



SARAH SCHIELKE

THE LIFE
& LIBERTY
LAW OFFICE

TELEPHONE 970.493.1980

FACSIMILE 970.797.4008

E-MAIL sarah@lifeandlibertylaw.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 30, 2021

GARNER FAMILY RESPONSE TO THREE LOVELAND OFFICERS RESIGNING WITH PENSIONS, BENEFITS; CHIEF TICER'S REFUSAL TO STEP DOWN

Statement from Sarah Schielke, attorney to Ms. Garner and her family:

Today the City of Loveland Police Department held a press conference in which Chief Ticer announced that three officers (Hopp, Jalali, and Blackett) had resigned from LPD. They were not fired. They resigned. Despite what the world has seen they did on not one but two horrifying videos, they will still receive benefits paid by Loveland.

It is long overdue that these three became unemployed. However Sergeant Metzler, their supervisor directly involved in this torturous event, remains a paid Loveland Police Officer. This is unacceptable. Sergeant Antolina Hill, who heard Karen cry out in pain from the cell and who also personally read Hopp's use of force report and notarized it, remains on duty.

This family deserves swift justice. And any investigations pursued ought to be done by parties outside of Larimer County. Not by Loveland's "partner" agencies and Loveland's insurance provider.

But perhaps most concerning is Chief Ticer. Ticer said "this isn't the Loveland Police Department" several times during his speech. He is wrong. This is the Loveland Police Department. And it is *his* Loveland Police Department. He is responsible for what happens in it. And incredibly, despite presiding over the hiring, training and culture that led to this atrocity against Karen Garner, he and the City of Loveland believe he ought to still continue running it. His decision to not resign, and the City of Loveland's City Manager (Steve Adams) decision to not remove him from that position proves that LPD's leadership and toxic culture problems are just as bad as we suspected when we saw the very first video, if not worse. And they go all the way through Ticer, to the very top. Because while the world looks on, aghast, and waiting - the City leaves the old guard in place. And it does nothing.

Statement from Ms. Garner's family:

“Today we listened to Chief Ticer give a speech singularly endeavoring to protect only himself and the reputation of the LPD. He repeatedly dodged questions regarding our family. He made no reference to Karen personally. And just like on June 26, 2020, the inhumane treatment of our mother was ignored and his continued support of the department was the focus. He said that our mother’s case has “hurt him personally.” It is clear that the only thing that has “hurt him personally” has been the attention this case has brought to his department. Not what happened to our mother. We are disappointed.”

###

Media inquiries seeking further comment, interview or links to download original video content may be directed to sarah@lifeandlibertylaw.com or by calling (970) 493-1980.