

Hall County Civil Service Board  
Meeting Minutes  
October 23, 2015

I. Call to Order

Madeline Wirt, Administrative Hearing Officer, called to order the meeting at 10:00am on October 23, 2015 in Gainesville, Georgia at the Hall County Government Center

II. Attendance

The following were present:

- Madeline Wirt, Administrative Hearing Officer
- Bill Blalock, County Attorney
- Marcus Neville, Captain, Jail Commander
- Jeff Shoemaker, 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant, Asst. Jail Commander
- David Sullivan, Lieutenant, Work Release Division
- Gerald Couch, Sheriff
- Bill Moats, Human Resources Director
- Renae Hirt, Human Resources Coordinator
- Abena James-Brown, Employee
- Carl Brown, Employee Spouse

III. Agenda

The agenda was posted on Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup> to the Hall County website and emailed to the Gainesville Times to be advertised in the paper. The Times advertisement was published for 7 days, October 16 through October 22, 2015. The public notice was posted in the Hall County Government Center from Friday, October 16 through Friday, October 23, 2015.

IV. Abena James-Brown Termination Appeal Hearing

- Ms. Wirt opened the meeting.
- Ms. Brown gave opening statement.
- Mr. Blalock gave opening statement.
- Ms. Wirt called Ms. Brown to the witness stand for her testimony.
- Ms. Brown was dismissed but then called back to the witness stand and questioned by Ms. Wirt regarding her termination.
- Mr. Blalock called Jeff Shoemaker to the witness stand to give his testimony.
- Mr. Blalock called Marcus Neville to the witness stand for his testimony.
- Ms. Wirt moves to admit the reprimands and suspensions as evidence in the case. Ms. Brown objects.
- Mr. Blalock questions Mr. Neville about time off being a possible reason for Ms. Brown's termination.
- Ms. Wirt questioned Mr. Neville about the sequence of events that led to Ms. Brown's eventual termination.
- Sheriff Gerald Couch was called to the witness stand by Mr. Blalock for his testimony.
- Ms. Wirt asked for closing remarks.

- The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 for one hour while Ms. Wirt reviewed all documents and considered the evidence.
- The hearing reconvened at 12:30. Ms. Wirt rendered her decision, upholding Hall County's decision to terminate Ms. Brown. Both parties were provided with a written copy of the decision letter.
- The meeting was dismissed at 12:39.
- A complete transcript of the hearing is part of the official record.

Minutes submitted by Renae Hirt