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RUMBLINGS

Freep: No more embarrassing text messages

Despite persistent rumors to the contrary, *Detroit Free Press* Publisher **David Hunke** said there are no more bombshells lurking in the 14,000 text messages the paper has in its possession.

The text messages were the basis for the newspaper's January report that Detroit Mayor **Kwame Kilpatrick** and former Chief of Staff **Christine Beatty** were apparently having an affair and may also have lied under oath in the whistle-blower case that led to an \$8.4 million taxpayer-funded settlement.

Since then, there have been rumors that text messages not published contain messages belittling **Roger Penkse**, among other business leaders, as well as members of his staff, the City Council and local ministers.

Hunke told *Crain's* that while he has heard the rumors, there is nothing in the text messages the paper has in its possession to support them, and that the paper has no more bombs to drop based on its horde of unpublished messages.

"We could release and publish more text messages in the context of events as they unfold, but no one should take that as an ominous note," he said. "We are not sitting on highly inflammable texts that are the subject of these rumors. As far as any ... controversial text messages, we don't have any. There really isn't anything else that's going to be coming out from us."

Get a Detroit fashion fix

If you didn't make it to Bryant Park for New York Fashion Week, don't worry. There's an event closer to home that can satisfy your sartorial cravings.

Detroit Fashion Week (www.detroitfashionweek.com) is in its fourth year, said organizer and fashion photographer-artist **Brian Heath**.

The show, Heath said, highlights Motor City style — of which there's plenty. This year, local designers include **Beulah Cooley**, **Jill Robertson**, **Femilia** and **Angela McBride**. Top sponsors include **Azena Salon**, Birmingham; **Purely Pro Cosmetics**, Bingham Farms; **International Academy of Design & Technology**; **Fashion Group International**; **Fitness Together**; **The Art Institute**, Novi.

Fashion Week kicks off Tuesday with a party at Ferndale hipster haven **The Bosco**. Runway shows are March 28 and 29 at **Asian Village of Detroit**, 521 Atwater St. *Crain's* also will publish an April 21 report on Detroit's fashion industry.

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