

ICE union seeks criminal investigation of Portland mayor

By Gordon Friedman
The Oregonian/OregonLive

The union representing Immigrations and Customs Enforcement employees has asked state and federal officials to open a criminal investigation of Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler over his direction of the police response to ICE protests this summer.

The politically pointed gesture, designed to call attention to Wheeler's stance against immigration enforcement actions, goes as far as to suggest he should temporarily give up his duties as police commissioner.

In letters sent Wednesday to U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions and Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum, the National ICE Council asks officials to probe whether Wheeler committed official misconduct or violated the Constitution by directing Portland police officers not to respond to some calls for service during a lengthy protest at the ICE field office in Portland.

Wheeler spokeswoman Sophia June said the mayor's office is waiting to issue a response because aides have not been able to speak with

Wheeler, who was presiding over a City Council meeting Wednesday morning.

Kristina Edmunson, a spokeswoman for Rosenblum, said her office has received Riddell's letter and is reviewing it. A spokesman for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Oregon referred questions to the Department of Justice headquarters in Washington, D.C.

In the letters, the union's attorney, Sean Riddell, cites Wheeler's public statements and messages sent by a mayoral aide and a Portland Police Bureau captain directing police to respond to the protest only if there were an immediate threat to lives or safety. Riddell served as a deputy Oregon attorney general during Democrat John Kroger's time as attorney general.

Wheeler has said he detests the actions of ICE agents to separate some children and parents facing deportation; his statements drew a personal rebuke from President Trump. The mayor had also previously responded to Riddell's critiques by saying the city did nothing wrong, arguing Portland's

hands-off approach was necessary to protect protesters' free speech rights.

Riddell wrote Wheeler, as mayor and police commissioner, has a duty to enforce all laws of Portland and the state of Oregon. Riddell said Wheeler did not enforce laws that bar rioting, harassment, disorderly conduct and unlawful camping, according to the letters, first reported by the Portland Tribune and independently obtained by The Oregonian/OregonLive.

During the long protest, demonstrators blocked areas around the ICE field office, located off Southwest Macadam Boulevard. They set up makeshift camps and at times clashed with federal police officers, resulting in arrests. In all, federal police arrested 19 people, mostly for trying to block the entrance to the immigration agency's office or for tearing police tape demarcating the federal property line. Three of them were arrested for allegedly assaulting a federal officer.

Wheeler said at the time he wanted to allow federal police to enforce laws on the property of the federal immigration office rather than

have city police do so.

Riddell said the mayor directed city police not to respond to some calls for service "to advance his own personal political agenda, advance his political career and punish citizens he perceived to hold alternative political beliefs."

According to a state law cited by Riddell, a public servant commits official misconduct if he or she knowingly fails to perform a duty of their office or commits an unauthorized excess of authority with the intent to benefit or harm another person. Prosecutions under the statute are exceedingly

rare. Riddell said should an investigation be launched,

Wheeler ought to temporarily give up his duties as police commissioner.

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OREGON IN BRIEF

Man accused of killing 89-year-old to get mental exam

PORTLAND — A judge has ruled that a convicted sex offender accused of killing an 89-year-old Oregon woman whose body was found in the trunk of his car shall be examined to see if he's mentally fit to be criminally prosecuted.

The Oregonian/OregonLive reports Multnomah County Circuit Judge Angel Lopez said Thursday he found "good cause" for the examination. Lopez then postponed the scheduled arraignment of 58-year-old Timothy Mackley, who a day earlier was indicted on charges of kidnapping Marcine Herinck from her Portland home, then sexually assaulting and killing her.

Mackley told jailers on Sept. 25 that he has bipolar disorder and schizophrenia. At his first court appearance last month, he bobbed up and down, made exaggerated facial expressions and appeared to be talking to himself.

Court records show Mackley is a convicted sex offender who was sentenced to prison in 1989 for sex abuse and sodomy in Multnomah County.

Authorities seize 36 animals from home in Central Oregon

BEND — Authorities have seized 36 animals from the Central Oregon home of two people previously convicted

of second-degree animal neglect.

The Bulletin reports Jefferson County deputies seized two snakes, four cats, four rats, six dogs and 20 fish after arresting the two residents of the home in Crooked River Ranch.

Authorities say 37-year-old Jonathan Vance and 35-year-old Melody Barnes were prohibited from owning animals for five years following their conviction.

A judge had issued arrest warrants for the pair earlier this month.

The Jefferson County District Attorney's Office says it expects to file criminal charges Friday.

All the animals were taken to the Three Rivers Humane Society in Madras.

Parent arrested after gun goes off in elementary school

PORTLAND — Police say a Portland parent was arrested after her gun apparently fired by accident in a Northeast Portland elementary school cafeteria.

The Portland Police Bureau says no one was injured in the Thursday afternoon shooting at Jason Lee Elementary School.

Police say the woman, who hasn't been identified by police, had left with her child by the time officers arrived.

Police say they found and arrested a person who matched the suspect's description in a search of the neighborhood.

Police haven't said what charges she faces.

The Oregonian/OregonLive reports that according to a statement from the school sent to parents, the woman had the gun in her bag when one shot was fired.

Police say investigators are trying to determine how the handgun went off.

Doctor who held Botox parties gets probation

PORTLAND — A 54-year-old former doctor who injected patients with wrinkle-reducing drugs Botox and Juvéderm that she got from outside the country has been sentenced.

The Oregonian reports Brenda Roberts of Troutdale was sentenced Thursday to six months of probation and 40 hours of community service.

Roberts pleaded guilty in June to one count of receipt and deliver in interstate commerce of misbranded drugs.

She voluntarily surrendered her medical license after the Drug Enforcement Administration and U.S. Food & Drug Administration opened an investigation.

A search warrant affidavit says the DEA investigation found that Roberts was operating a "rogue online pharmacy" at her home where she distributed controlled substances to customers throughout the United States.

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Darryl Sandberg comes to Oregon from a clinical practice in Colorado. Prior to that he spent two years as Brigade Physician Assistant for the U.S. Army Airborne & Ranger Training Brigade, Fort Benning, GA. Darryl has an extensive U.S. Army service record, serving in various capacities and multiple deployments from 2008 through 2016. In 2007, he received his Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies from the Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science, Illinois.

Darryl is Board Certified.



