During the hearing, KPD's sergeants contended that their roles do not amount to supervisory positions and are eligible for inclusion in the union. If they are successful in making the case, it could lead to a different pay schedule and less personal contribution to their healthcare plans.

"If the sergeants were to become part of the bargaining unit, the city and Keizer Police Association would be obligated to bargain any change in compensation and other terms and conditions of employment (benefits, hours, etc.) with the association. The city would conduct a salary survey to determine what compensation employees who perform similar duties for comparable agencies are earning," DePina said.

For the time being, Administrative Law Judge Martin Kehoe has rejected the sergeants' arguments overall but found merit in some

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contended that it does not aspects. At the heart of the issue is equate to supervisory action, Kehoe disagreed. whether the sergeants' roles

in the field, and not their

actual job descriptions issued

by the city human resources

department, rise to the level of

supervisory authority within

supervisory employee is: "any

individual having authority in

the interest of the employer

to hire, transfer, suspend, lay

off, recall, promote, discharge,

assign, reward or discipline

other employees, or responsibly

to direct them, or to adjust

their grievances, or effectively

recommend such action, if

in connection therewith, the

exercise of the authority is not

of a merely routine or clerical

nature but requires the use of

While sergeants can decide

who to place in special units

of the department, which can

result in higher pay, an "officer

remains fundamentally an

officer," Kehoe concluded.

On the other hand, sergeants

oversee a wide variety of duties

and independent authority, he

intervention initiated by

sergeants is "coaching and

counseling." Keizer's sergeants

common

most

added.

The

independent judgment."

According to statute, a

Oregon Revised Statutes.

Sergeants "can also make a formal record of it in an officer's digital personnel file and warn that repeat offenses or failure to comply with the coaching and counseling will result in progressive discipline. Sergeants can also issue verbal or written reprimands and enter those into an employee's record, with or without a superior's permission," Kehoe

wrote in his decision. While it is common practice for sergeants to consult with superiors regarding coaching and counseling and other types of intervention for officers on their shifts and units, they have the authority to conduct such action without a superior's

Additionally, Kehoe cites the union's collective bargaining agreement that recognizes a sergeant's "responsibility to ensure that counseling and appropriate discipline occurs."

Kehoe ends the dismissal stating, sergeants can "assign, discipline, direct and effectively recommend the same with independent judgment and that they exercise that authority in the interest of management."





crossword

More or Less 13 15 16 18 22 28 35 36 39 42 50 56 58 60 63

CREATORS NEWS SERVICE **ACROSS**

- 1 "Today I man"
- 4 Fabulous fabler: var.
- 8 Serf 13 Served perfectly
- 14 Arias
- 15 Fight site
- 16 Standard 17 Bounders
- 18 Copland ballet
- 19 Smoker's resolution 22 Cure-alls
- 23 Law's long member
- 24 Fleming 27 Deck
- 28 Bot. or biology
- 29 Run in neutral
- 30 Balm site
- 33 Pentateuch
- 35 Join
- 36 Dieter's resolution
- 39 University of Maine
- locale 40 Bar seat
- 41 Eds. reading matter
- 42 Platte Indian 43 Ingrid's firstborn
- 44 Life story, briefly 46 I finisher
- 47 Owned

- 48 Member of a certain college
- 52 Couch-potato's resolution
- 54 Distribute
- 57 Entre
- 58 Surgeonfish's kin
- 59 Common Sense author
- 60 Children
- 61 Wales' symbol
- 62 Praise 63 Snick's partner
- **64** Paving material

DOWN

- 1 Nathaniel Benchley's
- Million 2 Thanks, in Tours
- 4 Snail
- 3 Blended, old style
- 5 Flies
- 6 Adjective for shoppe 7 Ice-cream choice
- 8 Seraglio
- 9 Piccadilly Circus
- sight
- 10 Wielded a baton
- 11 Quarter of four
- 12 The way, in China 13 Ms. Boleyn
- - 54 Jungle swinger 55 Undisciplined 56 Ignited

By Charles Preston

20 Enthroned Madonna

29 Rubinstein's Melody

30 Fifties fashion fea-

31 ____ Bello, Panama

35 More like a certain

32 In the works

duckling

43 Golfer's goal

45 Mysterious

48 Ooze

47 Hailey novel

38

34 Home owners

37 Dieppe donkey

_ oblige

49 Fungus disorder

51 Offensive odor

52 Not stereo

53 Of the dawn

50 Wickerwork material

painter

21 Pod start

26 Requires

ture

28 Yule visitor

25 Choir section

24 Dialect

KAA goes purple in March

Submissions for Keizer Art Association's March show, Annual Color Show: Purple, will be accepted on Wednesday, Feb. 27 at the Enid Joy Mount Gallery.

Each entry is required to include the color purple and can be 2D, 3D, photography, digital art and kids' art.

Entry fees for the show are (for association members): \$10 for the first piece, \$15 for two pieces; \$15 for diptychs and triptychs; \$20 for three pieces and \$25 for four pieces.

Entry fees for non-association members are: \$20 for first piece, \$25 for two pieces, \$25 for diptychs and triptychs; \$30 for thre pieces and \$35 for four pieces.

Youth art fees are \$5 for two pieces. All work must be original to the artist.

Annual Color Show: Purple, juried show, will run from Feb. 28 to March 26. An artists' reception will be held at the gallery from 2 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, March 2.

ROLES: Recent actions conflict with claims

(Continued from Page A1) a supervisory one when he applied for the position 19 years ago, he replied simply,

Sgt. Jeff Goodman said sergeants routinely participate in performance evaluations, but that he often consulted with lieutenants, his direct superiors, when issuing oral or written reprimands to officers on his shifts. While consulting with superiors regarding reprimands is common practice within the department, Kehoe later determined sergeants had the authority to issue them without going to supervisors first.

Sgt. David LeDay testified on another common theme

whether coaching and counseling rose to the level of supervision.

"Counseling is supervision. We all have areas to improve. There can be 20 ways to do something and there still be a better way," LeDay said. "It's not discipline."

In the end, Kehoe disagreed with that assessment as well.

All the sergeants whose time in the position spanned other eras of department leadership said that the culture of the department has changed over time and there has, generally, been less need for verbal and written warnings.

Wenning said that only

throughout the hearings: matters leading to some sort of monetary penalty - loss of an assignment that warranted additional pay or a loss of step increases - would constitute a supervisory action, but "I've never done it and haven't

been subjected to it."

Another core contention of the appeal for union membership was the ability of sergeants to act on "independent judgment." But, most of the sergeants arguments stood in contrast to recent action.

When an officer assigned to the traffic unit did not to perform up to expectations, the sergeant in charge of the unit did not renew his assignment in the job after two years. The officer was placed back in the patrol unit and lost a 5 percent pay increase that went along with the special assignment. Then, when a new sergeant took over the traffic unit, he placed the same officer who had been taken out of the unit back on it with the expectation that he could improve the officer's performance. The new sergeant did so despite consulting with his supervisors who counseled against the action.



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