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LOCAL NEWS

Police Officer Posts Sanctioned

Inflammatory behavior cited in Ferguson officer support

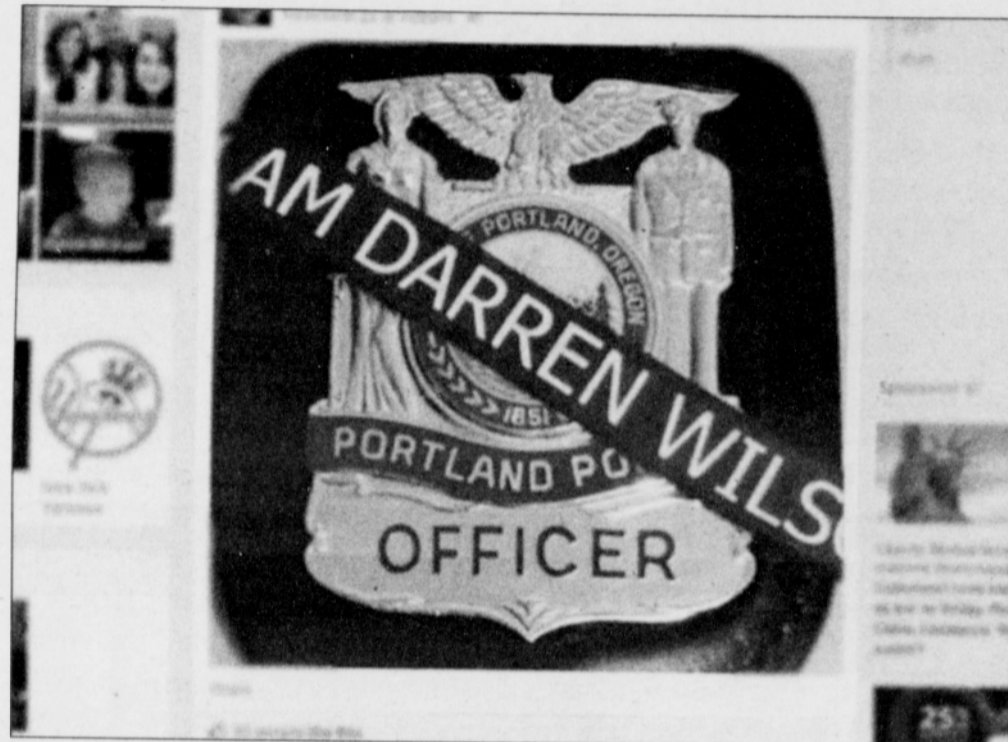
BY OLIVIA OLIVIA
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Three Portland police officers were ordered Monday to remove "I am Darren Wilson" support images they embossed over official police badges from their personal Facebook pages.

It happened just ahead of the grand jury decision in the case of Darren Wilson, the police officer involved in the death of Michael Brown, the unarmed teenager who was shot in Ferguson, Mo. last August.

In light of the issues of police violence and subsequent backlash in Ferguson, the posts drew a condemnation by Portland Police Chief Mike Reese who ordered them removed.

"The image displayed does not represent the organization and was very inflammatory in nature," said Reese in a statement he issued to the public. He went on to say "the badge represents all members of the organi-



An image from a Portland Police officer's Facebook page deemed inflammatory and ordered removed by Police Chief Mike Reese. (KGW photo)

zation, past and present, and is an important symbol in our community and must not be tarnished."

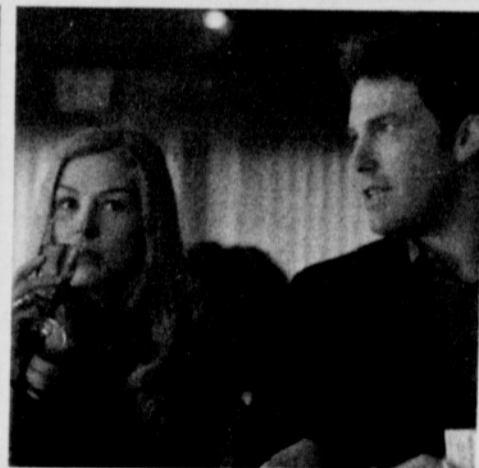
Wilson has become the poster child of many conservatives and hate-groups who have come out in opposition to civil rights groups demanding justice for the slain teen. Twitter and other social media lit up when they saw local Portland officers were associating themselves with the pro-Darren Wilson movement. The Portland officers were identified by the Oregonian newspaper as Rich Storm, Rob Blanck and Kris Barber.

Mayor Charlie Hales condemned the officers who posted the altered badges while praising Chief Reese's decision to have the officers investigated for possible violations of the police bureau's professional standards division.

"The officers made a political statement by altering the city's official badges. They were wrong to do so," said Hales in his official statement. "Their actions do a disservice to the hundreds of Portland Police Officers who are building relationships and partnerships with the community every day."



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Illuminating the Soul of Portland Tree lighting Saturday at MLK Heritage Marker

A community tree lighting ceremony with live music, light snacks and warm drinks will illuminate the Soul of Portland Holiday Campaign on Saturday, Nov. 29, from 4 p.m. to 6 pm. at the Martin Luther King Heritage Marker at Northeast MLK Boulevard and Hancock Street.

Sponsored by the North/Northeast Business Association in collaboration with the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods, the event symbolizes that the Soul District of inner north and northeast Portland is open for a

fun and festive holiday season.

During the tree lighting, you're invited to enjoy live jazz music from the group "Soul 3" with Jarrod Lawson, Farnell Newton and Tyrone Hendrix; visit with members from Portland Fire Engine House 13; and enjoy candy bag treats from the Full Tilt Riders motorcycle club.

Oregon Lottery will be giving away up to 100 Holiday Scratch tickets for adults 18 and older. Bring a new gift or nonperishable food item from a Soul District retailer to donate to the

Salvation Army's Moore Street community center and receive a lottery scratch off ticket or raffle ticket.

The local business group is also sponsoring the Soul District Holiday Bazaar and Gospel Sounds which is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 6 and Sunday, Dec. 7 from 10 a.m. to 7p.m. at the group's offices at 311 N. Ivy Street.

Up to 20 unique vendors will sell and display their services and wares alongside of some unique Soul District branding items.

FOOD



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