

June 13, 2023

Town of Truro Select Board via electronic email to:

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To the Truro Select Board,

On behalf of a client that this office certifies is a registered voter and resident of the Town of Truro but wishes to remain anonymous out of fear of retaliation (the "Resident"), the Resident hereby asks the Truro Select Board to seek an independent investigation into the following whistleblower complaint:

Based on conversations the Resident has had with several credible people in the community, Select Board member Areson has over the last couple of months:

- 1) been conducting an unauthorized and unsanctioned investigation into the Town Manager, in violation of charter section 4-4-1, and by acting alone in this way is also in violation of charter section 4-5-1;
- 2) been communicating directly with town staff and not through the Town Manager in violation of charter section 4-5-2.

The relevant sections of the Truro Charter that Select Board member Areson has violated are below:

4-4-1: The Select Board may conduct investigations and may authorize the Town Manager or other agent to investigate the affairs of the Town and the conduct of any Town department, office, agency or official, including any doubtful claims against the Town. The subject of any such investigation shall be informed of the conduct of the investigation, and a comprehensive and inclusive report of the investigation shall be placed on file in the office of the Town Clerk.

*4-5-1 : Members of the Select Board shall **possess no individual authority**.*

*4-5-2 : Except for the purposes of investigation in accordance with section 4-4-1 of this Charter, the Select Board shall deal with employees who are subject to the direction and supervision of the Town Manager **solely through the Town Manager**, and neither the Board nor its members shall give orders to any such employee, the single exception being the Administrative Secretary who reports both to the Town Manager and the Select Board.*

While the Resident is not in a position as one individual to determine if these allegations are true or false, the Resident believes it is imperative that the Select Board vote to conduct an investigation into these serious allegations using independent counsel so that the integrity of good government can be maintained. It is imperative that prompt action be taken.

Very truly yours,

ADAM T. DUPUY, ESQ.
ATD/mcw