



July 10, 2018

Mr. Mark D. Flink
Baker and Hostetler LLP
1801 California St., Suite 4400
Denver, CO 80202

Dear Mr. Flink,

I received your letter dated July 9, 2018 on behalf of the Colorado Broadcasters Association, the Colorado Press Association, and the Colorado Freedom of Information Coalition regarding the temporary detention of Ms. Susan Greene during a police investigation. Specifically, officers were attempting to assist a partially clothed and distraught citizen while Ms. Green was photographing the incident.

First, I assure you that upholding constitutionally protected First Amendment rights is of the utmost importance to the Denver Police Department. Denver police officers receive training in constitutional issues, and there is also a specific department policy that addresses recording police activities. Such policies provide guidance regarding the protection of individual rights and the enforcement of criminal laws.

Individual police officers are tasked with assessing and resolving situations according to the law, policy, and good judgment. After an initial review of the evidence this matter has resulted in an internal investigation to determine the appropriateness of their actions. The inquiry is ongoing, and a resolution has not been determined. Though I am not yet able to comment on the internal investigation outcome, I am confident that it will be addressed in a professional, fair, and reasonable manner.

I thank you for bringing this matter to my attention, and I am reminded that Denver police officers respond to tens of thousands of calls for service each year, with each one being unique and important. We learn and improve from our experiences and community feedback, both positive and negative. This partnership drives our commitment to quality service delivery.

Sincerely,

Paul M. Pazen
Chief of Police

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul M. Pazen", with a date "9.50.27" written to the right of the signature.

Office of the Chief of Police
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www.denvergov.org/safety
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