

MANY OF YOU MAY RECALL THE EVENTS THAT OCCURRED ON JUNE 10, 2020, SURROUNDING THE VANDALISM OF THE CONFEDERATE MONUMENT LOCATED ON COURT STREET AND THE LIFE THREATENING INJURIES THAT WERE SUSTAINED TO AN INDIVIDUAL, MR. CHRIS GREEN, AS A RESULT OF FELONIOUS ACTIVITIES COMMITTED BY NUMEROUS INDIVIDUALS THAT DAY AND NIGHT.

DURING THIS TIME OF OUR NATION'S UNREST, WHICH WAS A DIRECT RESULT OF THE HEINOUS DEATH OF MR. GEORGE FLOYD, COUNTLESS MONUMENTS ACROSS OUR NATION WERE BEING DEFACED BY PROTESTORS. MANY OF THOSE LOCALITIES INVESTIGATED THE ACTS OF DESTRUCTION AND SUBSEQUENTLY CHARGED THE RESPONSIBLE PARTIES WELL AFTER THE INCIDENTS WERE OVER. BUT WHAT IS

IMPORTANT TO NOTATE IN THAT OF ALL THE INCIDENTS THAT OCCURRED ACROSS OUR NATION, OUR INCIDENT IS THE ONLY INCIDENT THAT RESULTED IN A MAN BEING GRAVELY INJURED.

SO, IT IS MY HOPE THAT MY COMMUNITY TRULY UNDERSTANDS THAT AT NO POINT DID ANY MEMBER OF THE PORTSMOUTH POLICE DEPARTMENT CONDONE THE FELONIOUS ACTS THAT OCCURRED ON JUNE 10TH WHICH CUMULATED IN THE LIFE ALTERING INJURY OF MR. CHRIS GREEN.

ON THE NIGHT OF JUNE 10, AS HUNDREDS OF INDIVIDUALS GATHERED AND BEGAN DESTROYING THE MONUMENT, IT WAS MY DECISION AS THE CHIEF OF POLICE, FOR THE IMMEDIATE FOCUS TO BE ON THE PRESERVATION OF LIFE,

TO INCLUDE THE SAFETY OF ALL THE CITIZENS IN THE AREA, AGES RANGING FROM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN TO SENIOR CITIZENS, AS WELL AS THE SAFETY OF MY OFFICERS. AS THE NIGHT'S ACTIVITIES BECAME A PUBLIC SAFETY HAZARD, WE BEGAN TO MOBILIZE OUR RESOURCES TO INCLUDE ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY SURROUNDING JURISDICTIONS, TO PROCEED IN ENDING THE UNLAWFUL EVENT. UNFORTUNATELY, THE GRAVE INJURY OF MR. CHRIS GREEN EXPEDITED OUR ENTRY INTO THE AREA. THE PORTSMOUTH POLICE DEPARTMENT SWAT TEAM IMMEDIATELY ENTERED THE SCENE AND EVACUATED MR. GREEN TO RENDER LIFESAVING MEDICAL TREATMENT.

AS A RESULT OF MR. GREEN'S LIFE-THREATENING INJURY FROM THE ACTIVITIES OF THAT EVENING, I ASKED THE VIRGINIA STATE POLICE TO COME IN TO INVESTIGATE THE ACCIDENT.

DURING THE STATE POLICE DEPARTMENT'S ACTIVE INVESTIGATION OF THE INJURY, REQUESTS WERE MADE FOR STATE AND FEDERAL ASSISTANCE TO CONDUCT AN INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION OF ALL EVENTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES THAT LED UP TO AND INCLUDING THE SIGNIFICANT INJURY SUSTAINED BY MR. GREEN. UNDERSTANDABLY, THESE REQUESTS FELL OUTSIDE OF THE SCOPE OF INVESTIGATION FOR THESE LAW ENFORCEMENT ENTITIES. FURTHERMORE, WHEN A DISCUSSION WITH THE COMMONWEALTH ATTORNEY

REGARDING A SPECIAL GRAND JURY AND A SPECIAL PROSECUTOR DID NOT YIELD ANY ACTION, IT WAS THE DUTY OF THE PORTSMOUTH POLICE DEPARTMENT TO BEGIN A THOROUGH AND COMPREHENSIVE INVESTIGATION INTO THIS INCIDENT.

SINCE THE CONCLUSION OF THE STATE POLICE DEPARTMENT'S ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION ON JULY 22ND, A TEAM OF DETECTIVES AND SUPERVISORS BEGAN TO COMPILE ALL WRITTEN, AUDIO AND VIDEO EVIDENCE SURROUNDING THE CIRCUMSTANCES THAT LED TO THE FELONIOUS DESTRUCTION OF THE MONUMENT AND UNFORTUNATELY THE LIFE-THREATENING INJURY TO MR. GREEN.

AS A RESULT OF THIS INVESTIGATIVE TEAM'S FINDINGS, IT WAS DETERMINED THAT SEVERAL INDIVIDUALS CONSPIRED AND ORGANIZED TO DESTROY THE MONUMENT AS WELL AS SUMMONSED HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE TO JOIN IN THE FELONIOUS ACTS WHICH NOT ONLY RESULTED IN HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS IN DAMAGE TO THE MONUMENT, BUT ALSO PERMANENT INJURY TO AN INDIVIDUAL.

AS YOUR CHIEF OF POLICE, I TAKE SERIOUSLY MY PUBLIC AND MY OFFICERS TRUST THAT I WILL ENSURE ALL THE LAWS OF THE STATE AND OUR CONSTITUTION ARE UPHELD AND THAT I WOULD NOT PLACE ANY CITIZEN OR OFFICER IN UNNECESSARY DANGER. YOU HAVE PLACED FAITH AND TRUST IN ME TO TAKE THE APPROPRIATE LAW

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS WHEN NECESSARY AND TODAY I WANT TO THANK MY CITIZENS AND MY OFFICERS FOR HAVING THIS UNWAVERING TRUST AND PATIENCE IN ME WHICH LED TO US COMPLETING THIS COMPREHENSIVE INVESTIGATION. AS A RESULT OF OUR EFFORTS IN THIS MATTER, WE HAVE IDENTIFIED AND SECURED ARREST WARRANTS OF NUMEROUS INDIVIDUALS WHO CONSPIRED, ORGANIZED AND PARTICIPATED IN FELONIOUS ACTS ON JUNE 10TH. THIS INVESTIGATION YIELDED THE SAME RESULTS OF HOLDING INDIVIDUALS WHO COMMIT CRIMES IN OUR CITY ACCOUNTABLE BUT WAS DONE IN A SAFE MANNER SO THAT MY OFFICERS AND NO OTHER MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WERE HARMED.

THEREFORE, ON TODAY'S DATE, FELONY WARRANTS FOR CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT A FELONY (18.2-22) AND FELONY INJURING TO A MONUMENT IN EXCESS OF \$1,000 (18.2-137) HAVE BEEN OBTAINED FOR THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS:

SENATOR L. LOUISE LUCAS

NAACP REPRESENTATIVE JAMES BOYD

NAACP REPRESENTATIVE LOUIE GIBBS

NAACP REPRESENTATIVE LAKESHA HICKS

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER LAKEESHA ATKINSON

KIMBERLY WIMBUSH

DANA WORTHINGTON

AMIRA BETHEA

ADDITIONALLY, ARREST WARRANTS HAVE BEEN OBTAINED FOR FELONY INJURING TO A MONUMENT IN EXCESS OF \$1,000 (18.2-137) FOR THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS:

PUBLIC DEFENDER BRENDA SPRY

PUBLIC DEFENDER ALEXANDRA STEPHENS

PUBLIC DEFENDER MEREDITH CRAMER

BRANDON WOODARD

HANAH RENAE RIVERA

RAYMOND J. BROTHERS

I AM ASKING FOR THESE PERSONS WITH CURRENT ARREST WARRANTS ON FILE TO TURN THEMSELVES INTO THE PORTSMOUTH POLICE DEPARTMENT IMMEDIATELY.

DETECTIVES ARE STILL ACTIVELY INVESTIGATING THIS INCIDENT AND WE ARE ASKING FOR THE PUBLIC'S HELP IN IDENTIFYING SEVERAL OTHER INDIVIDUALS.

A PRESS RELEASE WILL FOLLOW SHORTLY WITH PHOTOS OF THE INDIVIDUALS WE ARE ASKING THE COMMUNITY TO ASSIST US WITH IDENTIFYING; AS WELL AS A LINK FOR CITIZENS TO UPLOAD ANY VIDEO OR PHOTO EVIDENCE THEY HAVE IN THIS CASE.

AGAIN, I WANT TO THANK MY CITIZENS AND MY OFFICERS FOR THEIR PATIENCE, PROFESSIONALISM AND TRUST, WHICH HAS ALLOWED US THE ABILITY TO THOROUGHLY INVESTIGATE THIS MATTER.