

Coalition for Police Accountability

Media Advisory

Police Chief Anne Kirkpatrick Must Be Removed

Oakland, CA.-On Thursday, March 14th at 12:30 pm, the Coalition for Police Accountability, comprising more than 25 groups and individuals, will hold a press conference in front of City Hall calling on Federal Compliance Director, Robert Warshaw, to fire Police Chief Kirkpatrick based on his own findings in the police shooting death of Joshua Pawlik, saying “she went light on cops who made serious errors and ignored a key piece of evidence”, according to internal documents released Wednesday.” <https://eastbaytimesca.newsmemory.com/?publink=0075c8e87>

Coalition leader, Rashidah Grinage, states, “The Compliance Director has the authority to do what is needed. It’s in his job description to remove impediments to compliance.” Coalition members have concerns about other aspects of the chief’s leadership, among them:

1. Promoting officers implicated in the cover-up of the sex trafficking scandal,
2. Covering up her part in authorizing OPD to assist in the ICE raid prohibited by city policy,
3. Allowing the department to slip backward in its 16-year struggle to comply with the Negotiated Settlement Agreement.

In addition to replacing the chief, the Coalition calls on the mayor, city administrator, and city council to ensure that the Police Commission has the independence and resources it needs to bring OPD into compliance.

As Oakland attorney Henry Gage said in The Oakland Post this week, “The Chief of Police has failed to deliver appropriate consequences, and by doing so, she is making true accountability impossible.”

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