

**From:** [Chip Block](#)  
**To:** [Ivelisse Chico-Randazzo](#); [Kathi Cornelius](#)  
**Cc:** [Dan Comerford](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Chief of Police Selection Committee  
**Date:** Monday, May 15, 2023 1:24:19 PM

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Please post on web

Chip Block  
Vice Mayor, Jupiter Inlet Colony  
917-923-0056

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**From:** Joseph Karas <jkaras55@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 1:15 PM  
**To:** Chip Block; bustor@jupiterinletcolony.org  
**Subject:** Chief of Police Selection Committee

Chip Block  
Dick Busto

Gentlemen,

Good afternoon. I hope you are well.

I don't often, if ever write letters and notes to committees such as this, but the actions of the past week compel me to express my profound dismay.

Specifically, I am referring to the termination of Captain Jim Matthews from the JIC police force. This action was taken without notice or any apparent performance-based justification. I recognize that we will be told "on advice of council....," thus preventing the facts to emerge. So, we will all be kept in the dark of the true motives of the termination.

It is without question that Jim was a well-liked and respected member of the JIC police force. Could that be the reason he was terminated? On the surface, it appears to me that Jim was terminated to preclude him from competing for the position of Chief. Thus, removing what is likely the strongest challenger to the mayor's hand-picked selection. A selection that has raised numerous concerns in the community based on published new articles.

The Town has launched a search committee that we had all hoped would lead us to a strong candidate and be conducted in a transparent manner. This termination appears

to be an attempt to thwart the process.

If indeed Jim Matthews was terminated without cause, I call on the mayor and commissioners to reinstate him, to right the wrong, to restore his job and his reputation. He has ably served the community for 11 years; we owe him as much.

Joseph Karas  
137 Colony Road