

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

100 Cambridge Street, Suite 200
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 979-1900

Tracking Number: I-25-124

Re: Request for Investigation by Jason Finn and Inno Vets related to the Boston Fire
Department Cadet Program

RESPONSE TO PETITIONERS' RENEWED REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION

On August 21, 2025, the Civil Service Commission (Commission) issued a [response](#) denying the Petitioners' request to conduct an investigation regarding the Boston Fire Department (BFD)'s fire cadet program.

Section 2(a) of Chapter 31 confers significant discretion upon the Commission in terms of what response and to what extent, *if at all*, an investigation is appropriate. *Everett Firefighters Local 143, IAFF & another v. Human Resources Division & Civil Serv. Comm'n*, 2017-01968-H (Mass. Super. Ct. Decision March 20, 2018 (Ulmann, R.), citing *O'Neill v. Civil Serv. Comm'n* WOCV2009-00391, slip op. at 7-8 (Mass. Super. Ct. November 13, 2009 (Chernoff, J.), quoting *Boston Police Patrolman's Ass'n v. Civil Serv. Comm'n*, SUCV2007-01220 (Mass. Super. Ct. December 18, 2007 (Brassard, J.) (ruling that the Court lacked jurisdiction to hear the Petitioners' judicial appeal after the Commission declined to conduct a requested investigation.)

On September 2, 2025, the Petitioners renewed their request for the Commission to conduct an investigation, citing to the fact that HRD had not approved the BFD's Fire Cadet Program, as required by Chapter 242 of the Acts of 2020 (the Special Act). On October 9, 2025 and November 3, 2025, the BFD provided the Commission with verification that HRD approved the BFD Fire Cadet program on September 12, 2025.

For the same reasons stated in the August 21, 2025 response, and because HRD, as required by the Special Act, approved the Fire Cadet program in question, I recommend that the Commission decline the Petitioners' renewed request for investigation.

Civil Service Commission

Christopher C. Bowman
Christopher C. Bowman
Chair

On November 13, 2025, the Commission (Bowman, Chair; Dooley, Markey, McConney and Stein, Commissioners) voted to accept the recommendation of the Chair and deny the

Petitioners' renewed request for investigation.

Notice:

Patrick Bryant, Esq. (for Petitioners)

Robert J. Boyle, Jr. Esq. (for Boston Fire Department)

Michele Heffernan, Esq. (HRD)

Regina Caggiano (HRD)