



August 18, 2020

Statement from Transit Authority of River City's Co-Executive Directors

Since we came to TARC, one of the primary focuses we and the Board had was to address the trauma caused by Ferdinand Risco. When these victims came forward at the end of January 2020, they exposed Risco's wrongs and helped the Board and the City end his tenure at TARC and his presence in our community. The settlements with these sexual harassment victims were reached quickly, but represent months of work and the firm desire that these women, victimized by Risco, not be put through a lengthy litigation process. They and their families should be allowed to heal and not be victimized again. We have made an unyielding commitment to them to protect their privacy. We will not discuss the specifics of their cases.

We can say that the claims these sexual harassment victims raised against Risco were very serious and damaging. Risco's actions do not represent TARC's 46-year history with this community. Together with the Board, we have made significant changes to our organizational structure, our reporting mechanisms, and the access our employees have to report abuses. We have also hired subject matter experts in the field of harassment and abuse prevention. We have taken significant steps to ensure that something like Risco's harassment will never happen again. But that doesn't make the harm caused by Risco any less real.

TARC will aggressively pursue Ferdinand Risco for his conduct. We will not comment further on the matter as it regards pending litigation but expect additional announcements in the near future.

Laura M. Dourglas
Co-Executive Director

Margaret Handmaker
Co-Executive Director