

The Town of Bristol
10 Court St.
Bristol, RI 02809

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
BRISTOL, RHODE ISLAND

2025 JAN -7 AM 9: 23

Laura Scarpino
15 Gorham Pl.
Bristol, RI 02809

Re: Resignation from the Bristol Christmas Festival Committee

December 16, 2024

Dear Members of the Bristol Town Council,

I write this letter to you all, the Bristol Town Council, with a mix of emotions. I joined the Bristol Christmas Festival Committee as a way to help enhance the offerings to this amazing town we call home. We went from breakfast with Santa to a large town event that supported local businesses better than any other town entity had done in the past and brought happiness to all who attended, including the numerous school groups who participated. Everywhere we looked, those in charge of this event never forgot the mission it was formed on. It goes without saying, it was not without hard work, immeasurable hours and the pure passion and belief to do the right thing by our community that got us by for the past few years. We were not able to do this without the support of our Town government, administration, volunteers, Fire Department, Police Department and Department of Public Works.

However, I do not know when everything went so sour or what caused it. We have unfortunately had to go up time and time again against false accusations, lack of support, and incorrect and hurtful perceptions of myself and other members of my family. The uphill climb we have had to face between community members, upset businesses, social media attacks, other similar committees in refusing to work in partnership with the Bristol Christmas Festival Committee and more issues has been more than we can handle. In addition, the struggle we have had to help raise money for this Town Committee based on unfounded perceptions and gossip with no formal support has been disappointing.

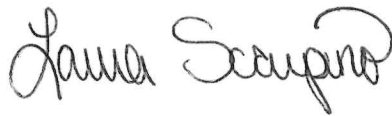
I am beyond saddened how in the past year, the relationship with my father, and the General Chairman of the Bristol Christmas Festival, Dave Scarpino, has deteriorated with the Town Administration and certain community members who have made our task of supporting this community more and more challenging. I have always been raised to do the right thing and to stand for what I believe in but it has been devastating to watch attack after attack. Ultimately, the choice has been made for me to leave the Bristol Christmas Festival Committee and all of the amazing things our small team of volunteers have accomplished.

A few years ago, my father and I joined this Committee together, gave it everything we had to support and better the community, its people and local businesses and we will go out together. With all due respect, I will not sit idly watching all of our efforts be ripped apart by numerous members of the community.

Please accept my formal resignation from the Bristol Christmas Festival Committee as the Secretary and Vice Chair effective at the end of 2024. Thank you, members of the Town Council, for your support and guidance over the years and for always being open minded to new thought and ideas, I wish the future of the Committee nothing but the best and I hope they are provided the support needed to fulfill the mission they agree to support when volunteering their hard earned time to enhance this community we call home.

Sincerely,

Laura Scarpino

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laura Scarpino". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.