

From:  
Sent: Mon 3/16/2009 7:10 PM  
To: Karen Dorn Steele  
Cc: All Police; Verner, Mary; danek,ted; Shogan, Joe  
Subject: RE:

Hi Ms. Steele, I am just now able to answer my e-mails for the day so sorry for the delay. As for my reaction to the verdict:

When you say it is another black eye for the department, I take exception to that because if the public takes exception to the acquittal then they have given a black eye to themselves. It is the citizens who decided this verdict not the police department. Jay Olsen was tried by a jury of his peers and that would be you, the citizens.

It was the police department and sheriff's department that determined that probable cause existed to charge Jay Olsen with a crime and it is you who said he is not guilty. The community has spoken and if the community is unhappy then they need to direct their disappointment at their neighbor.

This police department has shown time and again that we hold ourselves accountable to each other and to the public. When we have erred in the past we have not shied away from taking severe corrective action. However, the reverse is true, too. When we have done nothing wrong, then there is a time for me, as the Chief of this department, to stand tall and out front to protect my members from undue criticism and attack. This is one of those times.

In the Jay Olsen case, we did our part and brought him to you - the public - to determine justice. We can hold our head high, can you?

Lasty, you inquired in a follow up e-mail about the testimony of Marvin Tucker. We have opened a formal inquiry into the matter. And, as for the time to finish the IA process on Jay Olsen, I have asked that the process be as expeditious as possible without any compromise in thoroughness. The biggest delay will be our need to order the court transcripts and review the content of the testimonies.

Chief K