

CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE

Albuquerque Police Department



Harold J. Medina, Chief of Police

January 26, 2024

Law Office of the Public Defender Commission
via email to each Commissioner, individually

Re: *Investigation into Thomas Clear III and APD DWI Officers*

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to provide information regarding former LOPD Commission Chair, Thomas Clear III, and allegations regarding the LOPD management. The Albuquerque Police Department (APD) received information about alleged illegal conduct by officers on the APD DWI Unit and a local criminal defense attorney. The FBI is conducting a federal investigation, and I ordered an administrative investigation into the officers who have been implicated in this alleged scheme. As you are likely aware, the attorney who has been implicated in this alleged scheme is Mr. Clear, then-Chair of the LOPD Commission.

During the investigation, I learned that multiple line attorneys in the Albuquerque office of the LOPD were concerned regarding the conduct of Mr. Clear and reported their concerns to the LOPD management. While I cannot speak to the exact nature of these concerns and the specific individuals involved, I understand that the upper management of the LOPD ignored such concerns and did nothing to investigate the activities of then-Chairman Clear.

The allegations about the alleged scheme with APD officers and a defense attorney are extremely disturbing, and it ought to concern all criminal justice partners. APD continues to investigate this alleged scheme and will hold accountable all involved officers. I hope that the LOPD Commission will similarly take any action necessary to investigate and hold accountable anyone who was involved in turning a blind eye.

For the sake of our criminal justice system, we must work together in thoroughly investigating and holding accountable anyone who took advantage of the system.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Harold Medina".

Harold Medina, Chief of Police
Albuquerque Police Department

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