

September 28, 2022

Chief Harold Medina  
Chief of Police  
Albuquerque Police Department  
400 Roma Ave. NW  
Albuquerque, NM 87102

Review of the death of Isaiah Polk on April 26, 2022.  
APD # 22-0031547; DA case# 2022-05499-1

Dear Chief Medina,

I have been asked by Raul Torrez, the Second Judicial District Attorney, to review the death of Isaiah Polk on April 26, 2022, to determine if the facts justify a review for potential prosecution. After a review of the police reports, photographs, and the autopsy report, I conclude that Isaiah Polk took his own life, and there is no police conduct which could support prosecutorial review. No charges will be filed: the case will be closed. This decision does not limit administrative or criminal action by other agencies, or civil actions by other parties.

#### RELEVANT FACTS

On the afternoon of April 26, 2022, an individual, later identified as Isaiah Polk, was seen on Interstate 25 where it crosses over Alameda Blvd. NE. He walked to the east side of the bridge, tied a shoestring around his neck, and sat on the edge of the bridge. Albuquerque Police Department officers were called to the scene. When they arrived, they found him sitting on the retaining wall on the bridge, drinking a beer. He had tied the other end of the shoestring to the retaining wall. When they approached, he told them to stay back and that he wanted to die. The officers blocked off the interstate and called for assistance. Members of the Mobile Crisis Team, including a counselor arrived and talked to Polk. Polk told them his wife had cheated on him and

repeated that he wanted to die. He refused offers to talk with family or friends on the phone. He finished his beer, saluted the officer and said “here I go”, and stepped off the bridge. He fell to the roadway below, receiving injuries that proved fatal.

Investigation revealed that two days before, Polk had called 911 and said that he wanted to kill himself by jumping off a downtown parking structure. Officers arrived and talked him into going to University of New Mexico Mental Health Center for help. They transported him there to seek treatment an evaluation. Apparently, he was released some time before he appeared on the bridge on April 26, 2022.

### CONCLUSION

My review of the evidence reveals no police conduct which could possibly support criminal prosecution. Isaiah Polk committed suicide despite the best efforts of the members of the Albuquerque Police Department. At no time was he in the custody or control of any members of the police department. There is no police conduct which would justify a review for potential prosecution: consequently, no charges will be considered against any of the Albuquerque Police Department Officers involved in the chase. The case will be closed.

Very truly yours,



Michael Cox  
Special Prosecutor

Cc: Raul Torrez, District Attorney, Second Judicial District

Detective Tod Babcock, Albuquerque Police Department