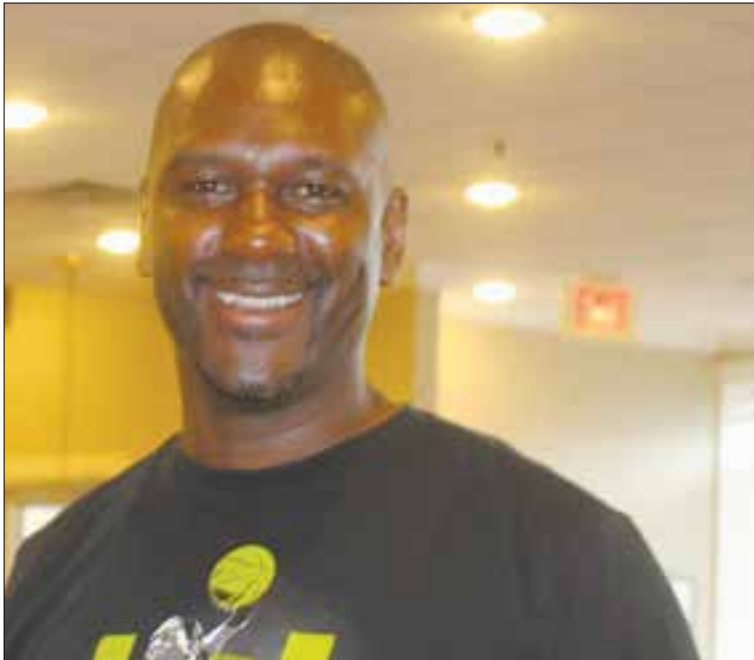


# Ex Cop Sentenced for Wrongful Arrest



Local resident Michael Fesser who was wrongfully arrested back in 2017



PHOTO BY AJBENJ

## Cultural sensitivity and community service ordered for misconduct

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — A fired police sergeant in a Portland, Oregon, suburb has been sentenced to proba-

tion and ordered to complete community service and cultural sensitivity training after pleading no contest to first-degree official misconduct for his role in the wrongful arrest of a Black man.

Former West Linn police Sgt. Reeves, 43, appeared by phone from his home in Montana for the hearing Wednesday in Multnomah County Circuit Court, The Oregonian/OregonLive reported.

Multnomah County Courthouse in Portland, Oregon

Reeves arrested Michael Fesser of Portland on a bogus theft charge at the behest of then-Police Chief Terry Timeus in 2017. Timeus ordered the investigation of Fesser as a favor for a friend who was Fesser's employer at a towing company. Fesser said the arrest was in retaliation for his complaints about a racially hostile work environment.

During Reeves probation, must have no contact with

Fesser and he must not apply for any law enforcement job in Oregon or any state. Fesser called that a slap in the face; said he's flabbergasted that the state prosecutor didn't think he was the victim in this case.

"I'm beyond upset, mad and disappointed," Fesser said. "There's no justice."

Reeves is the only officer prosecuted for a crime in Fesser's indictment and ar-

rest. Federal, state and local agencies began investigations into the arrest after The Oregonian/OregonLive reported in 2020 that the city of West Linn paid \$600,000 to Fesser to settle his civil rights suit against its police force. Multnomah County prosecutors dropped theft charges against Fesser, and the towing company paid \$415,000 to Fesser to settle a separate discrimination and retaliation suit.



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