

"sexual harassment complaints"

From Kevin Dailey <kdailey@cliftonpark.org>

Date Thu 9/24/2026 12:29 PM

To Phil Barrett <PBarrett@cliftonpark.org>; Zabed Manir <zmanir@cliftonpark.org>; Agatha Reid <areid@cliftonpark.org>; Mario Fantini <mFantini@cliftonpark.org>; Nancy Bellamy <nBellamy@cliftonpark.org>; Caitlin Fantini <CFantini@cliftonpark.org>

Supervisor Barrett and Town Board Members – I request that the two “complaints” lodged against me – be forwarded by the Supervisor to me at my office. Apparently, everyone is aware of – or has these complaints, with the exception of the accused. In terms of having an opportunity to defend myself, it is necessary to know the specifics of what is being alleged. Please forward these items by the end of business today.

Please also forward a copy of both “complaints” to the Town Clerk.

Caitlin, upon receipt, please feel free to release these “complaints” as per the foil request(s) received by your office. I pose no objection.

Thank you.

Regards, Kevin M. Dailey Town Attorney



Town of Clifton Park

One Town Hall Plaza | Clifton Park, New York 12065 | (518) 371-6651 | FAX: (518) 371-1136

MEMORANDUM

Date: September 24, 2026

To: Town Board

CC: Kevin Dailey, Town Attorney, Natalie Curtis, GTM HR Consultant, Caitlin Fantini, Town Clerk

From: Agatha Reid, Deputy Town Supervisor *AR*

Subject: Response to Attorney Dailey's "sexual harassment complaints" request

As two formal discrimination and harassment complaints have been filed with HR over a month ago, and the Town Board Majority has since voted no to hiring an outside legal firm to conduct an investigation, the Town Attorney being supplied with the original, confidential claims at this time would compromise the integrity of any future investigation. The Town Attorney will receive information if and when it is warranted through the investigation process.

Attorney Kevin Dailey's consent to release this information does not speak for those who made the claims, nor does it authorize a clear breach of the confidentiality that is to be expected in such matters. Furthermore, private personnel matters do not involve the Town Clerk's office in any way.

I oppose Attorney Dailey's request to release this confidential information to the Town Clerk's office and consider it to be retaliation and further harassment towards the employees who filed these complaints.

The inaction of the Town Board Majority, along with this recent request by Attorney Dailey, continues to violate state and federal law and creates further liability for the Town.

RECEIVED

SEP 24 2026

CLIFTON PARK
TOWN CLERK

PHILIP C. BARRETT
Supervisor

AGATHA REID
Councilwoman

ZABED MANIR
Councilman

NANCY R. BELLAMY
Councilwoman

MARIO L. FANTINI
Councilman

902 Non-Discrimination and Harassment (Including Sexual Harassment) in the Workplace

Policy Statement – It is the policy of the Town of Clifton Park to promote a productive work environment and to prohibit conduct by any Elected Official or employee (as defined in Section 104 of the Employee Handbook) that disrupts or interferes with another's work performance or that creates an intimidating, offensive, or hostile work environment. In keeping with this goal, the Town is committed to educate Elected Officials and employees in the recognition and prevention of workplace discrimination and harassment, including sexual harassment, and to provide an effective means of eliminating such discrimination and harassment from the workplace. In short, the Town does not tolerate any form of discrimination or harassment, including sexual harassment, and will take all steps necessary to prevent and stop the occurrence of such activity in the workplace. The accompanying complaint procedure is intended to provide an effective mechanism for reporting, and resolving promptly, complaints of discrimination and harassment, including sexual harassment, without any risk of repercussion to any individual covered by this policy who, in good faith, files such complaint.

Applicability of Policy – This policy applies to all Elected Officials, Appointed Members of Boards and Commissions, employees, supervisors, and Department Heads, whether employed full or part-time, temporary or seasonal, paid or unpaid interns, volunteers, and those employed by companies contracting to provide services in the workplace. Depending on the extent of the Town's exercise of control, this policy may be applied to the conduct of non-Town employees with respect to harassment of Town employees in the workplace.

Prohibited harassment (including sexual harassment) is not limited to the physical workplace itself. It can occur while Elected Officials, employees or other individuals covered by this policy are traveling for Town business or at Town sponsored events or parties. Calls, texts, emails, and social media usage by employees or other individuals covered by this policy can constitute workplace harassment, even if they occur away from the workplace premises, on personal devices, or during non-work hours.

Prohibited Activity – No Elected Official, employee or other individuals covered by this policy shall engage in any of the following:

- **Harassment:** Unwanted, unreasonable verbal or physical conduct directed toward or affecting another person that disturbs, frightens, insults, threatens, intimidates, demeans, or offends that other person, that continues or is repeated after a request to cease, and that: 1) has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment; 2) has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance; or 3) otherwise adversely affects an individual's employment opportunities. Harassment includes offensive or inappropriate images or written materials or electronic communications (e.g. letters, e-mail, text messages, or graffiti) as well as bias-based harassment and sexual harassment (see below).
- **Bias-Based Harassment:** Harassment that denigrates, offends or shows hostility or aversion toward an individual on the basis of sex, (including gender identity and the status of being transgender), sexual orientation, race, color, national origin, religion, disability, pregnancy, age, marital status, veteran status, military status, arrest or conviction record, genetic information or predisposing characteristics, domestic violence victim status, or any other protected status. Bias-based harassment includes, but is not limited to: epithets, slurs or negative stereotyping; threatening, intimidating, or

Any employee who feels harassed should report so that any violation of this policy can be corrected promptly. Any harassing conduct, even a single incident, can be addressed under this policy.

Examples of Sexual Harassment - The following describes some of the types of acts that may be unlawful sexual harassment and that are strictly prohibited:

- Physical acts of a sexual nature, such as:
 - Touching, pinching, patting, kissing, hugging, grabbing, brushing against another employee's body or poking another employee's body;
 - Rape, sexual battery, molestation or attempts to commit these assaults.
- Unwanted sexual advances or propositions, such as:
 - Requests for sexual favors accompanied by implied or overt threats concerning the target's job performance evaluation, a promotion or other job benefits or detriments;
 - Subtle or obvious pressure for unwelcome sexual activities.
- Sexually oriented gestures, noises, remarks or jokes, or comments about a person's sexuality or sexual experience, which create a hostile work environment.
- Sex stereotyping occurs when conduct or personality traits are considered inappropriate simply because they may not conform to other people's ideas or perceptions about how individuals of a particular sex should act or look.
- Sexual or discriminatory displays or publications anywhere in the workplace, such as:
 - Displaying pictures, posters, calendars, graffiti, objects, promotional material, reading materials or other materials that are sexually demeaning or pornographic. This includes such sexual displays on workplace computers or cell phones and sharing such displays while in the workplace.
- Hostile actions taken against an individual because of that individual's sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and the status of being transgender, such as:
 - Interfering with, destroying or damaging a person's workstation, tools or equipment, or otherwise interfering with the individual's ability to perform the job;
 - Sabotaging an individual's work;
 - Bullying, yelling, name-calling.

Prohibition Against Retaliation – Unlawful retaliation can be any action that could discourage an employee from coming forward to make or support a claim of discrimination or harassment, including sexual harassment. Adverse action need not be job-related or occur in the workplace to constitute unlawful retaliation (e.g., threats of physical violence outside of work hours).

Unlawful retaliation against any employee who has engaged in "protected activity" is strictly prohibited by this policy as well as (where applicable) federal, state, and local law. Protected activity occurs when a person has:

- made a complaint of harassment or discrimination, either internally or with any anti-discrimination agency;

Supervisory personnel will also be subject to corrective action or discipline for engaging in any form of retaliation prohibited by this policy.

Investigation of Complaint – The Town Supervisor, in consultation with the Town Board, will determine the appropriate individual(s) to conduct the investigation. All complaints pursuant to this policy, whether reported in verbal or written form, will be investigated promptly, thoroughly, and in as impartial a manner as possible. The investigation will normally include conferring with the parties involved and any named or apparent witnesses. All employees are required to cooperate in an investigation, if so directed. All persons involved, including complainants, witnesses and alleged perpetrators will be accorded due process to protect their rights to a fair and impartial investigation. All relevant materials, including all electronic communications, documents, emails or phone records that are relevant to the allegations will also be considered. A written report will be prepared documenting the results of the investigation. The individual who reported the complaint and the individual about whom the complaint was made will be notified of the final determination.

Confidentiality – Complaints of discrimination and harassment, including sexual harassment, will be handled and investigated promptly and in a manner that is as impartial and confidential as possible. In no event will information concerning a complaint be released by the Town to third parties or to anyone within the Town employment who is not directly involved in the investigation or handling of the complaint unless otherwise required by law.

Corrective Action and Discipline – Any employee who is found to have violated any aspect of this policy will be subject to corrective or disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment, as provided by Town operating procedures, including Civil Service Law Section 75, or a collective bargaining agreement. Any Elected Official who violates this policy will be subject to remedial action as provided for and/or allowed under NYS Public Officers Law, as well as any other applicable statutes. Any vendor, supplier, visitor, customer, or other non-employee who violates this policy will be subject to remedial action, to the extent that the Town is empowered to take such action.

Legal Protections and External Remedies – Nothing in this policy should be construed as in any way limiting employees' rights to file a formal complaint with the appropriate state or federal agencies responsible for administering anti-discrimination laws. Complainants should be aware that time restrictions may apply and need to be considered. Harassment (including sexual harassment) is not only prohibited by Town policy but is also prohibited by federal, state, and (where applicable) local law. Aside from the Town's internal process, employees may also choose to pursue legal remedies with the following governmental entities at any time.

New York State Division of Human Rights (DHR)

The Human Rights Law (HRL) applies to employers in New York State with regard to harassment and protects employees and non-employees regardless of immigration status. A complaint alleging violation of the Human Rights Law may be filed either with DHR or in New York State Supreme Court. Complaints with DHR may be filed any time within one year of the harassment. If an individual did not file at DHR, they can sue directly in state court under the HRL, within three years of the alleged discrimination. An individual may not file with DHR if they have already filed an HRL complaint in state court. Filing an internal complaint with the Town does not extend the time limits to file with DHR or in court. The one year or three years is counted from date of the most recent incident of harassment. An

903 *Violence in the Workplace*

Policy Statement – The Town of Clifton Park is committed to providing its employees with a work environment that is safe, secure, and free from violence. The Town also considers the safety of its residents, vendors, contractors, and the general public (collectively referred to as “visitors”) to be of paramount importance and strives to provide them the same type of protections while on Town property.

Workplace Violence Prevention Program – In accordance with the New York State Workplace Violence Prevention Act, the Town of Clifton Park has developed a Workplace Violence Prevention Program. As a part of this program, the Town conducted a comprehensive risk evaluation of the entire workplace and will conduct annual reviews to identify risk factors that may increase the likelihood of workplace violence and implement appropriate measures to minimize or eliminate these hazards. In order to achieve this goal, the Town encourages the participation and cooperation of employees and their authorized employee representative(s). A copy of the program is available from the Town Supervisor’s Office.

Prohibited Conduct – The Town has zero tolerance for violence of any kind in the workplace, including but not limited to, physical assault (e.g., hitting, pushing), threatening, intimidating, or aggressive behavior, or verbal abuse or harassment. In addition, employees and visitors are prohibited from possessing firearms or weapons (e.g., guns, knives, explosives, and other items with the intention to inflict harm) in the workplace, even if licensed to carry the weapon. The only exceptions are law enforcement and authorized security personnel. An employee who has knowledge that a coworker or visitor possesses a weapon on Town property must report this to a Department Head or supervisor immediately.

For the purpose of this program, the workplace is defined as any location away from an employee’s home, either permanent or temporary, where the employee performs any work-related duty in the course of employment. This includes, but is not limited to, Town-owned buildings and surrounding perimeters, parking lots, work sites, clients’ homes, and traveling to and from work assignments.

Reporting Requirements – Any incident of workplace violence or imminent danger must be promptly reported to the Department Head or the Safety Officer.

Policy Violations – Violations of this policy will result in appropriate remedial, disciplinary, and/or legal action, according to the circumstances.

Prohibition Against Retaliation – An employee will not be subject to criticism, reprisal, retaliation, demotion, discrimination, disciplinary action, or other adverse employment action for making a good faith report of acts pursuant to this program.