



CITY OF

PORTLAND, OREGON

Dan Saltzman, Commissioner

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STATEMENT FROM COMMISSIONER DAN SALTZMAN

As police commissioner, I have a duty to ensure that the Portland Police Bureau is able to do its important work of helping keep our community safe. The men and women of the Police Bureau exhibit great dedication and courage to the job and they have my respect and support.

For our police to be effective, they must also have the confidence of the people they work so hard to serve. There are times that confidence can be tested. While these incidents are very rare compared to the thousands of hours of service police officers provide every day, how we respond to them in many ways defines the relationship between the Bureau and the people of Portland.

One such incident concerns the shooting of a beanbag round which struck a 12 year old girl at close range. This, including widely distributed video tape of the incident, has raised questions about the appropriate uses of force. An investigation into this incident has begun.

In the meantime, Chief Sizer and I have made the decision to place Officer Chris Humphreys in an off-street administrative assignment upon his return from Leave of Service and pending the outcome of the investigation into the use of force incident that occurred on the 148th Street MAX Platform. The investigation will include a review of police policy and training as it examines the individual actions of the officers involved.

I believe that Chief Sizer, the rank and file police officers and I share the same goal: a police bureau that can do its vital work with support and respect. They have mine, and we believe that the action we have taken today will help ensure the public's support and respect as well.