

RESOLUTION NO. 2012 - 066

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE FINAL FIRE SERVICES ASSESSMENT RELATING TO THE PROVISION OF FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES, FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS IN THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA; PROVIDING PURPOSE AND DEFINITIONS; PROVIDING FOR THE IMPOSITION AND COMPUTATION OF FIRE PROTECTION ASSESSMENTS; INCORPORATING THE FIRE PROTECTION ASSESSMENT REPORT; PROVIDING FOR LEGISLATIVE DETERMINATION OF SPECIAL BENEFIT AND FAIR APPORTIONMENT; ESTABLISHING THE RATE OF ASSESSMENT; DIRECTING THE PREPARATION OF A FINAL ASSESSMENT ROLL; PROVIDING FOR A DISABLED VETERANS EXEMPTION; AUTHORIZING A PUBLIC HEARING AND DIRECTING THE PROVISION OF NOTICE THEREOF; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Southwest Ranches, Florida, has enacted Ordinance No. 2001-09 (the "Ordinance"), which authorizes the imposition of Fire Service Assessments for fire services, facilities, and programs against Assessed Property located within the Town; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ordinance 2001-09, the re-imposition of a Fire Services Assessment for fire services, facilities, and programs for Fiscal Year 2013 requires certain processes such as the preparation of the Preliminary Fire Services Assessment Roll; and

WHEREAS, annually, a Preliminary Fire Services Assessment Resolution describing the method of assessing fire costs against assessed property located within the Town, directing the preparation of an assessment roll, authorizing a public hearing and directing the provision of notice thereof is required by the Ordinance for re-imposition of Fire Assessments; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council imposed a Fire Assessment for the previous fiscal year (FY 2012), and the re-imposition of a Fire Assessment for fire services, facilities, and programs each fiscal year is an equitable and efficient method of allocating and apportioning Fire Assessed Costs among parcels of Assessed Property; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council, during the Fiscal Year 2012, made a policy decision and adopted Resolution 2012-034, regarding legally recognized disabled veterans who live on homesteaded properties titled in their name in the Town, and who have received a Disabled Veterans ad valorem tax exemption providing them with a 100% exemption for Fire Service Assessments and wish to provide for such exemption for the Fiscal Year 2013.

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Southwest Ranches, Florida, desires to re-impose a fire service assessment program within the Town using the tax bill collection method for the Fiscal Year beginning on October 1, 2012, and deems it to be in the best interests of the citizens and residents of the Town of Southwest Ranches to adopt this Annual Rate Resolution so that the Town may re-impose Fire Assessments for Fiscal Year 2013.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1: That the foregoing "WHEREAS" clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby made a specific part of this Resolution.

Section 2. Authority. This resolution is adopted pursuant to the provisions of Ordinance No. 2001-9, the Initial Assessment Resolutions (Resolutions 2011-074 and Resolution 2011-084), Final Assessment Resolution (2012-001), and sections 166.021 and 166.041, Florida Statutes, and other applicable provisions of law.

Section 3. Purpose and Definitions. This Resolution constitutes the Final Fire Services Assessment Resolution as defined in the Ordinance (codified as Sections 12-19 through 12-85 in the Town of Southwest Ranches Code of Ordinances), which re-imposes Fire Assessments for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2012. All capitalized words and terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings set forth in the Ordinance. Unless the context indicates otherwise, words imparting the singular number include the plural number, and vice versa. As used in this resolution, the following terms shall have the following meanings, unless the context hereof otherwise requires:

Section 4. Provision and funding of Fire Protection Services. Upon the imposition of a Fire Protection Assessment for fire protection services, facilities, or programs against Assessed Property located within the Town, the Town shall provide fire protection services to such Assessed Property. A portion of the cost to provide such fire protection services, facilities, or programs shall be funded from proceeds of the Fire Protection Assessments. The remaining costs of providing fire protection services, facilities, and programs shall be funded by lawfully available Town revenues other than Fire Protection Assessment proceeds. Any costs related to Institutional Property on which Fire Protection Assessments are not collected, for example due to the difficulties of collection from property owned by governmental entities or pursuant to a policy decision of the Town Council, shall be paid by the Town from lawfully available funds of the Town and shall not be paid out of Fire Assessment revenues. Costs related to the provision of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) have not been included in the Fire Protection Assessed Costs and shall be paid for by the Town from other lawfully available funds and shall not be paid out of Fire Assessment revenues.

A. It is hereby ascertained, determined, and declared that each parcel of Assessed Property located within the Town will be benefitted by the Town's

provision of fire protection services, facilities, and programs in an amount not less than the Fire Protection Assessment imposed against such parcel, computed in the manner set forth in this Initial Assessment Resolution.

Section 5. Imposition and Computation of Fire Protection Assessments.

Fire Protection Assessments shall be imposed against all Assessed Parcels within the Assessment Property Categories. Fire Protection Assessments shall be computed in the manner set forth in this Final Assessment Resolution, more specifically as presented in Attachment "A" which utilizes the Assessment methodology in the Fire Assessment (Willdan) Report dated September 12, 2011 and approved by Council on September 12, 2011. Where the use of a building or buildings on a parcel indicates a use different from the DOR Code assigned to the parcel, the Town has the authority to impose the appropriate rate based on the use of the building or buildings regardless of the DOR Code assigned to the parcel. Where multiple buildings on a parcel have different uses, the Town shall impose the appropriate rate based on the use of each individual building. The Fire Protection Assessment imposed on the parcel shall be the total of the Fire Protection Assessments calculated for all buildings on the parcel, excluding for barns on Residential Property with an assessed Dwelling Unit or non-commercial barns on Vacant/Agricultural Property.

Section 6. Legislative Determination of Special Benefit and Fair Apportionment. The legislative determinations of special benefit and fair apportionment embodied in the Initial Assessment Resolution and Final Assessment Resolution are affirmed and incorporated herein by reference.

Section 7. Determination of Fire Protection Assessment costs; Establishment of Final Fire Protection Assessment Rates.

A. The Fire Protection Assessed Costs to be assessed and apportioned among benefitted parcels pursuant to the Cost Apportionment and the Parcel Apportionment for Fiscal Year 2012-2013, is the amount determined in the Estimated Fire Protection Assessment Rate Schedule as described in the, attached as Attachment "A". The approval of the Final Fire Protection Assessment Rate Schedules by the adoption of this Final Assessment Resolution determines the amount of the Fire Protection Assessed Costs. The remainder, if any, of such Fiscal Year budget for fire protection services, facilities, and programs shall be funded from available Town revenue other than Fire Protection Assessment proceeds.

B. The estimated Fire Protection Assessments specified in the Preliminary Fire Protection Assessment Rate Schedules as described in the Report are hereby established to fund the specified Fire Protection Assessed Costs determined to be assessed in Fiscal Year 2012-2013 commencing on October 1, 2012.

C. The estimated Fire Protection Assessments established in this Final Assessment Resolution for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 shall be the proposed

hereto as Attachment B.

Section 12. Notice By Mail. The Town Council confirms, in the event circumstances described in the Ordinance so require, that the Town has provided notice by mail to the Owner of each parcel of Assessed Property. Notices were mailed no later than August 23, 2012. The notices are in compliance with the provisions of section 200.069(10)(a), Florida Statutes, and are consistent with the requirements of the Uniform Assessment Collection Act and the Ordinance.

Section 13. Severability. If any clause, section or other part of this Resolution shall be held by any court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional or invalid, such unconstitutional or invalid part shall be considered as eliminated and in no way affecting the validity of the other provisions of this Resolution.

Section 14. Application of Assessment Proceeds. Proceeds derived by the Town from the Fire Protection Assessments shall be deposited into the Fire Protection Assessment Account and used for the provision of fire protection services, facilities, and programs. In the event there is any fund balance remaining at the end of the Fiscal Year, such balance shall be carried forward and used only to fund fire protection services, facilities, and programs.

Section 15. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Town Council of the Town of Southwest Ranches, Florida, this 12th day of September, 2012, on a motion by Council Member Breitkreuz and seconded by Vice Mayor McKay.

Nelson	<u>YES</u>
Fisikelli	<u>YES</u>
Breitkreuz	<u>YES</u>
Jablonski	<u>YES</u>
McKay	<u>YES</u>

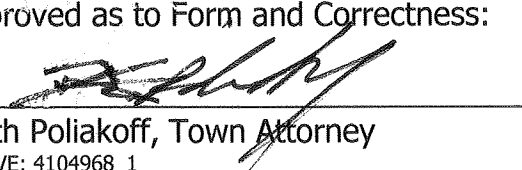
Ayes	<u>5</u>
Nays	<u>0</u>
Absent	<u>0</u>
Abstaining	<u>0</u>


Jeff Nelson, Mayor

ATTEST:


Erika Gonzalez-Santamaria, CMC, Town Clerk

Approved as to Form and Correctness:


Keith Poliakoff, Town Attorney

ACTIVE: 4104968_1

Town of Southwest Ranches
Proposed FY 2012/2013
Fire Assessment Worksheet

Sources:

Fire Administration Department
 Volunteer Fire Service Department
 Volunteer Fire Fund

Expenditures	Total 2012-2013 Proposed	FY General Fund Portion	Fire Assessment Portion
% Allocation per Consultant Study for FR Contractual Services Only		57.70%	42.30%

Direct Expenses:

Fire Rescue Contractual Service	\$ 2,388,000	\$ 1,377,876	\$ 1,010,124
Personnel Expenses	58,682	N/A	58,682
Operating Expenses	400,196	N/A	400,196
Non-Operating Debt	18,122	N/A	18,122
Capital Outlay	33,000	N/A	33,000
Sub-Total	\$ 2,898,000	\$ 1,377,876	\$ 1,520,124

Other Expenses

Publication & Notification Costs	5,000
Statutory Discount	86,579
Collections Cost	33,000
Fire Assessment Cost Allocation of Townwide Personnel/Contractual Costs	76,102
Restricted Fund Balance for Rate Stabilization	5,875
Total Fire Assessment Expenses	\$ 1,726,680

Based On Consultant Study

Property Category	Assess Unit Type	% Effort Allocation	Amount	Total Proposed Rates FY 12/13	Total Assessed Rates FY 11/12	Difference Increase (Decrease)
Residential - 2454 Units	Per Dwelling Unit	62.8912%	1,085,930	442.51	442.51	0.00
Commercial - 331,702 SF	Per Sq.Ft. Bldg Area	15.0283%	259,491	0.78	0.80	(0.02)
Indust/Warehouse - 125,036 SF	Per Sq.Ft. Bldg Area	9.5818%	165,447	1.32	1.32	0.00
Institutional - 531,932 SF	Per Sq.Ft. Bldg Area	6.2499%	107,916	0.20	0.21	(0.01)
Vacant/Agricultural - 2,094 Acre	Per Acre	6.2488%	107,897	51.53	49.80	1.73
Total		100%	\$ 1,726,680			

HALLANDALE BEACH

Change sought for special-election rules

■ If a Hallandale Beach proposal is approved, the qualifying period for a Jan. 15 special election would be moved up.

BY TONYA ALANEZ
Sun Sentinel

Is Hallandale Beach trying to give voters a break — or trying to break some political causers?

That is the question being fiercely debated as commissioners consider changing the city's special-election rules.

The proposed change would squeeze Commissioner Keith London out of

running to regain his seat if he loses his bid for mayor in November.

As required by state law, London tendered his resignation effective at midnight Nov. 6 — to run for mayor.

To fill his vacant seat, a special election was set for Jan. 15 at a cost of \$65,000.

As it stands now, if London loses the mayoral race, he could run in the special election. But a proposal by Commissioner Alex Lewy would move up the qualifying period for that race so it occurs before Nov. 6, effectively shutting out London.

State law prohibits anybody who is qualified for one race from qualifying for another.

"I don't support changing the rules in the middle of the game," London said. "He's affecting nine people because he doesn't like the rules."

Eight candidates and a write-in — including London, Mayor Joy Cooper and Vice Mayor Anthony Sanders — are vying for mayor and two commission seats on Nov. 6. The losers, under Lewy's plan, could not run in the special election.

"Commissioner London wants to have his cake and eat it, too," Lewy said. "This

is about giving the public more time to know who these candidates are and who they want to vote for. Sorry, but it's not always about him."

Lewy says with the special-election qualifying dates now falling Nov. 13-20, the public wouldn't have adequate opportunity to familiarize themselves with the candidates.

With London and Commissioner Dorothy Ross dissenting, the commission voted 3-2 Wednesday night to have City Attorney Lynn Whitfield draft an ordinance based on Lewy's proposal.

It will come before the commissioners Sept. 5. If it passes a second reading on Sept. 19, the qualifying period would begin approximately 30 days later.

Community activist Csaba Kuln, who is running for a commission seat, doesn't buy Lewy's reasoning.

"That's really ridiculous," Kuln said. "It is one of the most mean-spirited, illegal ways of depriving the civil rights and voting rights of people. Out of the eight candidates now running ... five of them will obviously not be winners and they will be disenfranchised from the election based on Lewy's running in a Jan. 15 special

election."

With accusations of political maneuvering shooting back and forth across the dais Wednesday night, Cooper criticized London for not resigning in June and saving taxpayers the cost of a \$65,000 special election.

"The system is being gamed, because if you lose, [you] can run again in January," Cooper said.

London said Thursday he has "followed the state statute to the T."

"I'm able-bodied, I'm capable, I'm actually the most-prepared person on the dais," he said. "Why would I leave the seat?"

CAMPAIGN 2012 | STATE PARTY COMMITTEES

2 GOP stalwarts defeated

■ Two Republican veterans lost their state committee seats, while Broward Democratic Chairman Mitch Caesar held onto his.

BY ANTHONY MAN
Sun Sentinel

Primary voters this week ousted two Republican Party veterans — Broward state committeewoman Fran Hancock — from their leadership roles.

Ryan Anderson, of Fort Lauderdale, edged out Kennedy by winning 51.7 percent of the vote. Cindy Tindell, of Palm Beach, won 59.8 percent of the vote against Hancock.

The Palm Beach County committee chairman, Peter Feaman, barely won with 51.3 percent.

The only big winner was Sharon Day, the Broward state committeewoman, with 74.5 per-

cent. A day defeat would have been hugely embarrassing for Republicans, because she's the No. 2 official at the national Republican Party.

State committeemen and committeewomen are elected by each county's Republican primary voters to serve on the governing board of the state Republican Party and help lead the local parties.

"Here's what happens in races like that: Nobody knows anybody," said Sid Dinerstein, chairman of the Palm Beach County Republican Party.

"The fact that Fran was there for 24 years means very, very little. If you walked into any restaurant in Palm Beach County and said, 'By the way, who's the Republican state committeewoman?' they wouldn't know what the Republican state committeewoman is."

Kennedy, a former Broward County com-

missioner and former circuit court clerk, has been committeewoman on and off since 1996.

Also on Tuesday, Broward Democratic Chairman Mitch Caesar survived a challenge.

His long-time enemies in the party tried to oust him by running candidates against him in his Plantation precinct. Caesar won 38 percent of the 345 votes cast in the four-candidate race for two spots. Dan Finkelstein came in second with 29 percent.

Hundreds of local committeemen and committeewomen are elected by primary voters to run the county political parties. If Caesar has lost his committeewoman race, he couldn't run for a fifth term as party chairman in December. He said he has enough votes to win, but the anti-Cesar faction increased its ranks, guaranteeing a white-hot material party fight at year's end.

CRIME

Police: Suspect says he's a fed

■ The sister of a man who was arrested after police said he refused to leave a hotel pool reportedly said that her brother was a federal agent.

BY DAVID GOODHUE
KeysNet.com

A Utah man claiming to be a Special Forces soldier, and whose sister told cops he's a "federal agent," remains in the county jail on battery, assault and resisting arrest charges after allegedly fighting with police, repeatedly



YOUNGBLOOD

screaming "yeah" and refusing to leave a hotel swimming pool where he swam fully clothed.

When a Monroe County Sheriff's Office deputy arrived Sunday night at the Marriott Key Largo Bay Resort at mile marker 104, he found Youngblood. The deputy then decided to arrest Youngblood, but when he tried to handcuff him, Youngblood planted his feet and braced himself.

He grabbed Youngblood's arm, squeezed it, and screamed "yeah!"

The deputy finally cuffed Youngblood by one hand, but the struggle was not over. Youngblood, whom Hunsberger was trying to escort, then grabbed the deputy and the two men fell down. They continued fighting and Youngblood began kicking the deputy,

When Hunsberger asked where Youngblood was from, he said "yeah."

Youngblood finally got out of the pool, but acted erratically and wouldn't stand still. Hunsberger physically controlled Youngblood until he calmed down. Hotel staff told Hunsberger that Youngblood's sister was staying at the Marriott. Hunsberger decided to take Youngblood to his sister's room so she could watch him and keep him from harming himself or bothering hotel guests.

But on the way to the room, Youngblood kept looking at Hunsberger and making slow gestures with his hands like he was making karate punches.

Hunsberger said he ignored Youngblood, but then the "yeahs" started again.

Hunsberger said Youngblood turned to face him and began yelling "yeah!" Youngblood also got into an "offensive posture" and put his hands up in a "fighting pose," Hunsberger said. The deputy then decided to arrest Youngblood, but when he tried to handcuff him, Youngblood planted his feet and braced himself.

He grabbed Hunsberger's arm, squeezed it, and screamed "yeah!"

The deputy finally cuffed Youngblood by one hand, but the struggle was not over. Youngblood, whom Hunsberger was trying to escort, then grabbed the deputy and the two men fell down. They continued fighting and Youngblood began kicking the deputy,

who eventually managed to get both hands cuffed, police said.

Hunsberger said he ultimately got Youngblood under control by using his thumb to apply pressure to the hollow area behind his ear. Besides calling for backup, Hunsberger also called an ambulance because Youngblood appeared to be very drunk, he said.

But Youngblood was still not done. When Hunsberger stepped over the man to look for the backup deputies and paramedics, Youngblood, who was lying on the ground, tried to kick the deputy yelling, "[Expletive] you, you mother [expletive] cop."

Youngblood's sister finally came out to see what was going on, but she didn't help matters, Hunsberger said. When Hunsberger told her he was arresting Youngblood, the sister yelled, "You're not taking him to jail. He's a federal agent."

Hunsberger convinced the sister to go back to her room. Meanwhile, Youngblood continued to curse at Hunsberger. He also said he jumps out of planes and asked Hunsberger if he knew what "spec ops" were. It is not clear what, if any, thing Youngblood does for a living. The "occupation" slot on his arrest report is blank, said Deputy Becky Herrin, an agency spokeswoman.

Youngblood was being held in the Monroe County Detention Center on Stock Island on \$8,000 bond.

For more Keys news, go to KeysNet.com

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO IMPOSE AND PROVIDE FOR COLLECTION OF FIRE PROTECTION SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS AND SOLID WASTE SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS

Notice is hereby given that the Town Council of the Town of Southwest Ranches, Florida will conduct a public hearing to consider imposing fire protection special assessments for the provision of fire protection services and for solid waste services within the Town of Southwest Ranches for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2012.

The hearing will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 12, 2012, at the Southwest Ranches Council Chambers, 13400 Griffin Road, Southwest Ranches, Florida, for the purpose of receiving public comment on the proposed assessments. All elected property owners have a right to appear at the hearing and to file written objections with the Town Council within 20 days of this notice.

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Town Council with respect to any matter considered at the hearing, such person will need a record of the proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be made. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation or an interpreter to participate in this proceeding should contact the Town Clerk's office at (954)434-0008, no later than 5:00 p.m. on the last business day prior to the date of the hearing.

The assessment for each parcel of property will be based upon each parcel's classification and the total number of billing units attributed to that parcel. The following tables show the highest assessment rates the Town Council could impose for FY 2012-2013.

Maximum Fire Assessment Rates for Fiscal Year 2012-2013

Property Category	Maximum Rate Per Unit	Maximum Rate Per Parcel
Residential	Rate per Dwelling Unit	\$ 442.51
Nonresidential		
Commercial	Rate per Square Foot Building Area	\$ 0.76
Industrial/Warehouse	Rate per Square Foot Building Area	\$ 1.32
Institutional	Rate per Square Foot Building Area	\$ 0.20
Vacant/Agricultural	Rate per Acre	\$ 15.53

Maximum Solid Waste Assessment Rates for Fiscal Year 2012-2013

Total Solid Waste Assessment per Parcel will equal the Bulk Waste Assessment Component calculated per residential parcel plus the Household Waste Assessment Component per Dwelling Unit on each residential parcel.

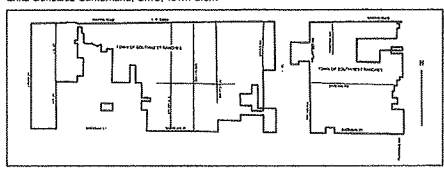
Bulk Waste Assessment Component	
Rate Class (Based on parcel size)	Rate per Residential Parcel
A: less than or equal to 41,250 sq. ft.	\$ 9.28
B: 41,251 - 62,899 sq. ft.	\$ 114.90
C: 62,900 - 84,549 sq. ft.	\$ 134.64
D: 84,550 - 106,199 sq. ft.	\$ 147.69
E: 106,200 - 127,849 sq. ft.	\$ 167.73
F: 127,850 sq. ft. and larger	\$ 192.30
Household Waste Assessment Component	
	Rate per Dwelling Unit
	\$ 361.35

Copies of relevant ordinances and resolutions (including the Fire Protection Assessment Ordinance No. 2002-08, Initial Fire Services Assessment Resolution No. 2012-060, Solid Waste Assessment Ordinance No. 2002-08 and Initial Solid Waste Assessment Resolution No. 2012-061) and the Preliminary Assessment Rolls for the Fire Services Assessment and the Solid Waste Assessment for the upcoming fiscal year are available for inspection at the Town Clerk's office located in Town Hall, 13400 Griffin Road, Town of Southwest Ranches, Florida.

The fire and solid waste assessments will be collected on the ad valorem property tax bill which will be mailed in November 2012 as authorized by section 197.3632, Florida Statutes. Failure to pay the assessments will cause a tax certificate to be issued against the property which may result in a loss of title.

If you have any questions, please contact the Town of Southwest Ranches at (954) 434-0008, Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Erika Gonzalez-Santamaria, CMC, Town Clerk



FCAT

Cause of test erasures unclear

■ Four schools, including one in Broward, were investigated because of an unusual number of erasures on the FCAT.

BY BILL KACZOR
Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE — An investigation failed to turn up causes for extremely high numbers of erasures on last year's Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test at four schools, state education officials said in a report released Friday.

The report says investigators did find that two teachers at Greensboro Elementary School in rural Gadsden County had coached students on test responses on the 2011 FCAT, but evidence did not indicate teachers altered students' responses at any of the schools.

The Department of Education's inspector general also investigated high numbers of erasures

at the Charter School of Excellence in Broward County, Chaffee Trail Elementary School in Duval County and Jefferson County Elementary School. The Florida Department of Law Enforcement also participated in investigations at two of the schools but found no criminal wrongdoing.

"In all four schools, multiple individuals had custody of a key to the secured room where the test materials were stored during the two-week administration of the FCAT," the report noted.

It recommended several changes to ensure FCAT security including that no more than two people have access to the locked storage areas. The report also said the amount of time one person is left alone with secure materials should be minimized and that two people should be present when materials are unpacked, prepared and packaged for return to the district office.

The two teachers accused of coaching or interfering at Greensboro refused to be interviewed by the inspector general's investigators. The school's principal and guidance counselor told investigators they were unaware of any coaching or interfering.

The standardized test is used to grade Florida's

schools. Jefferson Elementary ultimately received an incomplete because the department was unable to evaluate its accountability based on available data. The other three schools, though, received grades of "A" last year.

The investigation was launched after an analysis used for the first time found anomalies including an extraordinary number of erasures at 21 schools. School districts then conducted internal investigations, which the department used to conclude any advantage of irregularities was minor in 17 districts. Also, no improprieties were identified in those districts.

The department asked the Florida Department of Law Enforcement to jointly investigate Jefferson Elementary as altering or interfering with the FCAT is a criminal violation. FDLE issued a report in December saying it was unable to determine the cause of the erasures.

For the other schools FDLE asked education officials to notify the agency if they found any suspected criminal activity. FDLE subsequently conducted an investigation at Chaffee Trail, where in March it reported finding no criminal wrongdoing. FDLE did not participate in investigations at the other two schools.

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