



Phoenix Police Department
Public Affairs Bureau
620 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85003



P R E S S R E L E A S E

Joint Statement from Police Chief Jeri Williams and City Manager Ed Zuercher

There are disturbing claims that members of the Phoenix Police Department circulated an inappropriate challenge coin related to a 2017 incident. “This is unacceptable and not in line with the behavior expected of my officers,” said Chief Jeri Williams. “I not only expect more, but demand more from my officers.”

There are now new allegations that the language on the coin may be connected to hate speech. “Hate speech in any form is unacceptable and even more so from officers who we rightfully hold to the highest standards of excellence,” said Chief Williams. “It will not be tolerated. We will take disciplinary action against officers involved in any illegal or unethical behavior.”

“Working together with Chief Williams, I have instructed the City Attorney’s office to begin the process of outside investigation,” said City Manager Ed Zuercher. “We do not accept hate speech at the city of Phoenix. It is unacceptable and we must have an independent look at these disturbing allegations so we can take appropriate action.”