



**Police Department**  
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**Office of the Chief of Police**

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March 16, 2017

Wendy Halloran  
Channel 12 News

Ms. Halloran,

Let me start by saying thank you for bringing the events involving Mr. Van Galder to our attention. As I stated when we last spoke, I was very concerned and took the allegations very seriously. A complete investigation and review of the events surrounding his confinement in our jail was launched within minutes of you first contacting us. As we moved through that investigation we attempted to keep you as informed and updated as the course of the investigation would allow.

Since our last meeting, an in-depth investigation of the events was completed and discipline was administered. From there, the entire event was reviewed by several organizations outside of our department. First, the investigation was reviewed by the Phoenix City Attorney's Office. Their review validated our findings that no criminal charges were warranted. Additionally, our Jail Operating Procedures and General Orders were reviewed by the Tempe Police Department. Upon review of Tempe's recommendations, some minor changes to our policies were made. The scope of these reviews, the recommendations and our policy changes have all been provided to you. Additionally, the confinement was recently reviewed and upheld by the Gilbert City Court. Just this week, Mr. Van Galder's certification case was reviewed by the Arizona P.O.S.T. Board and as a member of that board I recused myself from that proceeding.

From the start, this case was taken very seriously and investigated to the fullest extent. We discovered serious human error and policy violations during that investigation. Those violations have been addressed, corrected and significant discipline was issued where warranted. Our investigation, discipline and policies have all been reviewed both internally and externally. As a result, I do not think it is appropriate for me to comment further on any reviews or decisions made by others involved in this process and now consider this matter closed. As such, I respectfully decline any further interviews on this matter and provide you this written statement instead. Again, thank you for bringing this to our attention and for your patience as we moved through the investigative process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan G. Rodbell".

Alan G. Rodbell  
Chief of Police