

## The Oregonian

### Portland pandering to extreme fringe (Opinion)

By Guest Columnist

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Elice Koehne

I guess I shouldn't be surprised by anything that comes from our Portland leaders, but I wanted to comment on the story in The [Oregonian recently](#) that the city will divest all investment in corporations. The estimated loss is, at least \$4.5 million. Members of the city's committee, the Socially Responsible Investment Committee, showed their rationale: The "evil" Caterpillar Inc., in business since 1925:

"Caterpillar, a company that makes trucks and bulldozers, some of which they say are used to harm Palestinians in the Israel Palestine conflict," the story said.

I guess they didn't know that Caterpillar equipment has been used for generations on farms, here in Oregon and all over the world, to produce food for the billions of us that have gotten in the habit of eating food.

They decided to ban all investment from corporations, rather than use a selective approach because, darn it, our leaders just don't have enough time to worry about where the money is coming from on the front end, when they are so busy spending it on the back end.

As the story states, "Commissioner Dan Saltzman told the activists that he based his decision on having limited time that he'd rather spend addressing the city's housing crisis and potholes than regularly evaluating which companies belong on the do-not-buy list."

So worrying about where the millions come from is not his problem? No, now it's our problem. Does that sound familiar? Does PERS ring a bell? I hope PERS doesn't get up on that high horse because taxpayers are already way underwater on that debacle. Returns on investments from federal bonds won't cut it.

So are the "activists" going to reduce their demands for spending? I saw nothing mentioned on that or what budget cuts we can expect.

I would ask our leaders to dig deep for something that resembles common sense but since we see that's not possible, what they do need to do is "walk the talk." Everyone on the committee, and the entire Portland government workforce, needs to "divest" from all things provided by all of these evil corporations. They can start with their smart phones. Because I guarantee you that somewhere right now, some dictator or terrorist, is using a smart phone.

There's a very long list of everything provided by corporations used in our daily lives: computers, printers, internet and those desks sitting in buildings built with materials from the evil

corporations. But let's just have them start with their smart phones. And then let's get a report back from them on that.

*Elice Koehne is a resident of Southeast Portland.*

## **Union accuses Portland's mayor of violating police lieutenant's due process rights**

*By Maxine Bernstein  
04/14/2017*

The union that represents Portland police lieutenants and captains has accused Mayor Ted Wheeler of "displaying shocking disregard" for the due process rights of Lt. Mike Leasure by the mayor's release this week of a summary report of an unfinished investigation that involved both Chief Mike Marshman and Leasure.

"That release has corrupted the well-established processes to ensure fairness and impartiality in evaluating member conduct and has done irreparable personal damage to Lieutenant Leasure," wrote Lt. Craig Morgan, president of the Portland Police Commanding Officers' Association in a prepared release Friday.

Morgan met with the mayor's chief of staff on Thursday and asked that the mayor issue an apology for releasing what he called a "confidential investigative memo" to the public, and to all Police Bureau members in an email.

### **DOCUMENT: [MEMO DISTRIBUTED TO PUBLIC, POLICE OFFICERS](#)**

"I told him that I don't think you can make this right but please make a statement saying we shouldn't have sent this out and not to read anything into the fact that Marshman is back at work and Leasure is not," Morgan told The Oregonian/OregonLive.

The union then filed a formal complaint against Wheeler and the mayor's communications director, Michael Cox, with the city's Bureau of Human Resources on Friday afternoon. The complaint accused Wheeler and Cox of violating the [Bureau of Human Resources' administrative rule 11.04](#) "by sending a copy of a confidential investigative memo to the entire Police Bureau."

Wheeler defended its release.

"The Mayor's office determined that the public interest required the release of this information to ensure transparency, given that the matter being investigated involved high-ranking police officials," said Cox, in a prepared statement.

Anna Kanwit, director of the city's Bureau of Human Resources, wrote the memo to the mayor on Tuesday. The chief and his executive assistant were under investigation following a complaint

that a training log had been fabricated regarding the chief's attendance at a bureau class.

The memo's subject was "Marshman Investigation: Initial Findings," and described Kanwit's initial conclusions based on a review of a summary report of a city investigation into the police chief and his executive assistant. Kanwit said she did not review the full investigative file but only a "confidential summary report." She determined that the chief didn't appear to have violated any bureau policies.

To make findings on a case without reviewing a completed, full investigative report is highly unusual, city officials and police officers said.

"At the beginning of the investigation, communication restriction orders were issued to all involved members to protect the integrity of the investigation," Lt. Morgan said. "The Mayor's office, however, felt it was appropriate to release Ms. Kanwit's memo before the investigation was complete. This decision displayed a shocking disregard for the due process rights of a city employee. "

On Wednesday, [the mayor returned Marshman to full duty](#), finding he did not violate bureau directives. His spokesman sent out a press release and attached Kanwit's memo.

Leasure remains on paid administrative leave. Both men were placed on paid leave on March 24.

The investigation examined whether Marshman had directed Leasure to sign an attendance sheet on the chief's behalf at a training the chief didn't attend. Initial statements made by Leasure and Marshman during the inquiry did not match, raising a question as to who was telling the truth, according to Kanwit.

The training was for supervisors on the use of the bureau's Employee Information System, a computer-based system intended to identify at-risk employees who have a high number of complaints or a pattern of excessive use of force. Improving use of the system has been a requirement under the city's settlement agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice.

According to Leasure's initial interview with an investigator, the chief had told him to sign him in on an attendance roster because he would be late to the class, and so Leasure did sign the chief's name on the roster. Marshman, though, told an investigator he did not tell Leasure to sign him in.

An initial inquiry found Marshman didn't attend the training.

In a subsequent interview with the Independent Police Review Division, Leasure changed his account, saying the chief had not directed him to sign the attendance roster on his behalf, according to Kanwit.

The class instructor also backed up this account. The instructor said Leasure had asked if he could sign the chief in, but the trainer said there was no indication the chief had directed Leasure to do so, according to Kanwit's summary.

"I find that Chief Marshman did not violate the Police Bureau's directive on truthfulness, and while it appears that he did not violate any bureau directives, I will reserve making that finding until I have reviewed the full investigation," Kanwit wrote to the mayor Tuesday.

Constantin Severe, director of the Independent Police Review Division, said the investigation has not been completed as he hasn't approved all the reports.

Severe declined to comment about the controversy over the mayor's release of Kanwit's report. "At this point, we're bystanders. We're pretty close to wrapping up the investigation," he said Friday.

Severe and the auditor only learned of the mayor's decision to return the police chief to full duty through the mayor's emailed press release, sent out after 6 p.m. on Wednesday.

How the Bureau of Human Resources will handle the union's complaint, considering Kanwit wrote the memo that was made public, is unclear. Morgan said he didn't believe Kanwit intended her memo to be distributed.

Morgan said he's glad Marshman is back to work and declined to comment about the specifics in the investigative summary report regarding Leasure.

## **The Portland Tribune**

### **Downtown homeless shelter will relocate to former furniture building**

*By Lyndsey Hewitt*  
04/15/2017

City of Portland and Multnomah County partner with owners of Shleifer Furniture building to give temporary shelter to those without a home.

A temporary, 100-bed homeless shelter downtown that city and county officials opened in January following severe weather will find a new home in the Shleifer Furniture building, 509 S.E. Grand at Stark.

Called the Columbia Shelter, the operation at the Washington Center Building at Southwest Fourth and Washington Street planned to close after about six months. Officials announced the relocation to the 111-year-old building on Friday, April 14. It will open on Monday, April 17, when officials, including Mayor Ted Wheeler and Multnomah County Chair Deborah Kafoury, will preview the shelter.

The Shleifer building's co-owners, Beam Development and Urban Development + Partners, are offering the space before they begin work on restoring the building, which will eventually see use as a hotel. After 80 years in business, Shleifer Furniture closed for good in the fall.

The shelter will sleep up to 100 men, women, and some couples overnight.

Donated by the Menashe family, a Portland real estate family, and Greystar Real Estate, the Columbia Shelter was an interim use while the firm was working to buy the property from the Menashe family and had no plans to use the building until later in the year.

The Menashe family had previously donated the space for homeless people to sleep in 2016, called Peace Shelter.

In January, Greystar's managing director, Brad Schnell, said that the Washington Center Building would eventually be developed into high rises.

In a similar public-private partnership with the city and county, Tom Cody, a developer that owns the Bushong & Co. building at 333 S.W. Park Ave., donated space there in November of last year for a temporary 100-bed shelter, called Peace 2. Transition Projects Inc., the county's largest shelter provider, manages operations at Columbia Shelter and Peace 2.

Peace 2 also is planned to close after six months, but it's unclear what officials have planned after that time is up.

Read the announcement from the city-county Joint Office of Homeless Services and A Home for Everyone, the initiative between the city, county, city of Gresham and Home Forward:

*The City of Portland and Multnomah County have joined with a pair of Portland development firms to find a new home for downtown's Columbia shelter -- building on a strong partnership with the business community that's helped hundreds of vulnerable neighbors find safety off the streets.*

*Columbia's new location -- in the historic Shleifer Furniture building at 509 S.E. Grand at Stark -- will begin welcoming guests Monday, April 17. It will continue providing overnight accommodations for up to 100 people, including men, women and some couples.*

*The Shleifer building's co-owners, Beam Development and Urban Development + Partners, are offering up the space as a shelter before they begin work restoring the 111-year-old building for use as a hotel later this year. The building will remain open as a shelter into the fall.*

*That collaboration means the community can maintain needed capacity in our shelter system. It also shows the continued power of partnership between the public and private sectors when it comes to addressing homelessness -- and directly easing suffering on the streets.*

*"Homelessness is a growing issue in our city and it's important to remember that we all have a role to play in helping our neighbors in need," said Eric Cress, principal at Urban Development + Partners.*

*"As building owners and developers, we have a unique opportunity to provide access to safe spaces and services for people in our community who would otherwise be sleeping on the street. This temporary shelter wouldn't be happening without the vision and hard work of community*

*leaders, elected officials, and city and county staff who are committed to addressing homelessness in a comprehensive and compassionate way."*

*"Homelessness is a citywide challenge that requires citywide solutions," said Jonathan Malsin, principal at Beam Development. "We're proud to be part of one solution with a temporary site for shelter and services while we are completing our renovation plans for the historic Hotel Chamberlain.*

*"Folks from the city, the county, and community organizations are engaging in outstanding work to fill in the rest of the puzzle, pursuing innovative strategies to address homelessness in every corner of the city. We look forward to seeing more partnerships to provide shelter and services to those who need them and address the root causes that push people to the streets in the first place."*

*Columbia's original location, in the Washington Center Building at SW Fourth and Washington Street, opened only as a temporary shelter in January. It was set to close this week.*

*The Menashe family first opened the Washington Center Building as shelter space last year, as the Peace shelter. The space was reopened as the Columbia shelter, after the Menashe family worked with Greystar Real Estate Partners, which was under contract to purchase the property at the time.*

*The agreement to open Columbia came near the height of an unprecedented and deadly bout of severe winter weather. And it made an immediate difference for people freezing on our streets.*

*"It's been fantastic. It rescued me off the streets," said C.M., one of the guests who stayed at Columbia. "If it wasn't for you guys, I'd be dope sick somewhere, sleeping in the street. You guys are giving me a lot of inspiration to start the ball rolling and get back into school."*

*"Life saving and life changing. In one word, awesome," said D.H., another guest. "Without Columbia, it'd be hell on earth. I'd probably be dead this winter."*

*Developer Tom Cody, who owns the Bushong & Co. building at 333 SW Park near O'Bryant Square, also came forward with a similar arrangement in the fall. That building is still hosting the Peace 2 men's shelter.*

*The new location for the Columbia shelter adds another partner to the effort by the City/County Joint Office for Homeless Services and A Home For Everyone to increase shelter beds for homeless neighbors.*

*A Home for Everyone is the first community-wide initiative to respond to homelessness in Multnomah County. It brings together people who experience homelessness; elected officials from Portland, Gresham, and the county; and leaders from the faith, philanthropy, business, and nonprofit sectors to craft shared strategies.*

*"Addressing homelessness in our community requires the entire community's participation. Government cannot do this alone," said Mayor Ted Wheeler. "Thank you to our private sector partners for stepping up."*

*Overall, A Home for Everyone and its partners have nearly doubled the number of publicly funded, year-round shelter beds in Multnomah County over the past year, adding roughly 600 beds.*

*Including space provided by privately funded organizations, our community now has more than 1,450 year-round beds available. Nearly 300 additional beds are available for short-term use.*

*"In true Portland spirit, when we asked the business community to help, they stepped up," said Multnomah County Chair Deborah Kafoury. "First it was the Menashe family, then it was Tom Cody and Project, and now it's Brad Malsin and Beam. Who's next?"*

*But shelter is also akin to seeking treatment for a chronic condition in the emergency room.*

*That's why A Home for Everyone remains committed to preventing as many people as possible from becoming homeless in the first place, helping more than 5,200 last fiscal year.*

*The office also works to help those who do fall into homelessness regain housing as quickly as possible, and then keep it. More than 4,600 people were moved from homelessness into housing last year, more than ever.*

*Making sure people in crisis don't need shelter, either because they can stay in their homes or can quickly return to permanent housing, also helps our current shelter capacity go further.*

*In all, partners in A Home for Everyone helped more than 25,600 people -- also more than ever.*

*Transition Projects will continue managing the Columbia Shelter, with operations funded through the City/County Joint Office of Homeless Services. Organizers have worked closely with the Portland Business Alliance on this initiative.*

*"We're thankful for another opportunity to partner with business leaders like Beam Development and Urban Development Partners to help ensure some of the county's most vulnerable have a safe place to sleep off the streets," said George Devendorf, executive director of Transition Projects.*

## **The Portland Mercury**

# **Portland Police Union Files Complaint Against Ted Wheeler Over Handling of Marshman Complaint**

*By Dirk Vanderhart*

04/17/2017

The labor union representing high ranking police officers today filed a complaint against Mayor Ted Wheeler and his chief spokesperson, over Wheeler's decision earlier this week to share a human resources memo while [reinstating Police Chief Mike Marshman](#).

Complaining of "a shocking disregard for the due process right of a city employee," the Portland Police Commanding Officers Association (PPCOA) now says that release ran afoul of city rules, and hung one of its members, Lt. Mike Leasure, out to dry.

"That release has corrupted the well-established processes to ensure fairness and impartiality in evaluating member conduct and has done irreparable personal damage to Lieutenant Leasure," says a release from PPCOA President Craig Morgan, a Portland police lieutenant.

Here's where this is coming from: Both Marshman and Leasure were placed on leave last month, after allegations surfaced that Marshman had directed Leasure to sign the chief into a training he didn't actually attend. As we reported earlier this week, an investigation found that Marshman denied giving that order, and that Leasure ultimately recanted his statement that he'd been directed to fudge the chief's attendance.

How do we know that? Because Wheeler [released an initial findings memo](#) from the city's human resources director, Anna Kanwit, saying as much.

The problem, in the PPCOA's mind, is that Leasure is still under investigation.

Marshman was investigated by the city's Independent Police Review, which is a wing of the City Auditor's Office. But because this city's police oversight system is a confusing garbage labyrinth, allegations against Leasure are being investigated by the police bureau's Internal Affairs unit, and still underway.

So Morgan and the PPCOA are saying the mayor screwed over Leasure by airing details of the investigation into he and Marshman. The union demanded an apology from Wheeler, asking him to say he "mistakenly" released the memo.

The mayor has made no such apology.

"The Mayor's office determined that the public interest required the release of this information to ensure transparency, given that the matter being investigated involved high ranking police officials," says Wheeler spokesperson Michael Cox, who is also the subject of the complaint.

The complaint itself amounts to a short email to Kanwit, in which Morgan says Wheeler and Cox "committed a clear violation" of a [city rule](#) against sharing sensitive information.

That rule reads, in part: "Employees shall not disclose restricted or confidential information by any means except in accordance with Human Resources Administrative Rules, City Technology Policies, bureau-specific policies and regulations or when required by law."

The union clearly feels Kanwit's memo was covered under the rule.

Here's the PPCOA's full release.

*PORTLAND, Ore. — The Portland Police Commanding Officers Association (PPCOA) has filed a complaint with the Bureau of Human Resources (BHR) against Mayor Ted Wheeler and his communication director, Michael Cox, for violation of Administrative Rules regarding protection of confidential information.*

*On April 12, Mayor Wheeler's office released an initial findings memorandum from BHR Director Anna Kanwit regarding the investigation into Chief Michael Marshman and Lieutenant Michael Leasure. While the Mayor's office made the decision to return Chief Marshman to work, the confidential administrative review of Lieutenant Leasure is being handled by the Police Bureau's Internal Affairs office and is still ongoing. This memo was sent via email to the entire Police Bureau.*

*At the beginning of the investigation, communication restriction orders were issued to all involved members to protect the integrity of the investigation. The Mayor's office, however, felt it was appropriate to release Ms. Kanwit's memo before the investigation was complete. This decision displayed a shocking disregard for the due process rights of a city employee. It also stands in direct contradiction to the statement by the Mayor's office at the time the decision was originally made to place Chief Marshman and Lieutenant Leasure on administrative leave. At the time, the Mayor's office stated, "Both Chief Marshman and Lieutenant Leasure have the right to due process and are assumed to be innocent of any wrongdoing while the investigation is underway." Finally, we believe the decision to release the memo was a clear violation of both Bureau of Human Resources Administrative Rules and the PPCOA collective bargaining agreement.*

*That release has corrupted the well-established processes to ensure fairness and impartiality in evaluating member conduct and has done irreparable personal damage to Lieutenant Leasure. The PPCOA asked the Mayor to take steps to mitigate the damage by issuing an apology for mistakenly releasing the memo. He has declined to do so.*

*Mayor Wheeler placed Chief Marshman and Lieutenant Leasure on administrative leave when he became aware that they were the subject of allegations of serious misconduct. We look forward to seeing if he holds himself and his staff to the same standard.*