

PRESS RELEASE  
ISSUED JUNE 5, 2019

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THE CITY OF SAN BENITO ADMINISTRATION ISSUES THIS PRESS RELEASE REGARDING THE STATUS OF THE CITY'S INVESTIGATION INTO THE POLICE ACTION INVOLVING DECEDENT RICARDO TREVINO III LAST DECEMBER 7, 2018.

THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS INVESTIGATION HAS BEEN COMPLETED AND THE MATTER HAS BEEN UNDER REVIEW OF POLICE CHIEF FRED BELL.

THE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION BEING CONDUCTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY – TEXAS RANGES REMAINS PENDING.

POLICE CHIEF FRED BELL HAS MADE THE FOLLOWING DETERMINATIONS IN THE MATTER:

WITH RESPECT TO TWO OF THE OFFICERS INVOLVED CHIEF BELL HAS ISSUED LETTERS TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF SECTION 143.056(H), TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE SO AS TO MAINTAIN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS INVESTIGATION OPEN BEYOND THE 180 DAY DEADLINE AND PENDING COMPLETION OF THE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION BY THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY – TEXAS RANGERS.

POLICE CHIEF BELL HAS IMPOSED A DISCIPLINARY SUSPENSION OF FIVE CALENDAR DAYS UNDER CIVIL SERVICE PROCESS AGAINST ONE OFFICER AND HAS FILED THAT DISCIPLINARY SUSPENSION WITH THE CITY'S CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION. THE AFFECTED OFFICER HAS A RIGHT TO PURSUE A CIVIL SERVICE APPEAL IF TIMELY FILED.

WITH RESPECT TO ANY OTHER CITY OF SAN BENITO POLICE OFFICERS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THE POLICE ACTIONS OF DECEMBER 7, 2019, POLICE CHIEF BELL HAS DETERMINED THAT NO OTHER APPEALABLE DISCIPLINARY SUSPENSIONS WILL BE IMPOSED. ANY OTHER CORRECTIVE ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT WILL BE HANDLED AS COUNSELING AND TRAINING FOR ALL POLICE PERSONNEL.

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