

AN ACT

relating to the investigation of a firefighter in certain municipalities.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 143.123(e), Local Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(e) A person may not be assigned to conduct an investigation if the person is the complainant, the ultimate decisionmaker regarding disciplinary action, or a person who has any personal involvement regarding the alleged misconduct. A fire fighter or police officer who is the subject of an investigation has the right to inquire and, on inquiry, to be informed of the identities of each investigator participating in an interrogation of the fire fighter or police officer. Not later than the 30th day after the date that a complaint is received by an investigator, the investigator must inform the fire fighter in writing of the nature of the investigation and the name of each person who complained about the fire fighter, if known, concerning the matters under investigation unless:

(1) a criminal investigation has been initiated as a result of the complaint; or

(2) the disclosure of information concerning the name of the complainant or the matters under investigation would hinder a criminal investigation.

1 SECTION 2. This Act applies only to a complaint received by
2 an investigator on or after the effective date of the Act.

3 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
4 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
5 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
6 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
7 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1561 was passed by the House on May 3, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 140, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1561 was passed by the Senate on May 22, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor