

Campbell" Ex-police recruit wants to return

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He was six weeks from graduation when a fellow recruit showed him a newspaper article Jan 10, saying he had been indicted by a deferral grand jury. "I just started crying and explained to my supervisor that we had to talk," Campbell said. "I told them the allegations were not true. I didn't do anything wrong. My name was just thrown in there because I was a member of the prison's critical incident response team," he said.

Although Campbell said he asked to be suspended pending the outcome of the case, police officials suggested he resign or he would be fired, Campbell said. Campbell said he wanted to leave on good terms, so he resigned. He has been unemployed since and was unable to collect unemployment compensation. "I want to get my job back," Campbell said. "In today's society it's hard to get a police job. I put my heart into that job"

Interim police Chief Michael A. Boykin said Campbell doesn't have a job to come back to because he left the force as a police recruit, not a police officer. Boykin said he knew of no precedent where a recruit under a federal investigation was resigned and then reapplied to the academy. "there's more to it than applying and going back to where he left off," Boykin said. "That's something I would have to seek legal advice from the city solicitor on." Campbell said he will meet with his attorney A. Charles Peruto Jr., and do "whatever my attorney recommends."