

Atlantic City High School Principal Charged with Official Misconduct

ATLANTIC CITY, NJ – On Thursday, March 28, 2024, Constance Days-Chapman, the principal of the Atlantic City High School, located in Atlantic City, NJ, was charged with second-degree Official Misconduct, third-degree Hindering Apprehension of Another, fourth-degree Obstruction of Justice, and disorderly persons Failure to Report Child Abuse. The charges were placed on a summons.

On January 22, 2024, a juvenile student at the high school informed a school staff member that the student had been emotionally and physically abused by the student's parents and that the student had previously disclosed this abuse to Mrs. Days-Chapman. The school staff member discussed the matter with Days-Chapman later that same day. Days-Chapman denied that the student ever disclosed the abuse to her previously but told the school staffer that she would report the matter to the Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCP&P, formerly known as DYFS). Both the staffer and another eyewitness to the conversation believed that Days-Chapman was going to notify the authorities as they were leaving her office. The other eyewitness even told Days-Chapman that she (the eyewitness) would notify DCP&P, but that Days-Chapman insisted that she would make the notification.

Later that evening, Days-Chapman met with the juvenile's parents at the parents' house and informed them that the juvenile disclosed to school staff that the juvenile was being abused by them.

DCP&P confirmed that there was no disclosure reported to them regarding the abuse of the juvenile from Days-Chapman or any other member of the staff from Atlantic City High School.

This incident was investigated by the Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office's Special Victims Unit and the Professional Standards and Accountability Unit.

***** These charges are merely an accusation and not proof of guilt. In all criminal cases, a charged defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty. *****

Anyone with information about this incident or other serious crimes is asked to call the Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office at 609-909-7800 or go to the Prosecutor's Office's Website at ACPO.Tips and provide information by filling out a form anonymously.

Crime Stoppers: People can also call Crime Stoppers at 609-652-1234 or 1-800-658-8477 (TIPS) or visit the Crime Stoppers Website at <http://www.crimestoppersatlantic.com/>. Crime Stoppers offers cash rewards for information leading to the arrest and indictment of those who commit crimes in Atlantic County.

