

From: Laura Cole <lcole@colepromedia.com>
Sent: 6/15/2020 4:00:44 PM
To: Christina Hallingse <challingse@ashevillenc.gov>
Cc: Sandy Soriano <ssoriano@colepromedia.com>
Subject: Re: Two Things

Hi Christina,

So for the first one, I would end the response with recent protests. Saying no additional information will be released gives the closed off stance which is what we don't want to be. They can ask future questions and dig for information if they want to. And if we can, we will answer. However if we can't because of the independent review, we won't. Does that make sense? Also it's just a little nicer.

I think he can be a part of the panel. He needs to know people will push him for answers and he must stay with, "that's a very good question and that is why we brought in someone from the outside."

Another way to say that is

"I don't want to speculate or taint the investigation which is why we must wait for the independent report."

Also we can discuss with him as well.

Let me know if this helps. If it doesn't, let me know that too. Lol

LC

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 15, 2020, at 12:48 PM, Christina Hallingse <challingse@ashevillenc.gov> wrote:

Sandy and Laura,

GOOD AFTERNOON (morning still in your part of the world)! I have two quick things to run by you.

First, I am receiving a number of media inquiries asking very specific questions regarding the protests and actions of law enforcement that took place. I am inclined to respond with " The City of Asheville is in the process of hiring an outside, independent investigator to review methods and tactics used during recent protests. Until this thorough investigation is completed, no additional information on the protests will be made available." What are your thoughts to this response?

Second, I have forwarded you both an email from Blue Ridge Public Radio (the local NPR affiliate) regarding

the Chief's participation on a panel conversation regarding the protests and police reforms moving forward. I called and spoke with the reporter, initially to say we wouldn't participate because of the investigation into the methods and tactics during protests, but after further conversation he clarified the scope of the conversation to focus on reforms moving forward. The Buncombe County Sheriff and a representative from the Police Benevolent Association are both going to be a part of the conversation. Other invited panelists (who have yet to confirm) include City Council members, Black Lives Matters leaders, and other community activists. There will also be an opportunity for the listening audience to pose questions. Although the reporter won't be focusing on the protests, I'm worried that is where the conversation will be headed. What are your thoughts on his participation? They are shooting for this to occur next Thursday (25th).

Thank you,

Christina Hallingse
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