



J.V.G.A. (Bellmore) Fire Department

7020 E. US Hwy 36 * Rockville, Indiana 47872

(765) 344-0188

Official Media Release
August 16, 2019

On the evening of August 10th 2019, Fire Department Officers received written notification of serious allegations that breach our department policies, procedures, and by-laws. That evening our Department Officers immediately identified that these allegations involved criminal activity which warranted a criminal investigation by the Parke County Sheriff's Department. On Sunday morning August 11th the Fire Department issued official suspension notifications due to this breach of department policies, procedures, and by-laws.

The Parke County Sheriff's Department provided us with necessary information on August 13th that lead our Department to immediately terminate Firefighter John Staggs; an advisor in the department cadet program. Firefighter Staggs was responsible for reporting directly to the Department Cadet Manager.

We have been informed that Mr. Staggs was arrested on Thursday August 16th by Clay County authorities and is currently being held at the Parke County Jail. Any questions regarding the criminal investigation can be referred to the Parke County Sheriff's Department.