

PRESS RELEASE

June 14, 2019

Yesterday Woods Cross Police Chief Chad Soffe spoke with Davis County Attorney Troy Rawlings to request that the Davis County Attorney's Office conduct an independent investigative review of the June 6, 2019 interaction between a Woods Cross police officer and a minor. Mr. Rawlings confirmed any review his office would conduct would be limited to possible criminal conduct. The City, however, seeks a broader review than just possible criminal conduct. Following a request by Chief Soffe, the State of Utah has agreed to conduct an independent investigation of the matter to review not only possible criminal conduct but also whether the officer acted with any bias or engaged in racial profiling, the propriety of the force used under the circumstances, and whether any policies were violated. A copy of that request is attached.

The City will provide the State with all information currently within its possession and will fully cooperate in the State's investigation. The City will inform the media and the public of the results of the State's independent investigative review and determine what, if any, action to take as a result.

WOODS CROSS CITY



POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF OF POLICE • CHAD A. SOFFE

June 14, 2019

Commissioner Jess Anderson
Department of Public Safety
4501 South 2700 West,
Salt Lake City, UT 84129

by email to: jessanderson@gmail.com
Original by US Mail

Re: City of Woods Cross
Investigative Review of Events of June 6, 2019

Dear Commissioner Anderson:

This letter memorializes the request by the Woods Cross Police Department that the Department of Public Safety conduct a comprehensive investigative review of the facts and circumstances relating to events of June 6, 2019 involving [REDACTED] and a youth in the City of West Bountiful.

On June 6, 2019, [REDACTED], while responding to a request for assistance from another agency, stopped at a home in West Bountiful, Utah, and with weapon drawn, briefly detained a minor believed to be a possible dangerous suspect in a crime committed in Centerville, Utah.

We have a digital file of the investigative work that we have completed to this point which includes, dispatch printed logs, dispatch audio recordings, police reports from all agencies involved, copies of our policy and procedure manual and several names of witnesses to the event. We have not yet canvassed the area of occurrence to locate and interview any witnesses to this event.

Allegations have been made that Sgt. [REDACTED]'s actions were inappropriate.

The Woods Cross Police Department formally requests that the Department of Public Safety investigates and reviews all facts and circumstances involving this incident, including locating and interviewing any witnesses. We request that the investigation and review encompass the following: (a) questions of racial bias or profiling; (b) questions of improper use of force; (c) violations of policies; (d) any possible criminal misconduct.

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If you find other areas or issues you feel need to be addressed, please do so. The City's goal is to be completely transparent on these facts and circumstances and to learn how it might improve its public service in the future.

Once the investigative review is complete, please prepare your report and forward it to me.

Thank you for your willingness to assist us with this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chad A. Soffe". The signature is written over a horizontal line.

Chad A. Soffe, Chief
Woods Cross Police Department
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Email: chief@woodscross.com

C: Gary Uresk
Mayor Rick Earnshaw
Mark Bell
Chief Brian Redd DPS
Heather White