



12



**Ashlee** >



Ok

This starts library people



14



Ashlee >



My pleasure!

Omg these library emails! Should we respond with the ordinance that established the board of governors?

I've been generically responding, but I am happy to get a facts sheet established.

I also asked Christal to send me backup that we would still be receiving the state grant of \$80-100k. She was proactive and received confirmation we would still receive those monies as a county. It is on stringent on her master's

100

I'm more interested in the ordinance vs their bylaws- just because they say they can doesn't mean that power was given to them.



15



Ashlee >



It's interesting how he begged men funding campaign before begging business from who he harmed

Tue, Mar 3 at 1:03 PM

See you downstairs of DC's office at 2:20?

Also, I have the resolution regarding the BOG. What would you like me to do? Happy to do whatever.

I also received the backup from Christal & I forwarded that your way



Yes, meet you there at 2:20. Call you in a few.



I sent you a draft email, I am sure you can doctor it up and make it prettier. I really just sent the points that I wanted to get across.

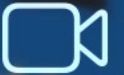
Sent with Siri

Should I get an actual recommendation from Alison? Like a quote that she will directly uphold in the BCC meeting?

Yes! Wonderful idea!



15



Bc he ... m out & his delicate  
sensible ... ouldn't take the heat



Ashlee

Sun, Mar 1 at 7:29 PM

Gentle reminder I won't be there for the mtg with Chris—remind me to give you some insight... But I will be there for the mtg with Christal at the library 😊

We also have an exhilarating meet with Pam regarding VP findings at 3PM downstairs 😲

Should be a very interesting Monday!



Indeed!



15



Michelle is planning to meet with him  
over the weekend when she is home

**Ashlee**



Christal is going on the March 5th  
agenda PS—just spoke with Wes: it's  
a straight recommendation for her,  
just like Thaddeus & Kaycee were.

It will be placed immediately after  
proclamations



20



Ashlee >



HA  
HA

I guess next time we will print it out and I will sign whatever in hot pink ink and you can stand it and send it to people.

Sent with Siri

Nikki came by and said Bradley has ZERO managerial experience

I am sending & printing a packet for you with their resumes

Thank you! This is ridiculous

Truly ridiculous!

Maybe I should share the email regarding library services on your FB page. So that at least correct information is out there.



25

WM

Wes >

Good morning,  
Thank you for reaching out and for  
your continued advocacy on behalf  
of our library system.  
I sincerely appreciate your  
engagement and your commitment  
to ensuring its continued success. I  
am a firm believer that a strong li... >



25



Ashlee

Just parked, I'm going to take a potty break and fill up my water bottle and then I'll be in



Good morning,  
Thank you for reaching out and for your continued advocacy on behalf of our library system. I sincerely appreciate your engagement and your commitment to ensuring its continued success. I am a firm believer that a strong library system supports a smart and strong community, and I value residents who share that conviction. I want to clearly express my full support for the decision to hire Christal Bell-Rivera as Library Director. Having worked in Human Resources for over ten years, I understand that there is far more to selecting a strong leader than what appears in a job description. While qualifications and experience are essential, it is often the intangibles—character, leadership presence, vision, and the ability to build effective teams—that distinguish stellar team members from merely capable employees. Those qualities matter deeply when selecting someone to guide an institution as important as our library system. I would also like to correct some misinformation that has been circulating.

\*Escambia County is not at risk of

losing funding due to Christal's  
information at the bottom of this



iMessage





25



Ashlee &gt;



system.  
I would appreciate you to correct some  
misinformation that has been  
circulating.

\*Escambia County is not at risk of  
losing funding due to Christal's  
hiring. Please see asterisked  
information at the bottom of this  
email for pertinent information  
supporting this.

Per the Resolution that established  
the Library Board of Governance, the  
County Attorney Alison Roger's has  
clearly stated:

"It is my opinion that the  
Administrator is legally and solely  
responsible for the selection and  
hiring of the Library Director. The  
BOG may make a recommendation.  
The Escambia County Board of  
County Commissioners can either  
confirm the Administrator's selection  
or say no, but it CANNOT vote for  
any other candidate."

For your knowledge and reference, I  
have attached the relevant  
resolution.

Transparency and clarity are  
important, especially when public  
trust is involved.

I remain confident that this process  
has followed the appropriate legal  
framework and that our community  
will soon see the positive impact of  
Christal's continued leadership.

Again, thank you for your advocacy  
and for your dedication to our library  
system. I truly believe we are  
positioned for continued growth and  
success!



iMessage





25



Ashlee

Ashlee Hofberger  
District 4 County Commissioner  
Office 850.595.4940  
Cell 448.239.1887

\*Pursuant to Florida Statute 257.17, the single administrative head of a public library must have at least two years of full-time professional experience following completion of a library education program accredited by the American Library Association (ALA). Importantly, the statute does not require the individual to hold the formal title of "Library Director."

For state grant applications, the single administrative head may be a qualified library professional who meets the statutory qualifications and has been designated to serve in this capacity for state aid. This



iMessage



designation does not alter the library's internal organizational structure or the individual's official



26



Ashlee



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For state grant applications, the single administrative head may be a qualified library professional who meets the statutory qualifications and has been designated to serve in this capacity for state aid. This designation does not alter the library's internal organizational structure or the individual's official job title outside of grant-related documentation.

The single administrative head form for the grant is submitted with the application annually.

This information was previously confirmed by Amy Johnson, Director/State Librarian of the Division of Library and Information Services, and was reconfirmed today, noting that other Florida library systems follow a similar structure by designating a qualified administrative professional to serve as the statutory single administrative head for state grant purposes, even when that individual is not the Library Director.

The state aid application is subject to two statutory deadlines: October 1 and December 1. All required materials were submitted on time to maintain eligibility for funding.

Florida Public Libraries received \$91,986 in State Aid Grant funding, representing approximately



iMessage





26

**Ashlee**

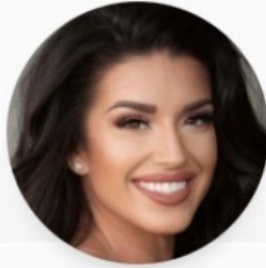
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The state aid application is subject to two statutory deadlines: October 1 and December 1. All required materials were submitted on time to maintain eligibility for funding.

For reference, in the last fiscal year, West Florida Public Libraries received \$91,986 in State Aid Grant funding, representing approximately 0.767% of the library's overall budget.

12:27

5G 18



Thank you

My pleasure!

**Melanie**

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I've been generically responding, but I am happy to get a facts sheet established.

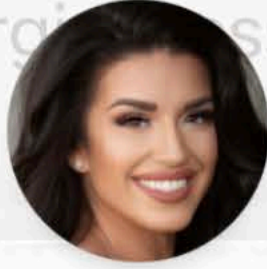
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12:28

5G 18



Melanie

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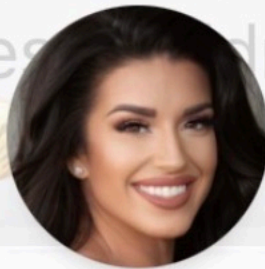
iMessage



caught talking and then behind a



1



S **Melanie** > M



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Should be a very interesting Monday!



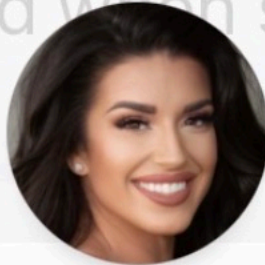
Indeed



12:30 

 5G  18

Michelle is going to meet with  
him over the wkend when she is



**Melanie** ›



Christal is going on the March  
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Wes: it's a straight  
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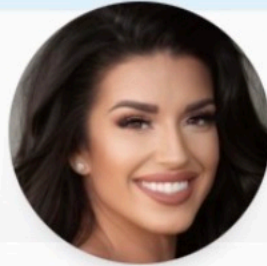
12:32

I would've been putting  
through this much hell.

5G 18



1



Fri

**Melanie**

AM

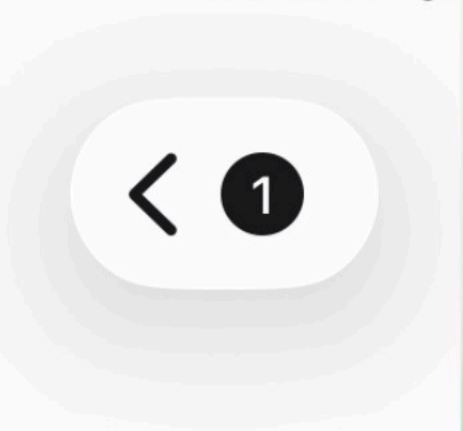


Hubble is in the interviews for  
the library....

It feels icky.

Well, that's something. I wish I  
had a bingo card for racist and  
sexist remarks this week. I'm  
sure his commentary would add  
quite a few spots.





I know it's not our project, and we have absolutely no control over it, but if you have any magic to work with UA... Apparently traffic is backed up in the Gulf breeze already.



Wes

Sun, Feb 15 at 5:48 AM

I will make some calls

Thank you for the well wishes, im having contrast MRI today

Sun, Feb 15 at 8:06 AM

Thank you!

Good luck! Please let us know if you need anything.

Thu, Mar 5 at 8:27 PM

Miss you on the Dias tonight. I hope you are doing well. Crystal passed 😊

Fri, Mar 6 at 9:27 AM

Thank you, I was watching, it was a tough one, I have made it home, I thought you ran a very good mtg 😊

Thank you sir!

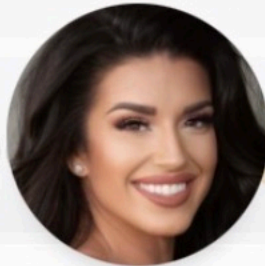


Text Message • SMS



I have summary agenda on your desk!

5G 18



Fr **Melanie** M



I talked with Wes and he is firm in his decision. He also told me Bradley took OFF her shoes during her interview 🤔 and bombed it completely. So there's that

HA  
HA

Shoeless librarian... I can see the memes



I have used mine... may  
you s... me? Haha



**Melanie**

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HA

I guess next time we will print it out and I will sign whatever in hot pink ink and you can stand it and send it to people.

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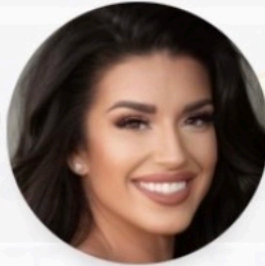
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12:37

5G 18



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**Melanie** M

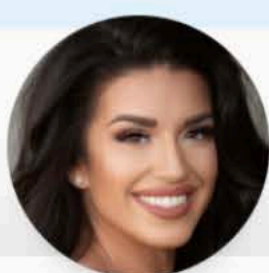


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**Melanie**

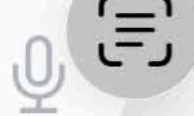
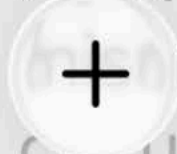


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 strong community, and I value  
 residents who share that  
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 Christal Bell-Rivera as Library  
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Having worked in Human  
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 understand that there is far more  
 to selecting a strong leader than  
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 and experience are essential, it is  
 often the intangibles—character,  
 leadership presence, vision, and  
 the ability to build effective  
 teams—that distinguish stellar  
 team members from merely  
 capable employees. Those  
 qualities matter deeply when  
 selecting someone to guide an  
 institution as important as our  
 library system.

I would also like to correct some



iMessage has been  
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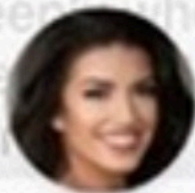
\*Escambia County is not at risk

12:40

5G 18



1



Melanie



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Per the Resolution that established the Library Board of Governance, the County Attorney Alison Roger's has clearly stated:

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Transparency and clarity are important, especially when public trust is involved.

I remain confident that this process has followed the



iMessage framework and



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12:40

5G 18



Melanie



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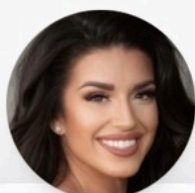
Ashlee Hofberger  
District 4 County Commissioner  
Office [850.595.4940](tel:850.595.4940)  
Cell [448.239.1887](tel:448.239.1887)

\*Pursuant to Florida Statute  
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12:40

5G 18



**Melanie**



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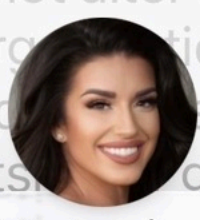
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iMessage





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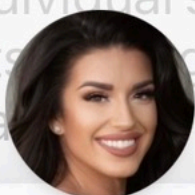


12:41

5G 18



2



**Melanie**

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iMessage



12:42 

It wasn't her

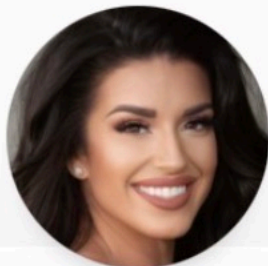


5G

17 



2



**Melanie** 

Ok

This starts library people

Chat after

