



JACKSON COUNTY

Oregon

Board of Commissioners

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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JACKSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS RESPOND TO SHERIFF FALLS' ALLEGATIONS

MEDFORD, OREGON – This afternoon, December 27, 2016, Sheriff Corey Falls held a press conference. We are saddened by Sheriff Falls' allegations at today's press conference and we wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

At this point, the County Commissioners and the County administration are focused on expediting the process of replacing Sheriff Falls and ensuring stability to the staff of the Sheriff's Office and providing continued public safety for the citizens of Jackson County.

During the course of this press conference, Sheriff Falls discussed many topics, including discrimination and harassment while he served as the Jackson County Sheriff. Jackson County's policy is to ensure that all of its employees and officers can work in an environment free from harassment and discrimination. As such, the County takes all claims of discrimination and harassment seriously. County policy requires a prompt and reasonable investigation of any reported allegations of harassment or discrimination.

In regards to Sheriff Falls' allegations, in December 2015, Sheriff Falls made a complaint regarding discrimination and harassment. Upon receipt of the complaint, the County promptly hired an outside investigator to investigate the allegations in the complaint. The investigation resulted in a preliminary report and conclusion that Sheriff Falls had not been discriminated against or harassed, and made some recommendations for moving forward. Prior to the completion and issuance of the investigatory report, Sheriff Falls withdrew his complaint and stated that the investigation into his allegations need not be completed.

The County Commissioners will work diligently toward finding the best possible replacement for the vacancy created by the resignation of Sheriff Falls.

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