

THOMAS JOHNSON

222 Northeast Peachtree Mews

Apt. 14-G

Atlanta, GA 30309

March 22, 2014

Colonel (Ret.) R. J. Tibedeau
Director, Facilities Management
DoD Installation Management Service
One Hundred Wolfowitz St., Suite 1050
Ft. Rumsfeld, GA 30308

Dear Colonel Tibedeau:

Five years ago I left a good paying, secure job with the City of Marietta, GA, Fire Department to come to work for the Department of Defense when Fort Rumsfeld was opened. At that time, I had been recently widowed and needed the higher-paying Federal job to pay for my child care costs after I became a single parent.

I was told that I had to attend a six week basic Firefighter's Course at Fort Leonard Wood even though I was an experienced firefighter in the State of Georgia. I was able to make arrangements for my daughter to stay with my sister, who was completing graduate school in California. My sister told me at the time, that she would not be able to take care of my daughter again because she and her husband were moving overseas since my brother-in-law had just accepted a position in the Foreign Service. They now live in Asuncion, Paraguay.

Absolutely nothing was said to me about having to ever go back to Fort Leonard Wood, and certainly not for a month! If I had known that, years later, I would be expected to spend another month in school in Missouri and could not bring my daughter with me, I would never have left my position with the City of Marietta.

I have an excellent work record at Fort Rumsfeld. I am an excellent, highly skilled, firefighter, and, to be honest, have no need for refresher training. I was an Assistant Training Officer as an additional duty and, truthfully, could easily be the instructor at a refresher course. I request that this training requirement be waived.

Sincerely,

Thomas Johnson