

INSURANCE FRAUD IN THE NEWS

Drug abuse, and the related criminal activities, has become a pervasive issue in our world today. Margate City is no exception.

Some residents of our close-knit community have expressed concerns after news outlets began reporting that a former member of the Margate City Fire Department pleaded guilty in federal court for his alleged participation in a fraudulent prescription drug case.

Although we do not typically comment on personnel matters, the Mayor and Commissioners would like to offer some general information to put all residents at ease about the competence and safety of their local emergency services.

- The individual in question resigned from the Margate City Fire Department prior to his guilty plea in Federal Court for conspiracy to commit insurance fraud.
- The individual holds no other paid position with the City of Margate.
- The City did not receive any official notification about pending charges regarding this employee prior to his resignation.
- The City of Margate, including the Margate City Fire Department, does have an employee drug and alcohol testing program in place.
- The City of Margate contracts with a human resources professional who has been actively reviewing all of our employee policies and procedures since 2016 to make sure they meet the most current criteria to protect the City, taxpayers, staff and visitors to our community.
- The City of Margate offers employees assistance with substance abuse, psychological counseling and other professional and medical services through the employee benefits program.
- The Margate City Fire Department is currently staffed by many dedicated professionals who continue to serve you in a professional manner. Please view them as individuals, as well as a department committed to your safety.
- The Mayor and Commissioners sympathize with friends and family members affected by this situation, but remain dedicated to the safe, cost effective and professional administration of public services.