Suggested Checklist for Documenting Employees

Managers can use this checklist to document positive and negative actions and/or infractions by employees, regardless of the severity of the issue. Examples include when an employee’s adverse action and/or infraction needs to be brought to their attention (i.e. violation of policy or procedure), has become repetitive, is serious enough to disrupt operations, and/or requires discipline or counseling. Using this checklist, managers can draft disciplinary documents, monitor concerns that may lead to or warrant progressive discipline, and maintain records that may aid in writing PDPs. At the same time, this checklist can be used to note exceptional performance by employees for recognition and/or inclusion in the PDP.

Important Dates

_____ Current date
_____ Date management gained knowledge of action/incident
_____ Incident date and time
_____ Date(s) discussed with employee

Key Information

_____ Employee name
_____ Witness name(s)
_____ Summary and location of incident, include infraction and/or violation (i.e. policy, procedure, etc.)
_____ Who and how incident reported
_____ Employee’s statement/reason for what occurred (if verbal, summarize; if written, attach)
_____ Effect/impact of employee’s action(s) on business operations

Action Taken (all related documents should be saved in the supervisor’s working file)

_____ None
_____ Verbal Counseling
_____ Written Counseling*
_____ Written Reprimand*
_____ Suspension**
_____ Termination**
_____ Submitted for recognition (Employee of the Month, Year, etc.)*
_____ Written action(s) signed by recipient employee, retained and originals forwarded to HRS
   (Date: __________)

Maintaining Documentation

_____ Create unofficial/working file for each employee for copies of positive and negative documentation. Include customer service emails, notes, etc. and samples of the employee’s work. Use the file to aid in the PDP.

*Items marked with asterisks must be signed in acknowledgement by the employee and should be forwarded to HRS, with copies retained in the employee’s department

**HRS should be consulted on all suspensions and terminations

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