.** of 7-6-87)

In Liberty,
Frank Ricci