

Accusations by Former employees

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Sun 7/1/2018 11:38 AM

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Good morning colleagues:

I recently spoke with some former Howard employees / Thompson facilities employees. I've summarized some of what was said at the meeting. The following claims were made:

1. In the summer of 2017, routine inspections by Thompson workers (former HU workers) of steam plant pipes resulted in recommendations that were disregarded by Thompson supervisors. Ignoring these recommendations resulted in the "weather related" event. These recommendations would have minimized the damage from the burst pipes.
2. Thompson has hired some workers and managers completely unfamiliar with Howard's physical plant and unqualified for their positions. This has led to some dangerous and expensive outcomes. (including the "weather related" event)
3. Thompson has ordered supplies for work to be done at Howard. They have invoiced Howard for these supplies. But these supplies/equipment routinely never reached Howard.
4. Thompson has told workers on HU campus to slow their work because Howard was behind in payments to Thompson.
5. Thompson often uses contractors instead of former HU workers that are currently employed by Thompson. This is done in spite of using HU workers being less expensive. Thompson apparently gets a 5% mark up by using these contractors.
6. Thompson has hidden problems from the administration. For example, they apparently changed locks on some doors so that the COO could not see conditions when she went to inspect some buildings.
7. Thompson is firing former HU workers that are trying to have Thompson do the right thing. Whistleblowers, etc.
8. Thompson is not paying former HU workers for their work. Their checks are routinely wrong. (around \$100 for two weeks work?)

9. There have been several sexual harassment cases as a result of Thompson's policies and personnel.

10. Odd occurrence. Black former HU Thompson employees must be escorted into dorms. White contractors don't have an escort.

11. Opinions of these former workers: Things are only going to get worse with physical infrastructure. Also, it is more expensive to use contractors than having things done in house.

I am not making these claims and I've no proof of them (but they did show some convincing documents to me). As a member of the council, I'm asking if these accusations/claims have been made in some form to the administration or board? If so, is/has/was there an investigation? If there has been an investigation, what were the results?

Thank you,

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