



## CITY OF PORTLAND, OREGON



### Bureau of Police

Tom Potter, Mayor

Rosanne M. Sizer, Chief of Police

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October 28, 2008

**TO:** Mayor Tom Potter

**SUBJECT:** Allegations by Commissioner Leonard

Dear Mayor Potter:

On Thursday, October 23, 2008, Commissioner Randy Leonard made public statements to the media alleging that I released, or facilitated the release, of embarrassing information regarding him or his family.

I am not entirely clear about his allegation. However, I have knowledge of one specific posting on the Internet that involved his family. I wanted to document for you my knowledge of the posting and what happened following our discovery of the posting.

On September 26, 2008, Terri Wallo Strauss, a public information officer at the Police Bureau read a post written by Amy Ruiz in the *Portland Mercury's* blog regarding Commissioner Randy Leonard and the Police Bureau. Following the story, an unidentified individual ("Low Level System Worker") posted a comment regarding Commissioner Leonard's daughter having outstanding warrants for her arrest. The posting contained what appeared to be court case numbers associated with two criminal cases against Commission Leonard's daughter.

Ms. Strauss and Officer Cathe Kent (who works in the PIO's Office) found the name of Commissioner Leonard's daughter using the Internet and queried the Law Enforcement Data System (LEDS) to determine if in fact the information cited was accurate. After confirming the post was factual as to the warrants, Officer Kent then brought the information to me directly.

A short time later on the 26<sup>th</sup>, I contacted Austin Raglione in your office to notify her about the posting and that I was assigning the Bureau's Internal Affairs Division to investigate if someone in the Bureau had accessed any information about Commissioner Leonard's daughter through LEDS. By the end of the business day on the 26<sup>th</sup> of September, Austin Raglione reported to me that she had alerted Commissioner Leonard and his chief of staff, Ty Kovatch, to the *Portland Mercury* blog entry and the Police Bureau's intention to investigate the possibility of a Police Bureau employee inappropriately accessing and releasing confidential warrant status information from LEDS.

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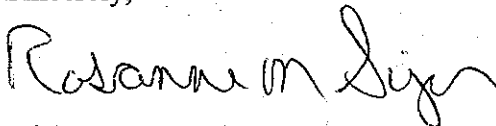
The investigation found that in addition to Officer Kent's review on LEDS following the blog post, a North Precinct officer conducting extra patrol on June 1, 2008, ran a series of license plates that included a vehicle registered to Commissioner Leonard's daughter. This kind of action is commonly done in the search for stolen vehicles. The officer did not run a warrants check on Ms. Leonard directly. The investigators can say definitively that no one from the Police Bureau ran Commissioner Leonard's daughter's information through LEDS.

The allegations that someone from the Chief's Office had any knowledge of this post and provided it to the *Mercury* or any other media are serious. My staff is well aware that providing this kind of information in such a way would violate the Police Bureau's Directives on release of public information and could result in disciplinary action. All members of the Police Bureau sign confidentiality agreements and public information regarding warrants or individuals' criminal history is only provided under authorized circumstances.

If Commissioner Leonard has any evidence or additional information regarding this incident or any others involving the improper release of information, I would strongly urge him to provide it to you, the Internal Affairs Division and the Independent Police Review Division (IPR).

I have not—nor would I condone—anyone in my office of leaking information to reports about Commissioner Leonard's family.

Sincerely,



ROSANNE M. SIZER  
Chief of Police

c. Commissioner Randy Leonard  
Mayor-Elect Sam Adams