

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JULY 15, 2009

John R. Parrinello, after reading today's article about the hiring of Gary Pignato, stated "Gary Pignato and John Auberger sat in my office at which time John Auberger told Gary Pignato I am hiring you because John Parrinello has asked me to do it."

Parrinello also said "there was no mention of any background check and that Auberger made an unequivocal statement that Gary Pignato was hired."

Parrinello said "that Merritt Rahn had absolutely nothing to do with the hiring of Gary Pignato."

Supervisor John Auberger's statement "if an accurate background had been provided, Mr. Pignato would not have been hired" is totally untrue said Parrinello.

"Duffy's statement that he would not have recommended Pignato is also untrue because while Pignato worked at the Rochester Police Department, Duffy was a supporter of Pignato," said Parrinello.

"Duffy testified in a deposition that he recommended that Pignato be terminated, despite the recommendation of a Hearing Officer that Pignato not be terminated, because Duffy asked then Chief Warshaw what he should do and when Warshaw told Duffy that he wanted Pignato terminated, Duffy then wrote his termination recommendation, contrary to his support of Pignato," Parrinello said.

John Auberger is totally responsible for the hiring of Gary Pignato and should be made to answer for that", Parrinello said.

Parrinello also stated: "Trowbridge's statement that the actions that he took or failed to take was at the direction and with the knowledge of Rahn is absolutely untruthful. Before Rahn was suspended, Trowbridge told Rahn that he (Trowbridge) met with Auberger for 45 minutes. Trowbridge refused to give a report about the substance of the meeting, other than to say he (Trowbridge) told Auberger not to hire Pignato."

Parrinello has issued this statement while on vacation at Cape Cod and will be back in his office Monday, July 20, 2009.