



PACIFIC GROVE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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"OUR COMMUNITY, YOUR POLICE"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 29, 2020

Cathy Madalone, Chief of Police
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ALLEGED SOCIAL MEDIA POST BY POLICE OFFICER

Pacific Grove, California – On Saturday, November 28, 2020, it was brought to the attention of the Pacific Grove Police Department (PGPD) that an officer employed by PGPD allegedly posted disparaging remarks against the Black Lives Matter movement on his Parler social media account. This is the same officer that had the controversial decals affixed to his vehicle that were reported to the City back in May of 2020. Unfortunately, the findings of that investigation were part of a personnel matter, therefore disclosure of the details of the investigation are prohibited by law.

After coming across this new information, the officer has been placed on administrative leave pending an independent investigation into this incident.

"I am deeply troubled and concerned by this", said Chief Madalone. "I want to assure the public that we are committed to providing the highest-quality public safety service regardless of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, political beliefs, or any other factor. I urge you not to let the actions of one affect the relationships the City has built between the department, the community, and the rest of the women and men of the Pacific Grove Police Department who work tirelessly to keep the community safe. I understand this may erode the public's trust which we have worked so hard to attain and for that I am deeply sorry", she added.

Chief Madalone stated, "Make no mistake, this allegation will be investigated. The City takes allegations of this type of misconduct extremely seriously. If true, I want to make it clear that this conduct is contrary to our department mission, and unbecoming of any police officer and that is not the type of behavior expected of our employees."

The Pacific Grove Police Department is committed to being as transparent as the law allows throughout this process.

For more information, please contact: Chief Cathy Madalone at cmadalone@cityofpacificgrove.org or PIO Jocelyn Francis at jfrancis@cityofpacificgrove.org