OFFICE OF MAYOR TED WHEELER
CITY OF PORTLAND

September 11, 2020

TO: Chuck Lovell, Chief of Police
FROM: Ted Wheeler, Mayor

RE: Public Comments Letter of Expectations

Chief Lovell,

This memorandum memorializes the important aspects of our conversation on September 10, 2020 and establishes my expectations going forward regarding appropriate behavior and acceptable performance as the Chief of the Police Bureau. As the Mayor and Police Commissioner for our City I have an obligation to take every measure I can to reduce unrest within our community and help deescalate the use of force.

On September 10, 2020, I issued a direct order to you and the Portland Police Bureau, effective immediately, to end the use of CS gas for crowd control. My Chief of Staff had discussed this matter with you at length in advance of my press release. Later that same day, your Bureau released a message to our community defending the use of CS gas.

Your message undercut my directive and demonstrated a lack of forethought of the impact of conflicting information to the community during this volatile moment within our City. This reflects a serious lack of judgment on your part. As the Chief of Police, your leadership has an immense impact on how my direction is operationalized through our officers and in real time within our community.

I expect you to follow my directive and end the use of CS gas for crowd control within the City immediately. I expect you and your command staff to reinforce my directive, both within our Police Bureau and the community.

1221 SW Fourth Avenue, Suite 340 ♦ Portland, Oregon 97204
MayorWheeler@PortlandOregon.gov

If you do not understand any of these expectations, you are responsible for notifying me immediately so I can provide clarification. Any failure to abide by these expectations will result in immediate action, up to and including termination.

Chief Lovell, you are a valued member of our City's leadership team and I appreciate the difficult role you have been tasked with over the past several months.

Ted Wheeler
Mayor

Cc: BHR Personnel File

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