


CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE

Timothy M. Keller, Mayor

Interoffice Memorandum

January 23, 2024

To: Dan Lewis, City Council President

From: Dr. Samantha Sengel, Chief Administrative Officer 

Subject: City of Albuquerque Adherence to Appropriate Communications and Compliance with Federal, State, and Local Investigations

Last night, 1/22/2024, during the regularly scheduled public meeting of the Albuquerque City Council, several members raised questions and alleged that the Administration's public comments were lacking on a federal investigation that is currently underway. As you know, I provided very limited information in my response and, although continually asked for more information, did not respond further. I am following up today to clearly document with you individually and as a body the imperative to uphold the integrity of an ongoing federal investigation.

Although we all may wish to have more information at any one time, I will not undermine the standards of confidentiality or disregard the need to refrain from jeopardizing an investigation by law enforcement. I have an obligation to perform my role as Chief Administrative Officer, to run the city, and maintain appropriate communications. That includes refraining from communication when required. I understand your frustration that your position as a City Councilor does not afford you the opportunity to have early or advance information in investigations of this type.

If you feel this is not appropriate, I encourage you to reach to the US Attorney's Office or the Department of Justice to confirm the expectations regarding the disclosure of information regarding the facts, timing, or potential of an impending or ongoing federal investigation.

Cc: Councilor Louie Sanchez
Councilor Joaquin Baca
Councilor Klarissa Pena
Councilor Brook Bassan
Councilor Nichole Rogers
Councilor Tammy Fiebelkorn
Councilor Dan Champine
Councilor Renee Grout