CITY OF TEMPE DEMOLISHES BASELESS, DEFAMATORY ALLEGATIONS

The City of Tempe will not allow blatant lies and reckless accusations to go unanswered.

The letter authored by attorney Lawrence Henke — and shopped to members of the media
— is defamatory, malicious, and entirely unsupported by facts.

This letter is nothing more than a smear campaign designed to mislead the public and damage the reputations of City of Tempe officials and employees. There is not one iota of evidence in this letter and the City condemns these falsehoods in the strongest possible terms.

FACT vs. HENKE'S FICTION

1. No Unauthorized Access — Ever

City Manager Rosa Inchausti is *not* authorized to access ACJIS databases and has *never* requested or received ACJIS information. Chief Deputy City Manager Greg Ruiz has been authorized to receive AJCIS information since he was Tempe Fire Chief. His current position oversees the Tempe Police Department. Neither of them has ever asked for requested or received ACJIS information on any individual — including Austin Davis or Ron Tapscott. **Henke's claim is a lie. Full stop.**

2. No Campaign Against Any Individual

The City has *never* engaged in harassment, surveillance, or targeted enforcement against any member of the public — including Davis or Tapscott. There has been no "campaign," no targeting, and no abuse of authority.

Henke's claim is false.

3. No ACJIS-Based Homeless Tracking

The City has *never* ordered the police department to track homeless individuals through ACJIS information. The "unsheltered" flag is misrepresented by Henke as ACJIS data. In reality, it is a basic service-tracking tool in the call-for-service system, designed solely to deploy resources.

Henke's claim is a wild distortion of reality.

4. No Data Mining of Confidential Systems

City technology staff have *never* mined ACJIS or any confidential law enforcement database. Our public homelessness dashboards are built on anonymized, publicly available information.

Henke's claim is fiction.

5. No Improper Use of Police Briefings

Quarterly police department report-out meetings – which are common in virtually every police department in the U.S. – cover operational highlights, department statistics, and notable public safety work. ACJIS data is *not* presented in these meetings. No personally identifiable or protected information is shared with City leadership.

Henke's claim is categorically false.

6. No Political Misuse of Police Resources

The City does not — and will not — use law enforcement systems, personnel, or resources for political purposes. To suggest otherwise is an outright fabrication.

Henke's claim is a baseless smear.

The City of Tempe conducts its work within the law, with transparency, and with a commitment to ethical conduct. We use anonymized, lawful data to direct tens of millions of dollars in services to residents — including the unhoused community.

Mr. Henke's letter is a calculated attempt to mislead, to inflame, and to harm. We reject it in its entirety. The City will continue to set the record straight, protect the integrity of its operations, and defend the reputations of its employees from malicious attacks.