

Winter Park fires firefighter

By Yvonne C.T. Vassel

OF THE SENTINEL STAFF

WINTER PARK — A city firefighter who had been suspended since July for disobeying a supervisor's orders has been fired.

Judy Manor, one of the city's two female firefighters, was fired Aug. 11 after meeting earlier with personnel director John Litton to give her account. Manor, 36, was suspended July 8 after Lt. Bob Ferrell complained she had disobeyed him at the scene of a house fire.

"I made a decision based on the information I had available through meeting with her," said Litton, also assistant city manager.

Manor said Thursday she would have to consult with her lawyer, James Moreland of Winter Park, before deciding whether to take further action.

After Manor's suspension, Moreland persuaded the court to prevent the city from taking further action. The city then had the injunction withdrawn, paving the way for Manor's firing.

Manor now can appeal the decision to the city's Civil Service Board, ask each of the officers who recommended her discharge to reconsider or go to court to have the decision reversed.

She began work with the department in November 1981 and earned \$18,403 per year. In 1985 she filed a sex discrimination suit against the department with the state Commission on Human Relations and named Ferrell as one officer who she believed discriminated against her. The commission later cleared the department and Ferrell of wrongdoing.

Litton said that overall Manor had a good work record.

"Her past record did not enter into this. I didn't see anything in there that influenced me one way or the other," Litton said.