#### Sarah Severn

From:

Sarah Severn

Sent:

Tuesday, January 17, 2023 09:52

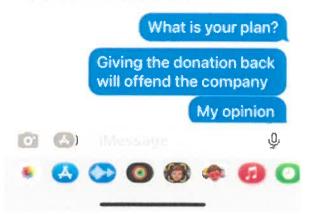
To:

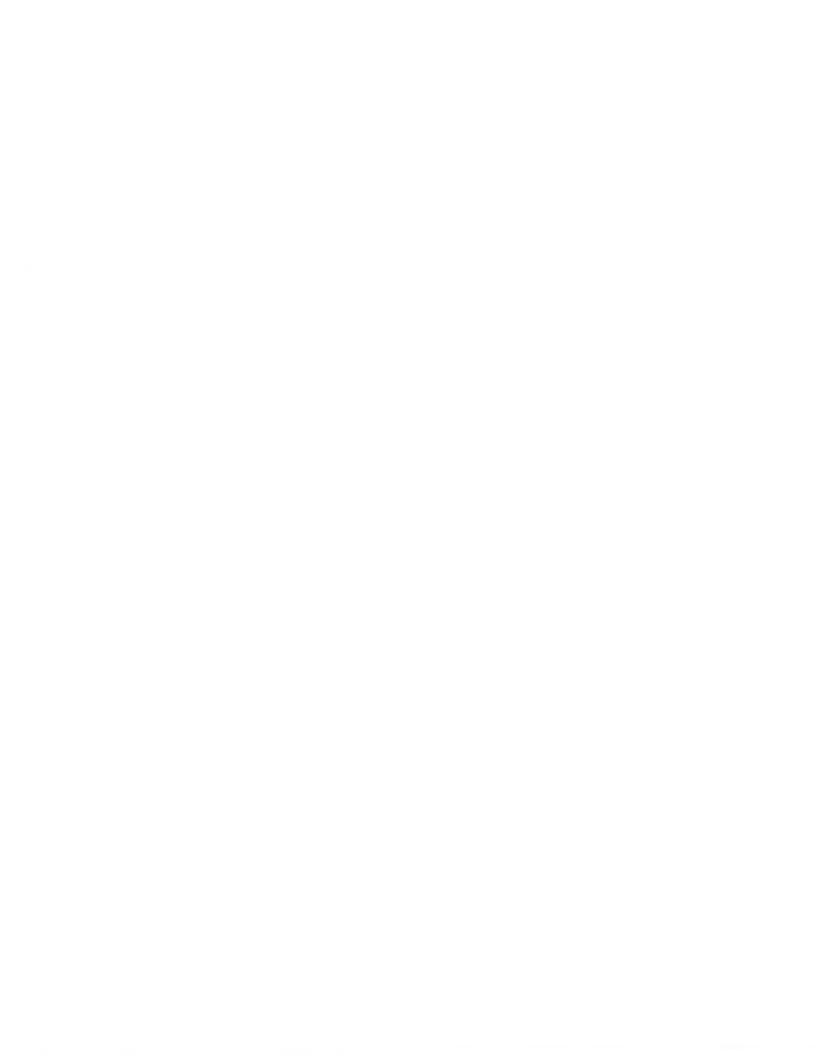
Sarah Severn



My PIO friends said to take down the post, but I think that would make it worse. And all the negative comments are tied to the post and I don't want them spilling over to everything else

Irving PD took a donation a couple years ago, turns out it was tied to a political group too. They waited and it got worse, became a news story. They had to change their policy on donations. I'm trying to avoid the news stories







<





My thought: don't respond this weekend and revisit the situation on Monday

I thought the same until last night. This is one of those cases I think waiting will hurt us. But I do want to be mindful.

> We are a non-political organization, so sometimes we just half to take the various views and move on. The vAst majority of the community understands our roll in the world

> > Delivered

I sent my statement to Judy Pal: She's going to suggest a few changes to shorten it up. Curious to see what she says











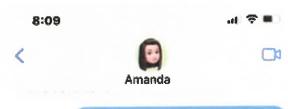












Are they a recognized hate group by the United States?

Fair, Not that I know of, I don't know that answer but would assume not.

I don't think we need to reject the donation either....that's why I think giving it to someone else would be a solution.

The post is viral, I'm getting messages and notifications every few seconds.

> My thought, as with many things in this world, people disagree vocally and move on as the world is fast moving.

I would not respond at all

















I want to think that too, and was of that opinion yesterday morning. But as it's gotten worse, my thoughts have changed. I don't think it will blow over

> Have others responded with opinions

Only Mike. He was ready to give the donation back.

CMO wants to ignore it

I called Judy Pal, the crisis comm instructor at ILEA and FBI, for her insight, and she agreed a statement in this case, that it will only get worse.

My DIO friende eaid to take



















#### Sarah Severn

From: Sarah Severn

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 17, 2023 09:50

To: Sarah Severn

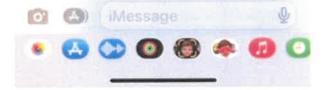


Post the statement online, as its own message, and attached to the original post. And send to all the private messages. Then next week give the donation to an MLK group Monday for MLK day, or to VAST kids

I definitely don't want to give it back. I think supporting another group is best

> My thought: don't respond this weekend and revisit the situation on Monday

I thought the same until last night. This is one of those cases I think waiting will hurt us. But I do want to be mindful.

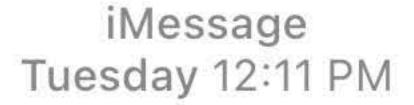














That time a Christian business donated a pizza party to a police department and public outcry e...

hotair.com













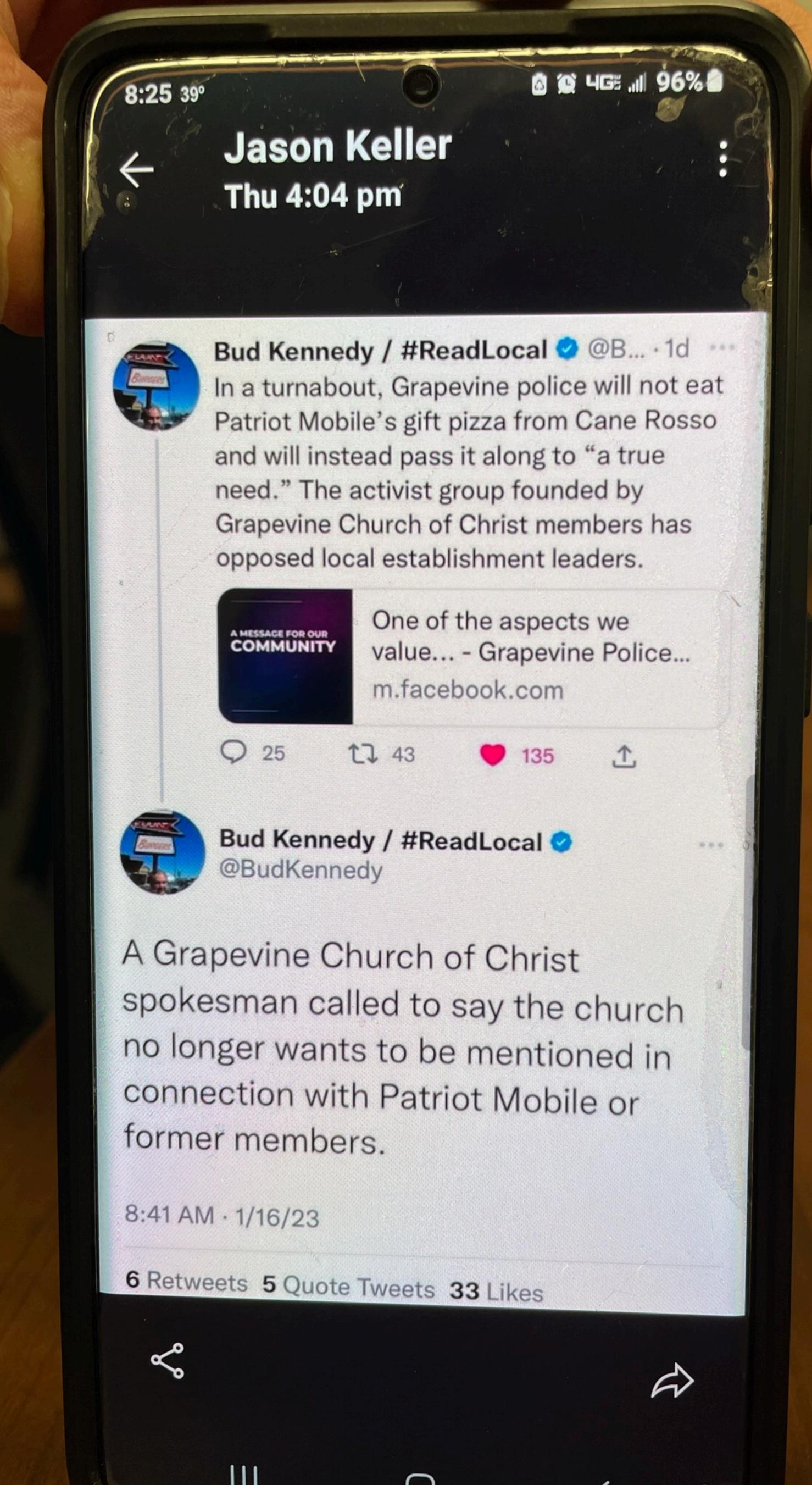




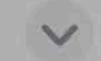








## Photo ~



Done



# epochtimes



Texas Police Department Rejects Gift From Conservative Christian Company, Patriot Mobile









# 426 likes

epochtimes A Texas police department rejected a pizza party donated by Patriot Mobile after receiving public backlash on social media for accepting a gift from the conservative Christian company.



Patriot Mobile on Tuesday requested that









### Photo ~

Done

## 426 likes

epochtimes A Texas police department rejected a pizza party donated by Patriot Mobile after receiving public backlash on social media for accepting a gift from the conservative Christian company.

Patriot Mobile on Tuesday requested that the Grapevine Police Department donate the \$1,500 gift to another department in North Texas.

"If Grapevine continues to reject the donation, Patriot Mobile asks that it be given to another police department in North Texas," the company said on Tuesday in a news release.

On Thursday, Patriot Mobile delivered a Cane Rosso restaurant gift card to Grapevine Police Department (GPD) as a gesture of gratitude for their service to the community...

# For details:

- 1 Go to @epochtimes link in bio
- 2 Click on the same post
- 3 Enjoy reading



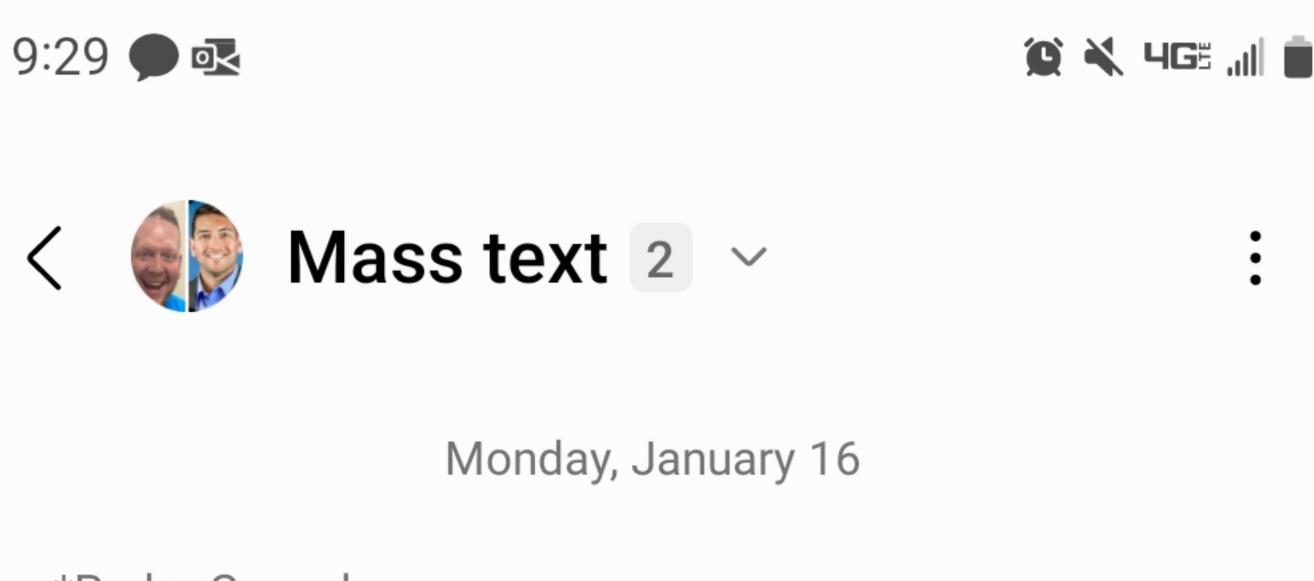
View all 73 comments















What's the over-under on number of comments complaining there's a group that discriminates against older people?

MMS

MMS 12:39 PM 15? 30?

### \*Pedro Gonzalez

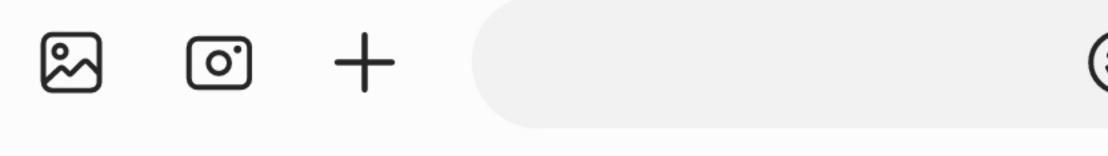
That'll be the best part, it'll be a satire of the patriot mobile situation

MMS 12:40 PM

MMS 12:41 PM Would love to see that apology message

### \*John Adkins













#### **Public Records Exemptions**

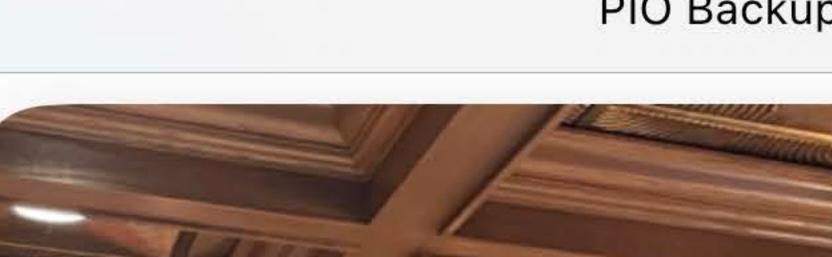
Enclosed please find a copy of the responsive documents for your public records request. The following information is provided to explain the process employed to review and produce the response documents.

Reason	Description	Pages	
Non Responsive		1	

9:45





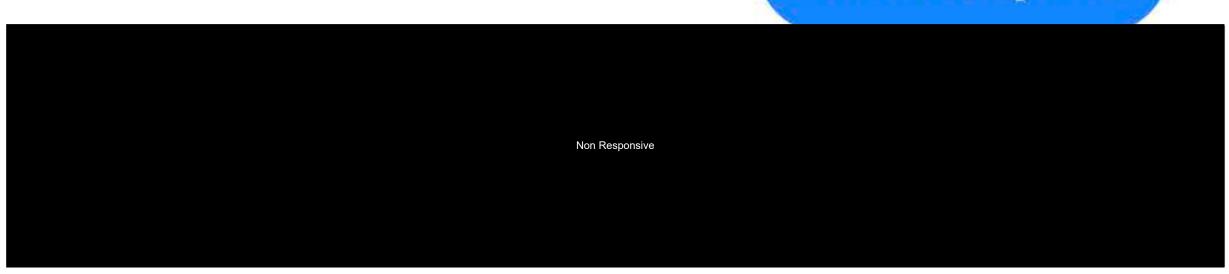




They had a photographer too and she is going to email me the pics she took.

She also asked for pics when we get the actual pizza delivery

Thank you



Read Thursday



















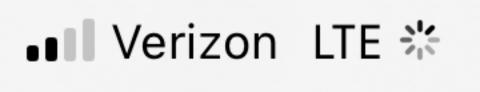




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Non Responsive		1	















Sat, Jan 14 at 9:28 AM

How many Gv PD people in the Patriot Mobile photo are supposed to be investigating complaints filed with the PD regarding PM people and actions? I know several complaints were filed; it looks rather obvious now why none got attention from the DA. This is terrible, Bruno.

I have extremely high regard for Chief Hamlin. But I'm now very concerned about other people in that building.

# Ty - we are working on it

Read 1/14/23

Sat, Jan 14 at 11:45 AM

standards are so high they can be bought with only a few pizzas. Hope they at least sprung for papa johns

12h Like Reply





Kenny Lark

Christina Crawford This is provided by "1956 Pizza" for

















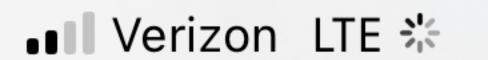










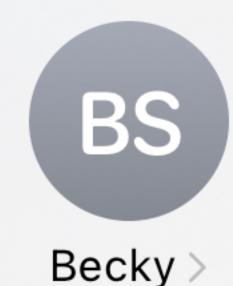














The LAST thing we need is SOUTHLAKE butting into Gv, and especially sales tax dollars(CCPD!) heading out of the city. We have been used for purely political purposes.

Sat, Jan 14 at 1:48 PM

I can't believe this is even an issue in our town. There's plenty of room 20 miles east for that type of response from the public.

38m Like Reply





### **Emily Fortner Johnston**

Thank you for acknowledging the concerns.

16m Like Reply



### Janet Pollock Farmer

Sooo apparently FORMER Grapevine Police Department Criminal Investigations Sergeant Rich Savage is NOW the Human Resources Director for #PatriotMobile Color me "shocked" that Grapevine Police Department "wasn't" aware of the divisiveness of the "donation" (3)

2m Like Reply





### Jennifer Heuer Thomas

Thank you for your service.

Like Reply 59m

































3 People >

Mike Hamlin

I've included Amanda in the thread. Here's her response

We "could" stop comments but I would advise against it, as that could get us sued for violating first amendment rights. As a government agency our social channels are considered a limited public forum. We could get sued for doing so. Shutting down the pages would also stop our communication with the public, most of whom are supportive. The majority of negative posts are from other states, countries and even bots.

My professional advice is to let it ride. It will be worse in the coming days before it gets better, we just have to get through another week or so, and bury the posts with other comments

This happened to Arlington PD several years ago, and they had to stan nastina mast husiness/













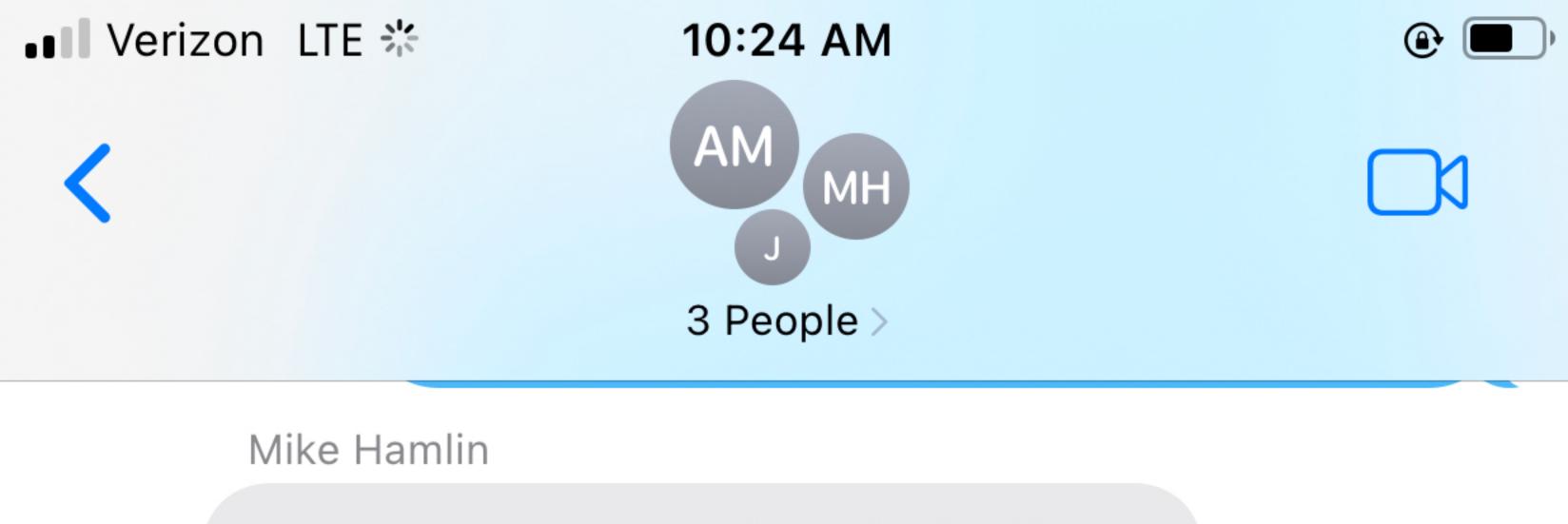












We're sorry. Would it help if we wrote a response as to why we can't do that?

No it isn't that and I hate to bother you on a Sunday, Chief

Let's have a few minute conversation with Matthew B



I have Matthew set to talk to us in 15 minutes

I will call the two of you can then him - I think I can do it from my cell phone



MH











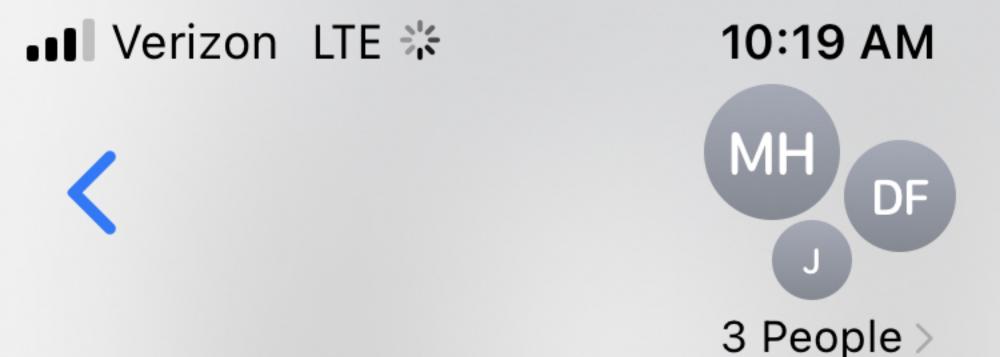




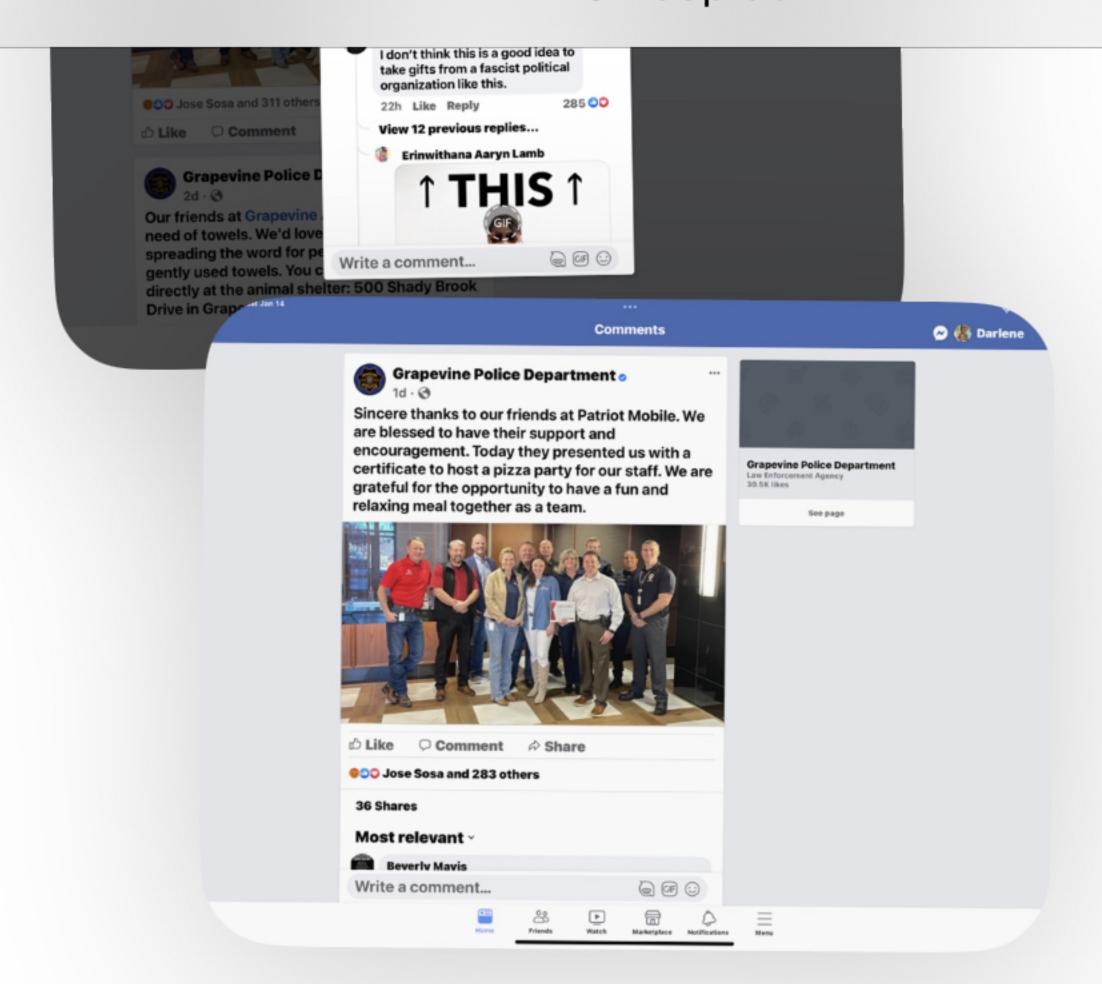












I'm sorry to bug you on a Saturday morning but facebook is blowing up on this complaining about the GVPD. CC is also getting calls and texts.

DF

Mike Hamlin



Yes. Working on it with Amanda.

Darlene Freed



Great! Thank you and I'm sorry

Mike Hamlin





No worries.

























3 People >

Mike Hamlin



Me neither and true.

Jennifer

gv residents. I agree though, it could make things worse to do anything else.

Sat, Jan 14 at 9:53 AM

Have we taken then post down?

Sun, Jan 15 at 2:23 PM

Chief, Is it possible for Amanda to shut down the FB page or at least turn off all comments for a couple of days? I am continuing to hear from more elected officials today on this and lord knows we have expended enough energy on this

Mike Hamlin

I'll say yes, but I'd be hesitant to do that. If we don't let them post, they













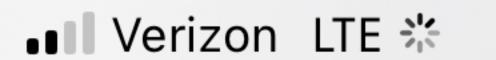
























This happened to Arlington PD several years ago, and they had to stop posting most business/ corporate gifts and limit public thanks to kids.



Ok - ty

Further to my previous info from my IT guru (not Christian Ross): Amanda can delete the post she made yesterday and it will delete all of the responses to it in the process. That is step one. Next, she can change the settings on the PD's Facebook page such that any future postings must be reviewed by her/page administrator before they are posted. Or, she can completely turn off public postings to the page so that only she/ administrator can post to it at any time.

More from Sharron

A flavor of what we are dealing with













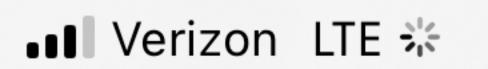










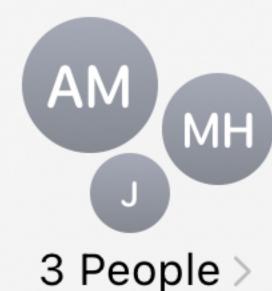
















Regarding the FB issue with patriot mobile, we are gonna try and donate the pizza certificate to a charity and express that we value relationships over donations. Amanda will address it tomorrow.



Sat, Jan 14 at 6:07 AM

Chief - I am not sure how much heat this is generating - but i would suggest giving it a day and see if the furor dies down. There will be a reaction to your trying to fix this.

Mike Hamlin



K. We will watch across the day. And see what happens

> Of course you realize I am not on Social Media? So I am not seeing the responses. Just strikes me this is some political crap

> > The way to make political crap worse is to keep stirring it













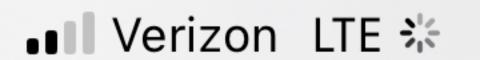








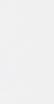


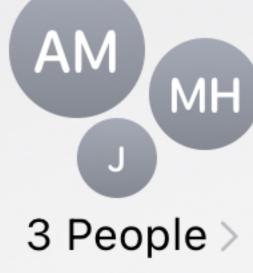




10:22 AM









# Have we taken then post down?

Sun, Jan 15 at 2:23 PM

Chief, Is it possible for Amanda to shut down the FB page or at least turn off all comments for a couple of days? I am continuing to hear from more elected officials today on this and lord knows we have expended enough energy on this

Mike Hamlin

I'll say yes, but I'd be hesitant to do that. If we don't let them post, they will take it elsewhere. Nonetheless I'll see what she thinks



Yes they would but I am thinking all posts would be shut down

Sun, Jan 15 at 2:30 PM Mike Hamlin added Amanda McNew to the conversation.

Mike Hamlin

I've included Amanda in the thread. Here's her response























#### **Public Records Exemptions**

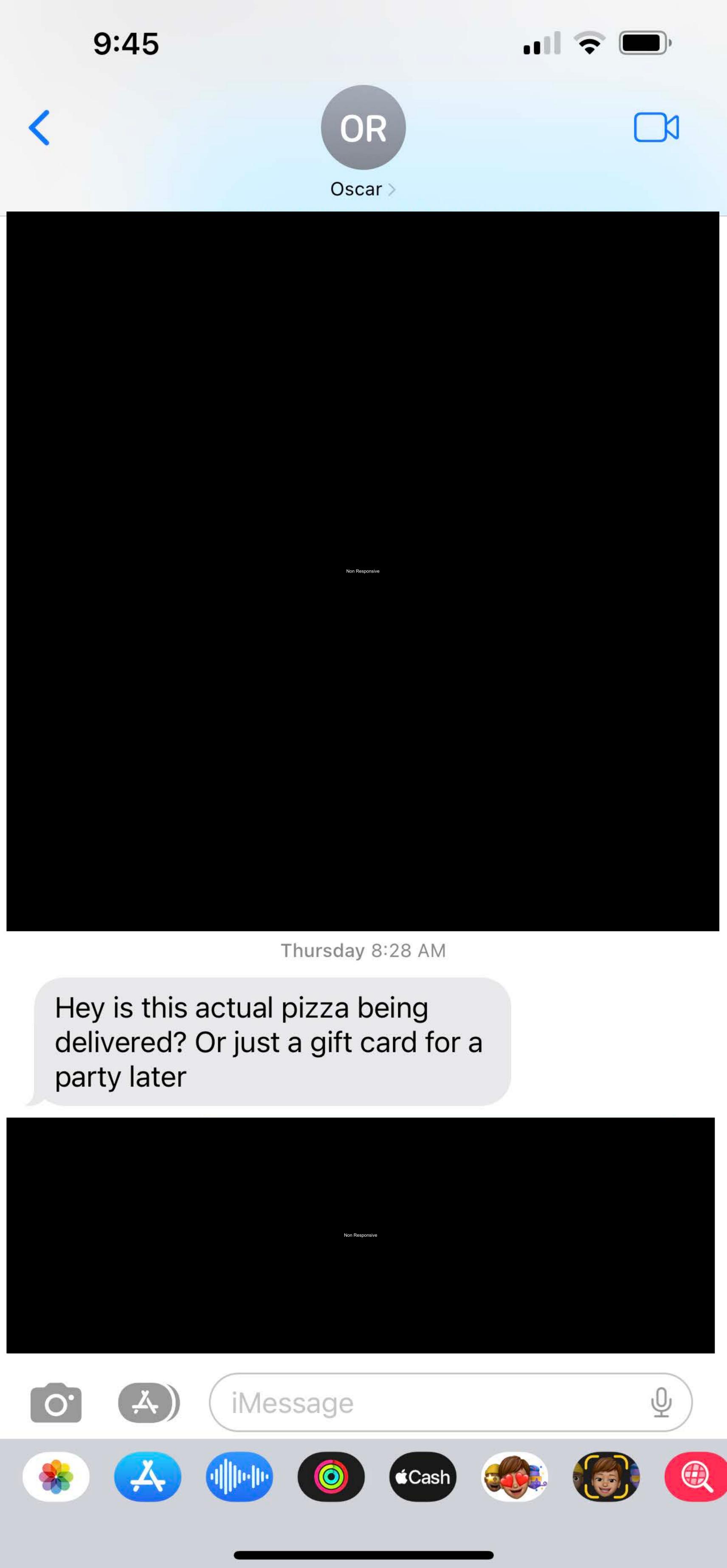
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Non Responsive		7	

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Reason	Description	Pages	
Submitted to the AG office to Withhold		2, 5	







Friday 7:16 PM

The patriot mobile donation is really catching fire on Facebook. The hate is spreading

Friday 8:16 PM

Sincere thanks to our ...

- Grapevine Police Department



facebook.com

I am going to prepare a statement.
Think we will need to address this

Ok.

You know, we could return it

Or donate it.

To whom

VAST

Or an Igbtq+ group

That's an idea. Or grace.

What's the issue with the board comment

May be worth considering a policy to not accept gifts from political groups



























May be worth considering a policy to not accept gifts from political groups as a step. Just a thought. Although technically this is a business, but would show reflection/thought/consideration.

Did they do give us cash or what?

A certificate for a pizza party

The board comment is from their group ousting the school board

The company helped oust the board and led to Ryan's retirement

Or maybe we only take donations through the association in the future

I don't think this will hold through the weekend. I'll probably send you a statement tomorrow

K. Is the certificate from a specific restaurant?

Cane Rosso

Not the Southlake place they claim

K. Let's find a group that we can give this to Do u think that is the hest



























K. Let's find a group that we can give this to. Do u think that is the best thing?

Yes. Give to a meaningful group and a statement of empathy and recognizing concerns, etc

Basically give them what they want. In this case I think it's right.

Me too. Relationships with our community are so much more important than a donation????

Yes

K. Text me when you get it done....tomorrow....

I will.



It's marketed as the nation's 'only Christian conservative wireless





























It's marketed as the nation's 'only Christian conservative wireless provider.' Now it's taking over school...

nbcnews.com

Article is the board reference in FB comments

K. I've let Bruno and Jenn know what the plan is.

Monday is MLK Day. Maybe there's an event or group we could donate it to Monday.

Did Bruno or Jenn say anything?

They did not.

Monday is fine, however I think we need to address it tomorrow

Yes for statement. Just thinking about actual handoff of certificate













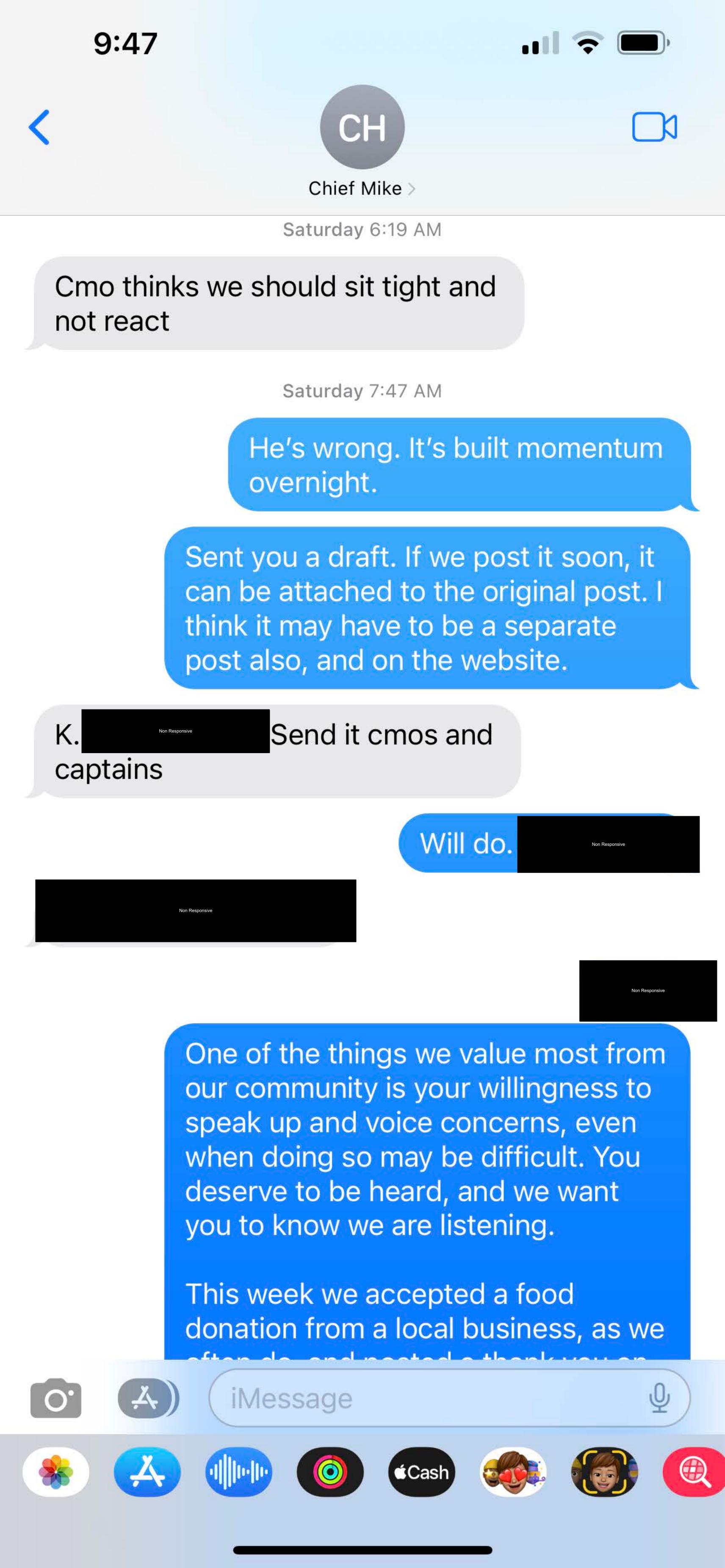
















One of the things we value most from our community is your willingness to speak up and voice concerns, even when doing so may be difficult. You deserve to be heard, and we want you to know we are listening.

This week we accepted a food donation from a local business, as we often do, and posted a thank you on social media. We have never questioned a donor's beliefs, we simply thank the business and move on. In this case, however, the donation brought out deep emotions and anger because of what the company represents.

Our relationships with our community are more important to us than a donation. We never intended to create distrust, and we vow to do better moving forward. We are going to re-evaluate how we receive donations in the future, and will remain open and transparent in how we do so.

As for the pizza donation we accepted this week: we could simply give it back. In the spirit of sharing what we have with others, we are opting to donate the food to another



























better moving forward. We are going to re-evaluate how we receive donations in the future, and will remain open and transparent in how we do so.

As for the pizza donation we accepted this week: we could simply give it back. In the spirit of sharing what we have with others, we are opting to donate the food to another local community group. We want something positive to come from this experience, and to us, that means giving to a worthy cause.

We thank everyone who took the time to voice their opinions, and we also thank you for allowing us a day to reflect on the situation. We are not merely giving you words today – we are working to make a lasting change in how we operate so we can move forward together.

The story is now viral, and hitting Google. I really don't want to wait much longer.

Would rather have this done before that

K. I just got home. Give me a second





























I've just sent my edits

Thanks. I am curious to see what Judy says too

We are now a case study for her next class.

Everyone is now linking Savage to the department. So it's about to get worse.

Rich's public profile is now posted in connection to GPD.

K. I added a word (varied) to the version I just sent

Maybe it will move to him

Oh no it's strengthening the tie between the group and our department

Tim thinks we should leave it alone. I disagree but want to make sure you know that

K.

Darlene Freed just left me a voicemail thanking us for the statement and how much she appreciates it













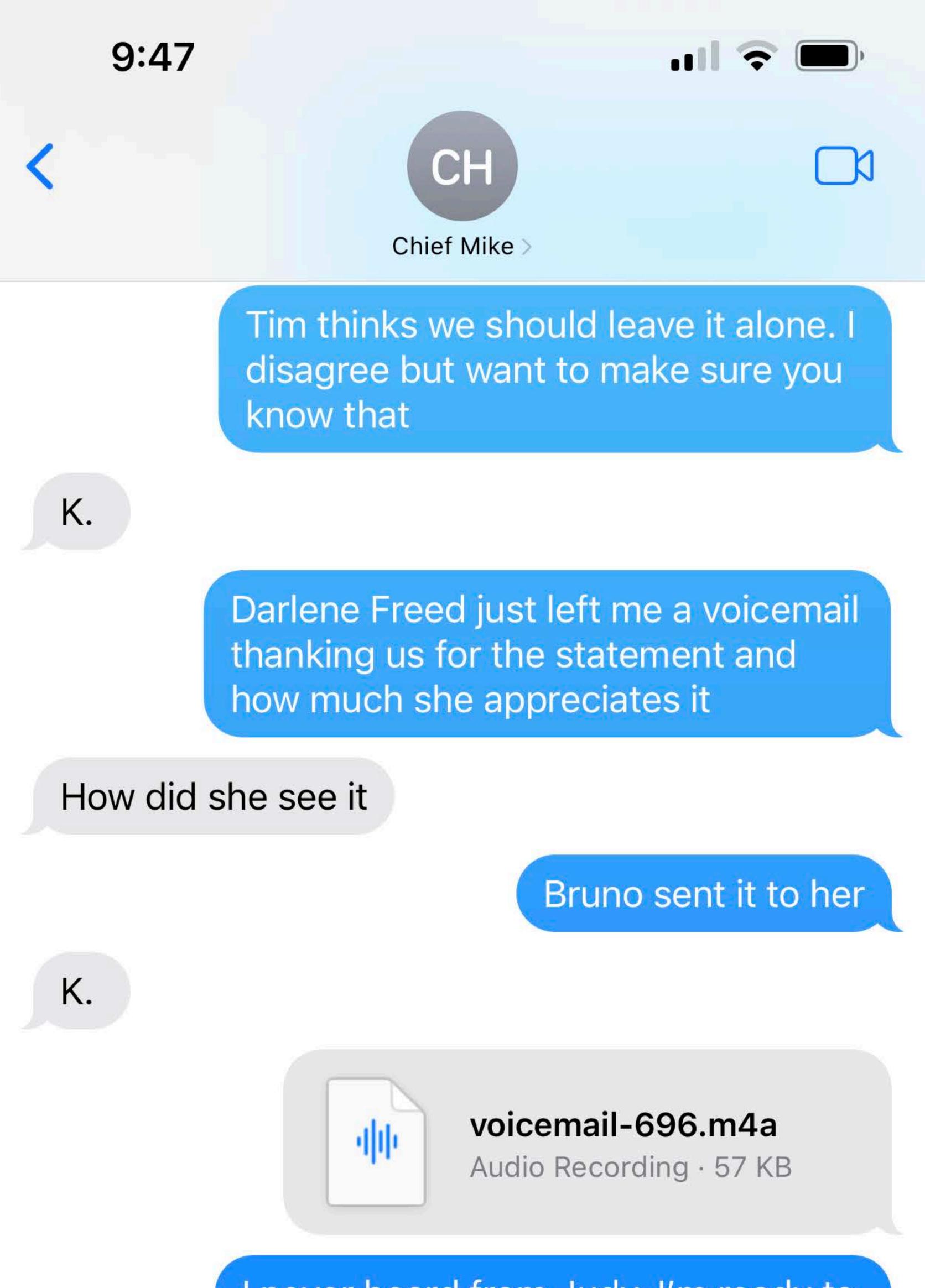












I never heard from Judy. I'm ready to post. Did you see suggestion from Jenn? She thinks it needs a closing

K did. Is there a closing u have/ suggest

Rebecca sent an email also, along with Marc

# They must not have included me on



























They must not have included me on comments I have nothing from either of them

I can write a closing and send to you

### I forwarded them

K

Thanks, I missed them. Although I think it goes back to the "equal footing" that they didn't deem it important enough to include me on an email in the first place. Judy responded and cut it down to a few sentences. I'm okay with longer version. I'll send both to you in just a minute.

Why did you change "your" to "their" on first sentence? Aren't we addressing our community directly?

I always envision someone pointing a finger at another, saying, your....

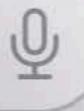
I kept the there but think your fits better . Our draft and Judy's suggestion just sent to you.

K.





























K.



Is this what you meant? (The finger pointing your)

It's posted. Only question is whether to keep photo or replace it.

Do is it the last event photo we have In the thread of events.

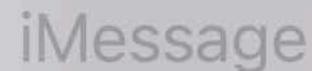
Third down. My concern is for the officers in the pic

There are screenshots everywhere but it could help a little. Some spouses are concerned

If we have a more recent photo of an event post the most recent one.



















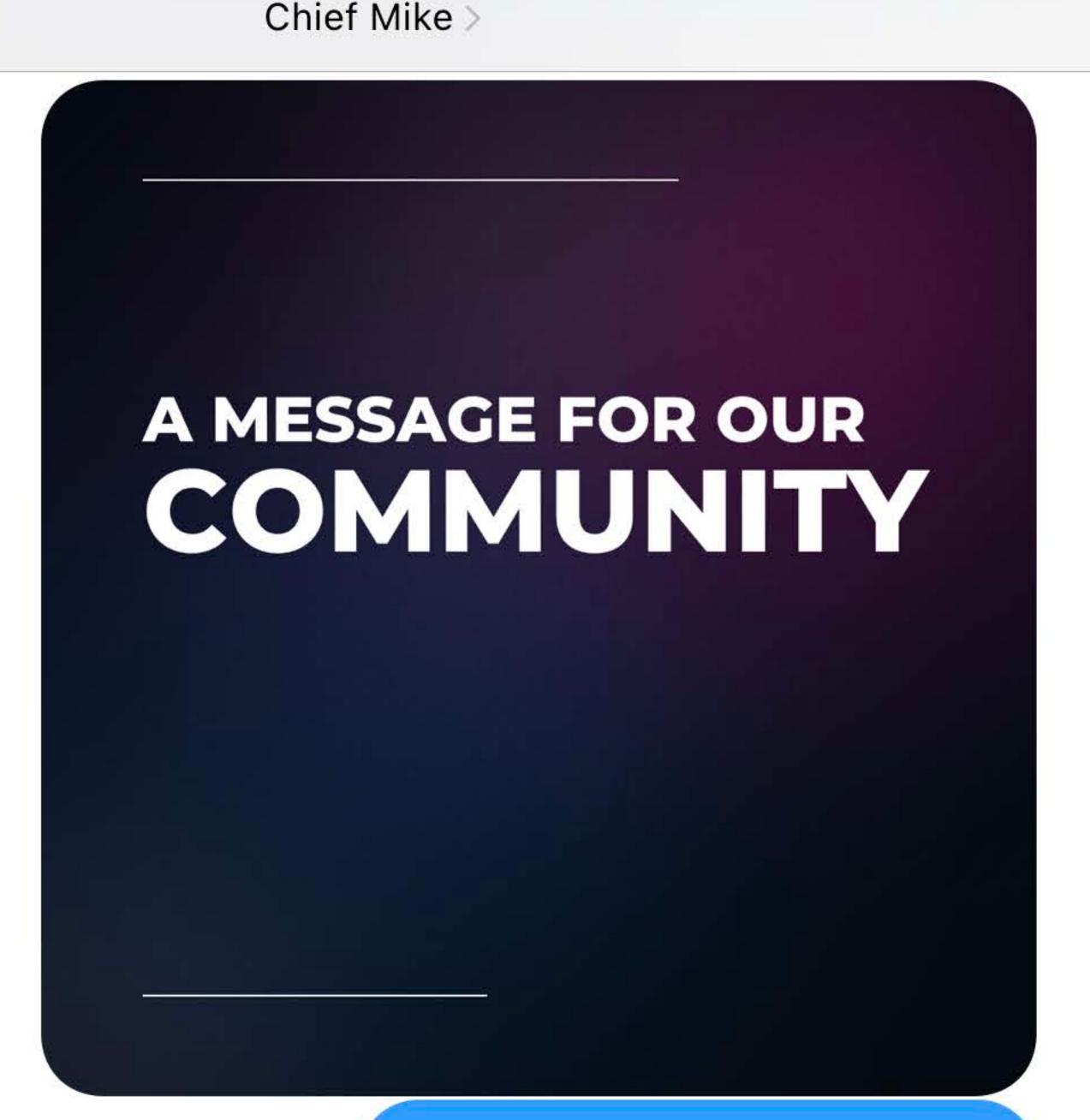












I replaced pic with this

Great call!

check comments later.

K. If u will, let me know when u become available. I'll hold them off. Thank you, greatly, for getting on this!!!!!

Hold off who?

The proverbial "them". U know

Saturday 3:01 PM

























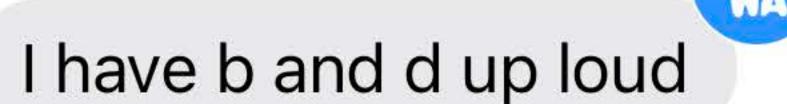




Non Responsive

will say...some of the messages we are getting are shifting to more supportive (private messages) so that's a good sign. I knew Tim was right that we would angry the far right by making a comment but I'll sleep better knowing we did the right thing. Anyway I'm here if you need me to do anything. I missed 125 notifications on social media for the one hour my phone was turned off. I'm monitoring some, but giving myself a breather too.

At least I'm not at the point of needing Brooks & Dunn.



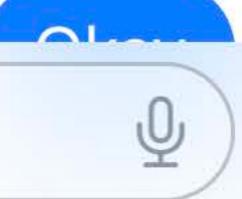
What did u think of my email

I thought email was great. Just wonder if we should've included the response/statement we shared on social media

Please do. U can say I ask u to do so



























Sunday 9:23 AM

Hope you got more sleep than me. Based on a text from Rebecca, officers are blaming command staff for the social media post. She's upset to get some of the blame, and I'm sure she's not alone. I think most is focused on me, though. Spouses are commenting on our page, blasting us, never seen that before. Some mad at first post, others mad at the statement. What do you want me to do? Do you want me to resign? Or go to briefings?

Unless there is a significantly critical incident that absolutely necessitates a media response, I want you to put your phone down, don't look at FB and go have as good a day as possible. I looked at the comments last evening and they seemed to be turning more positive, I'll call that a win. For the most, we are done with this matter and moving on. I'd say we don't post anything for several days and let it die. All we need to do is come up with a way to vet contributions. Relax. You're good....no great!

# Thanks. I'm actually about to make













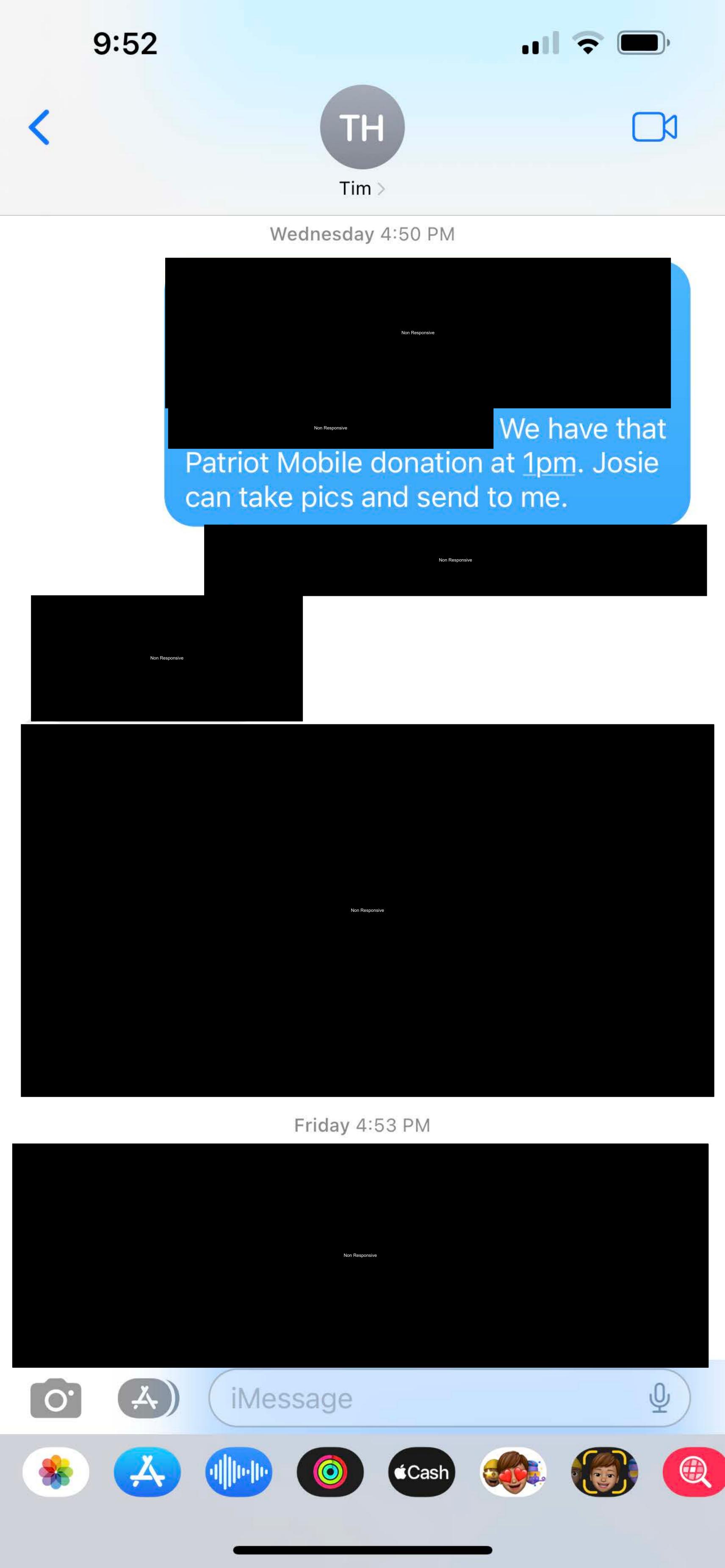












Saturday 9:55 AM

I have some concern that the proposed response to the donation may cause others who feel differently to voice their own opinions and then we are caught in the middle (a political situation).

I didn't realize who Rich's company was, which is my mistake. But essentially we have aligned ourselves with a hate group. I think we should keep the statement, and only take donations beyond kids or churches, funneled through the police association.

Are they a recognized hate group by



























Are they a recognized hate group by the United States?

Fair. Not that I know of. I don't know that answer but would assume not.

I don't think we need to reject the donation either....that's why I think giving it to someone else would be a solution.

The post is viral. I'm getting messages and notifications every few seconds.

My thought, as with many things in this world, people disagree vocally and move on as the world is fast moving.

I would not respond at all and not change anything

I want to think that too, and was of that opinion yesterday morning. But as it's gotten worse, my thoughts have changed. I don't think it will blow over

Have others responded with opinions

Only Mike. He was ready to give the donation back













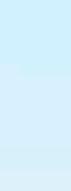


















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CMO wants to ignore it

I called Judy Pal, the crisis comminstructor at ILEA and FBI, for her insight, and she agreed a statement in this case, that it will only get worse.

My PIO friends said to take down the post, but I think that would make it worse. And all the negative comments are tied to the post and I don't want them spilling over to everything else

Irving PD took a donation a couple years ago, turns out it was tied to a political group too. They waited and it got worse, became a news story. They had to change their policy on donations. I'm trying to avoid the news stories

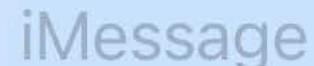
What is your plan?

Giving the donation back will offend the company

My opinion





























.III 🛜

Post the statement online, as its own message, and attached to the original post. And send to all the private messages. Then next week give the donation to an MLK group Monday for MLK day, or to VAST kids

I definitely don't want to give it back. I think supporting another group is best

My thought: don't respond this weekend and revisit the situation on Monday

I thought the same until last night. This is one of those cases I think waiting will hurt us. But I do want to be mindful.

We are a non-political organization, so sometimes we just half to take the various views and move on. The vAst majority of the community understands our roll in the world

I sent my statement to Judy Pal: She's going to suggest a few changes to shorten it up. Curious to see what she says

Yesterday 8:18 PM























Saturday 8:49 PM

Can we not remove the posts

We could. I don't think we should.

Could we split green with the original post and the apology? Ugh, Twitter is had













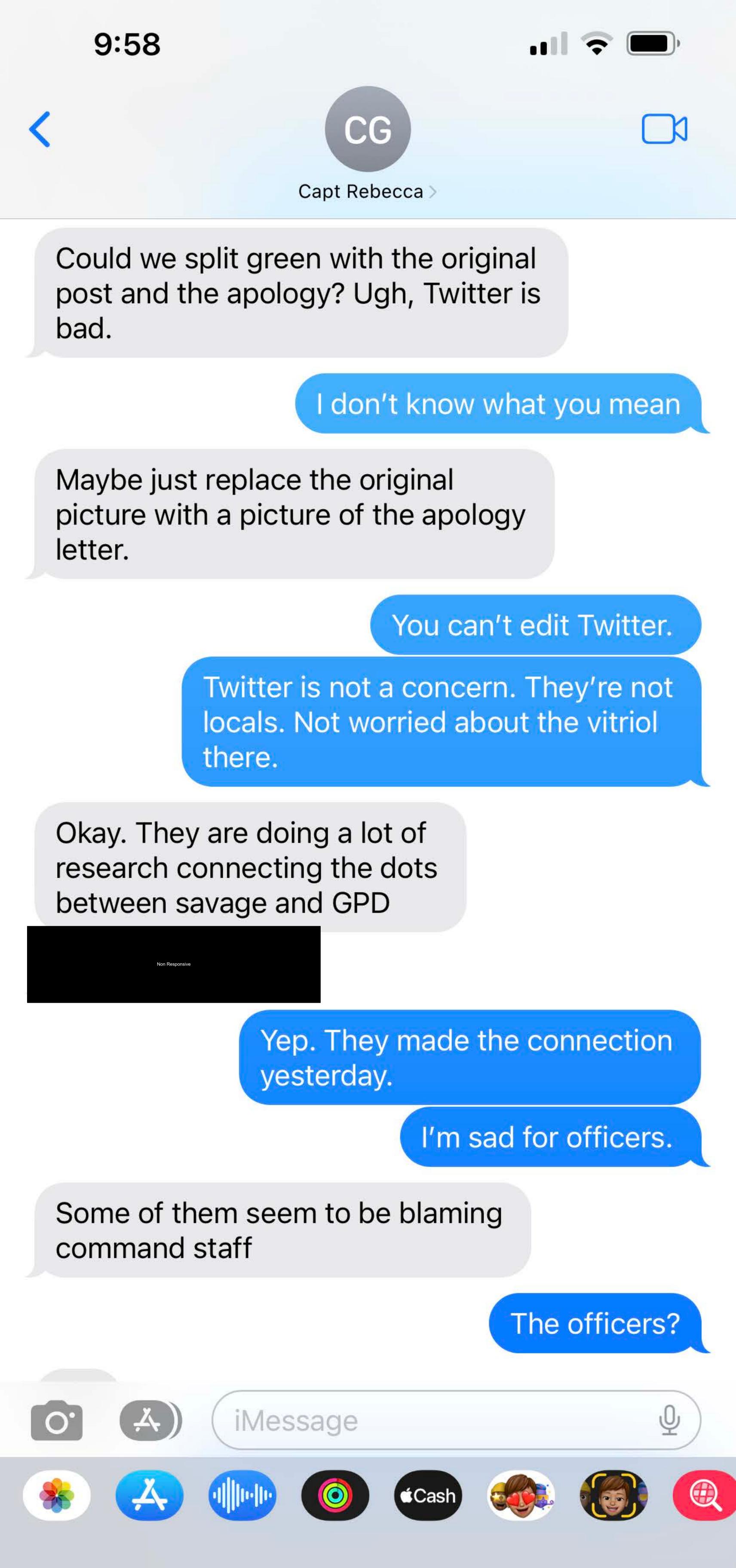














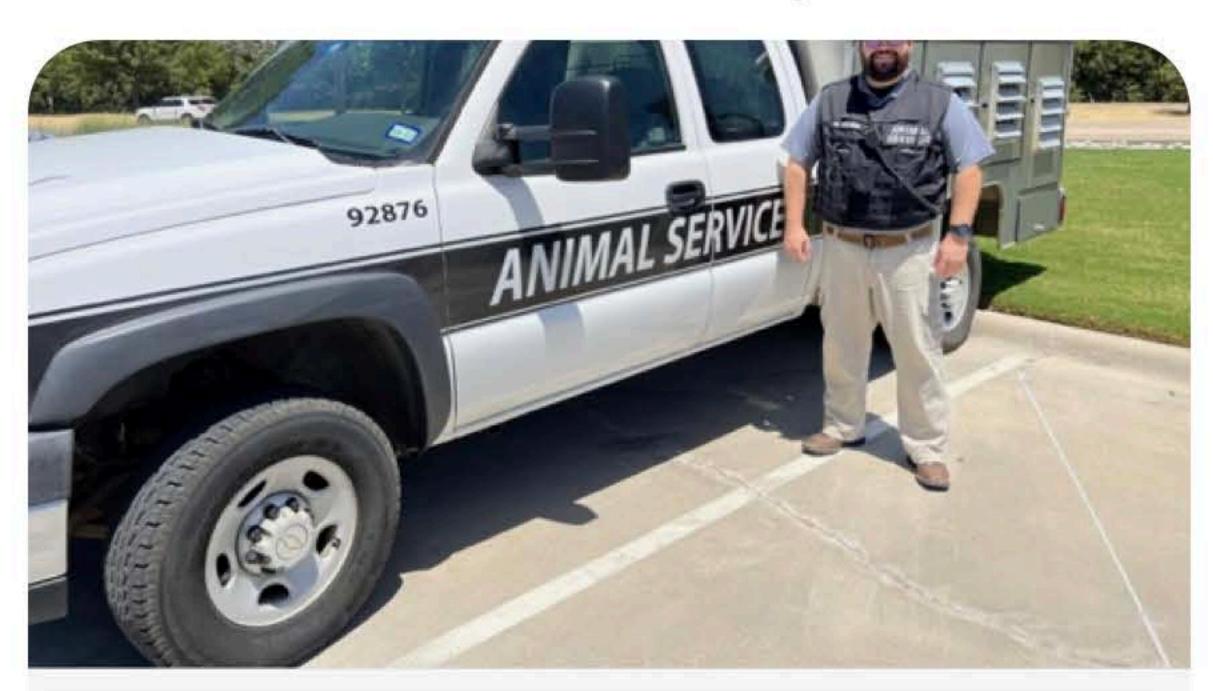


The officers?

Yes

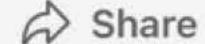
# I figured they were just upset with me

Yesterday 6:32 PM



Like



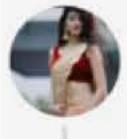






2 Shares

Most relevant ~



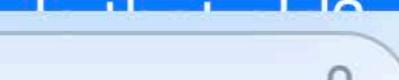
### মিন্ট ন

Stiltner Sara Falcon Balog Mindy Schulz Stephi Raquel Lynne Dyer Rebecca Holmes Graves Carol Milner- Halma Brianna Johnston Kay McMaster Kim Tallent Michael Bradley Rhonda Boswell Beverly Walsh Randy Halma New Apparel has Arrived in Stock, Get now yours

Can you help Kristina prevent this? I hate being randomly tagged on our sites?





























### iMessage Sunday 3:19 PM

Bruno Rumbelow

I have spoken to Sharron and she understands and supports our strategy - again, I apologize for having to bother everyone this afternoon! Thank you all for the education on this topic and continuing to deal with it

BR

Chief Mike Hamlin

Thanks. If more is needed, let's us know



























9:59 4





iMessage Sunday 2:30 PM

Chief Mike Hamlin

I've included Amanda in the thread. Here's her response

We "could" stop comments but I would advise against it, as that could get us sued for violating first amendment rights. As a government agency our social channels are considered a limited public forum. We could get sued for doing so. Shutting down the pages would also stop our communication with the public, most of whom are supportive. The majority of negative posts are from other states, countries and even bots.

My professional advice is to let it ride. It will be worse in the coming days before it gets better, we just have to get through another week or so, and bury the posts with other comments

This happened to Arlington PD several years ago, and they had to stop posting most business/ corporate gifts and limit public thanks to kids.



Bruno Rumbelow



Ok - ty



























Further to my previous info from my IT guru (not Christian Ross):
Amanda can delete the post she made yesterday and it will delete all of the responses to it in the process.
That is step one. Next, she can change the settings on the PD's Facebook page such that any future postings must be reviewed by her/page administrator before they are posted. Or, she can completely turn off public postings to the page so that only she/administrator can post to it at any time.

More from Sharron

A flavor of what we are dealing with here

Chief Mike Hamlin

We're sorry. Would it help if we wrote a response as to why we can't do that?

Bruno Rumbelow

No it isn't that and I hate to bother you on a Sunday, Chief

Let's have a few minute conversation with Matthew B

Jenn Hibbs



BR

BR











































### iMessage Saturday 9:55 AM

Chief Mike Hamlin

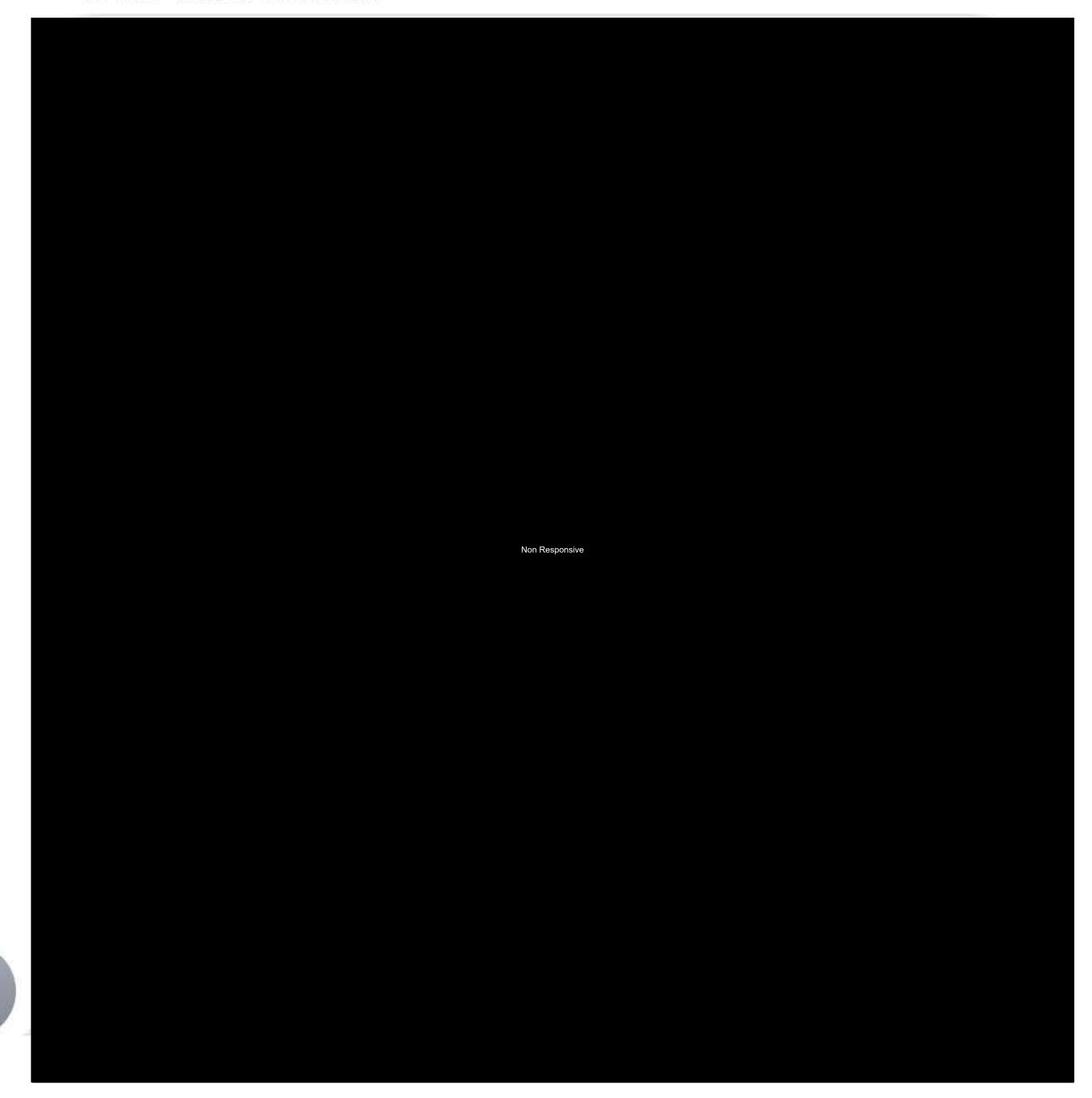
No sir, we've not taken it down.

Amanda has drafted a response,
which we will post in the next few
minutes. I've been at the vet and am
about to review it

СН

Saturday 4:21 PM Chief Mike Hamlin added +1 (682) 300-7178 to the conversation.

Chief Mike Hamlin



































Saturday 3:00 PM

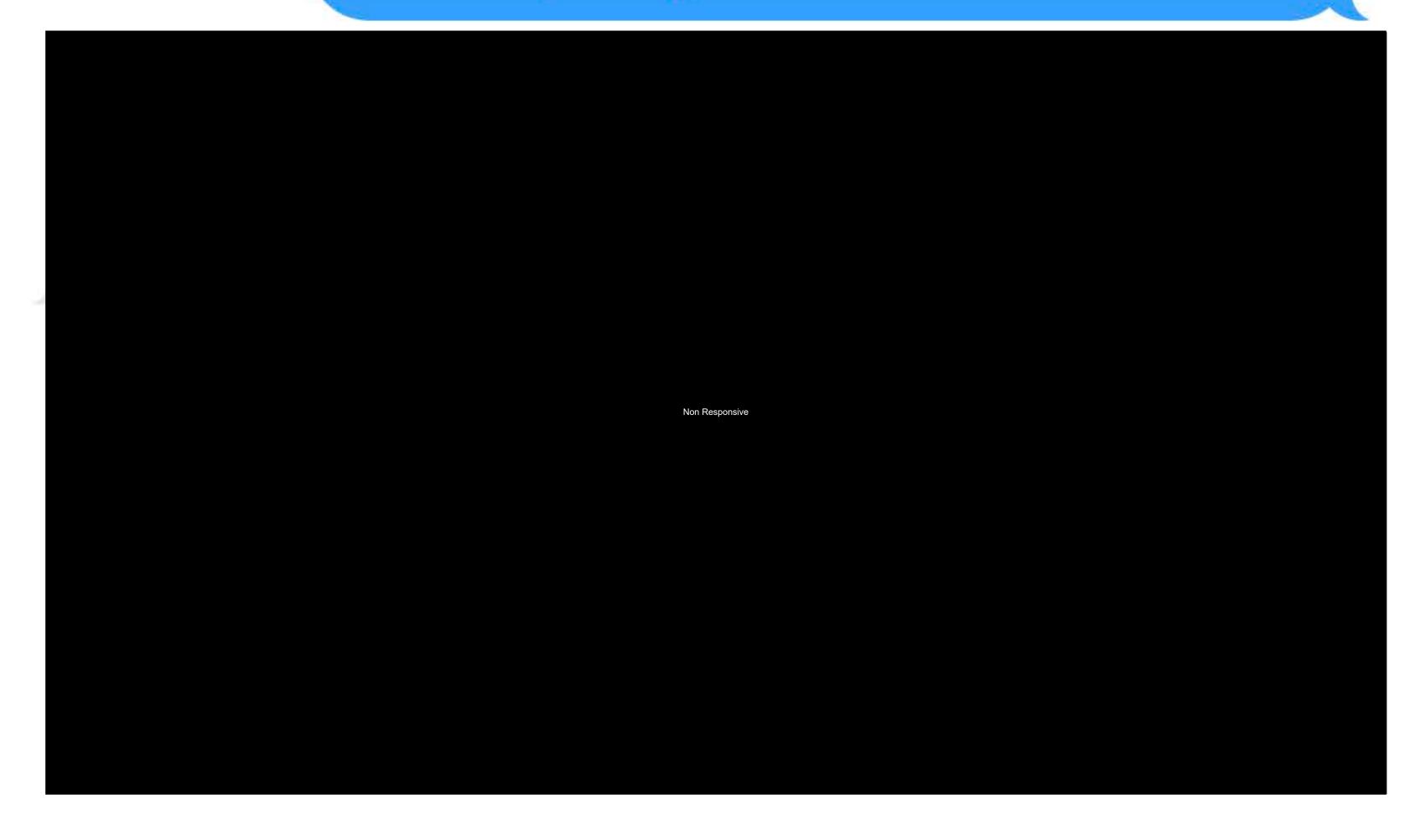
## Ugh, not a fun day for you

It's been 30 hours of hate and still going strong. I can take the personal attacks, but don't want officers or spouses to suffer. That's the part I hate in this.

Non Responsive

1.5

hours with my phone off helped more than anything else.



Saturday 8:49 PM

Can we not remove the posts

We could. I don't think we should.

Could we split green with the original post and the apology? Ugh, Twitter is





























Could we split green with the original post and the apology? Ugh, Twitter is bad.

## I don't know what you mean

Maybe just replace the original picture with a picture of the apology letter.

## You can't edit Twitter.

Twitter is not a concern. They're not locals. Not worried about the vitriol there.

Okay. They are doing a lot of research connecting the dots between savage and GPD

Yep. They made the connection yesterday.

I'm sad for officers.

Some of them seem to be blaming command staff

The officers?





























## I don't know what you mean

Maybe just replace the original picture with a picture of the apology letter.

You can't edit Twitter.

Twitter is not a concern. They're not locals. Not worried about the vitriol there.

Okay. They are doing a lot of research connecting the dots between savage and GPD

Non Responsive

Yep. They made the connection yesterday.

I'm sad for officers.

Some of them seem to be blaming command staff

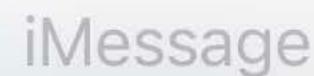
The officers?

Yes

I figured they were just upset with me

























#### **Public Records Exemptions**

Enclosed please find a copy of the responsive documents for your public records request. The following information is provided to explain the process employed to review and produce the response documents.

Reason	Description	Pages
Non Responsive		1, 6, 8, 13, 14, 16, 17, 21, 22, 28-31

#### **Public Records Exemptions**

Enclosed please find a copy of the responsive documents for your public records request. The following information is provided to explain the process employed to review and produce the response documents.

Reason	Description	Pages	
Submitted to the AG office to Withhold		27	