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Nov 14

# SECURE JUSTICE CALLS FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL INVESTIGATION INTO BPD ARREST QUOTA POLICY

On November 10, 2022, Berkeley Police Department (“BPD”) Officer Corey Shedoudy [emailed](#) the Mayor and City Council, alleging the presence of an arrest quota program for the Downtown Task Force Bike Patrol, of which he was a member. Officer Shedoudy is presently facing disciplinary action by BPD. Secure Justice calls on Attorney General Rob Bonta to investigate these claims into what might be a very illegal and unconstitutional pattern of police practice, involving racial profiling and targeting of unhoused populations.

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Officer Shedoudy attached [text messages](#) to his email that appear to support his claims pertaining to the arrest quota program imposed by Sgt. Kacalek. Officer Shedoudy's email further claims that the program allegedly began when Interim Police Chief Jennifer Louis was a Captain, and continued after she was named Interim Chief. On Tuesday November 15, the Berkeley City Council will consider naming Interim Chief Louis as the permanent chief of the department. Secure Justice calls for the City Council to postpone such an important decision until these serious allegations are investigated. Almost as troubling as the allegations themselves is the [emailed response](#) of City Manager Williams-Ridley to the City Council, first ordering that the email and text messages not be shared, and stating her belief that she believes there is no reason to pause the hiring of Louis.

BPD has a troubling past with regard to racial discrimination and its present stop-data reports reveal that BPD is [specifically targeting Black drivers](#) even more egregiously than the Oakland Police Department, which is presently in its record setting nineteenth year of federal monitoring due to its own culture of racial profiling and targeting Black Oaklanders.

## Spring 2022 - a note from our Executive Director

Secure Justice

Oakland, CA

EIN 83-3116364

Contact: [Brian@Secure-Justice.org](mailto:Brian@Secure-Justice.org)

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Interim Chief Louis



Corey Shedoudy  
shedoudy@gmail.com



To Berkeley Mayor's Office mayor@cityofberkele...  
Kesarwani, Rashi RKesarwan@cityofberkeley.i...  
Taplin, Terry Ttaplin@cityofberkeley.info  
Bartlett, Ben BBartlett@cityofberkeley.info  
Harrison, Kate KHarrison@cityofberkeley.info  
Hahn, Sophie SHahn@cityofberkeley.info  
Wengraf, Susan SWengraf@cityofberkeley.info  
Robinson, Rigel RRobinson@cityofberkeley.info  
Droste, Lori LDroste@cityofberkeley.info  
Thursday, November 10, 11:10 AM



Shedoudy Texts 2.pdf :  
PDF - 2.6 MB

**WARNING:** This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

To the Mayor and Berkeley City Council,

My name is Corey Shedoudy and I was a Berkeley Police Officer from November 2014 until my termination on August 31 2021. My termination is currently in the arbitration process, and I expect my termination will not be upheld for, amongst other reasons, I have the truth on my side. Regardless, the purpose of this letter today is to ask of you to delay making permanent interim BPD Chief Jennifer Louis at your November 15th meeting.

My latest assignment at BPD was on the Downtown Task Force from October 2019 - September 2020 and the BPD Bike Force beginning in September 2020. During the course of my week-long arbitration hearing, evidence was uncovered that exposed the unethical and illegal practice of arrest quotas of downtown unhoused ordered by Sgt. Darren Kacalek to DTF/Bike Force that began when Chief Louis was a BPD Police Captain and continued after she was named Interim Chief.

DTF/Bike Force was ordered by Sgt. Kacalek to make 100 arrests per month, which was at the time more than the rest of the Police department combined. We were ordered to do so using questionable legal tactics that included stop and frisk, probation searches with no reasonable suspicion of a crime, and a very loose interpretation of stay-away orders from UC Berkeley.

The only acceptable response to such evidence from multiple officers inside the unit, separate from my arbitration or the allegations against me, is an immediate, comprehensive investigation. Chief Louls has instead responded with deafening silence and inaction. No investigation, no further inquiries. My intention is for this practice to stop, and I'm afraid now that it will not.

As a result of this inaction, at the conclusion of my arbitration I will be releasing to the public hundreds of DTF/Bike Force text messages, e-mails, sworn testimony transcripts, public arrest records, and photographs that clearly outline a practice of illegal arrest quotas, racism, evidence suppression, lying, and quid pro quos inside that unit.

My plea is that you delay the permanency of the BPD Chief of Police until this information is reviewed, and hopefully one day formally investigated. If at that point Chief Jennifer Louis is deemed the best leader of the Berkeley Police department then that is a fair decision, but I believe doing so now, absent any investigation, will be a disservice to the citizens of Berkeley.

I am attaching a few DTF/Bike Force group text messages from Sgt. Kacalek, myself, and other DTF/Bike Force members that begin to tell the story and that I would consider the tip of the iceberg.

Sincerely,

Corey Shedoudy

⏪ ∨ Reply to all

23:33



Bike Force! >

I wonder if BFA will let the people vote for schedule change this time?

M We literally closed our jail

Today 23:30

Sgt. Kacelek (Darren) S-18

S I just read all this. I'm on my third triple Jack and Coke. This is definitely a "drink" day.

S Stern is gonna come back with a new strain that wipes out the homeless pop. We will just ride by the bodies!

I wish my wife talked about me like S-18 talks about car8



iMessage



Apple Pay



Q W E R T Y U I O P

A S D F G H J K L

↑ Z X C V B N M ↵

123

space

return



11:01

4G 79%



BD

BG

BPD, BPD, BPD, BPD

BJ

Group MMS



Imho arrests are the means not the ends. For all the businesses know, we arrest 20 people a day. XX arrests wont impress them. Solving their pain points will impress them. Solving the problems they know of will impress them, arresting the right people. Making their sidewalk not smell like piss.

BPD James Seaton

It takes a lot of guts to argue with the Corporal

BPD James Seaton

I respect it

BPD Darren Kacalek,  
88

For sure Corey but numbers are a way of quantifying it as we move to really solving long term problems. Tickets and arrests are more of a notification to problematic people that we are out and about and there to enforce problematic criminal behavior and public nuisances. It's the official paper way of reminding





11:01

4G 79%



BD

BG

BPD, BPD, BPD, BPD

BJ

Group MMS



or will impress them, arresting the right people. Making their sidewalk not smell like piss.

BPD James Seaton

It takes a lot of guts to argue with the Corporal

BPD James Seaton

I respect it

BPD Darren Kacalek,  
88

For sure Corey but numbers are a way of quantifying it as we move to really solving long term problems. Tickets and arrests are more of a notification to problematic people that we are out and about and there to enforce problematic criminal behavior and public nuisances. It's the official paper way of reminding them that what they are doing is not okay and will get our attention.

BPD Darren Kacalek,  
88

Moore did arrest Peewee for the stay away! Point DTF!





BD

BPD Darren...

Mobile



I like that way of thinking. I'm gonna come with a bike force board game. You do shit around the city to go forward. I'll come up with a cool award for the winner. Maybe like a week long challenge. Famous people arrested you get extra points.

(12/08/20, 1544 HRS)

11:10

77%



BD

BG

BJ

BPD, BPD, BPD, BPD

Group MMS



11/12/19 9:51 PM

BPD Darren Kacalek,  
88

81 arrests! We can do 19 by Friday  
for sure!

11/12/19 10:00 PM

BPD Greg  
Michalczyk, 9

Hell yeah

BPD Greg  
Michalczyk, 9

And DQ might have just found  
shooting car!

11/12/19 10:10 PM

BPD James Seaton

Yeah a Honda

11:09

4G+ 77%



BD

BG BPD, BPD, BPD, BPD

BJ Group MMS



10/31/19 12:51 PM

BPD Darren Kacalek,  
88

About to earn my lunch boys.

BPD Greg  
Michalczyk, 9

What ya get?

10/31/19 1:12 PM

BPD Darren Kacalek,  
88

I spoke too soon. The warrant had  
been recalled. Just a cite.

10/31/19 2:38 PM

We are LL quald 🤔😂💰

BPD Greg  
Michalczyk, 9

It's been over half a shift...how  
many 1015s?

11:07

4G LTE 78%



BD

BG  
BJ

BPD, BPD, BPD, BPD

Group MMS



10/25/19 8:33 AM

BPD Darren Kacalek,  
88

I was thinking whoever gets the least arrests today does the waxing.

BPD Darren Kacalek,  
88

Harassment prevention training has been cancelled due to EOC activation. Nnnnooooooooooo!!

BPD Greg  
Michalczyk, 9

That's awful

10/25/19 1:04 PM

BPD Darren Kacalek,  
88

How we doing folks?

We cited for open container and checked in and chatted with mgmt at mcdonalds, missing link, the greek restaurant next to missing link, and tender greens



11:07

78%



BD

BG BPD, BPD, BPD, BPD

BJ Group MMS



codornices park guy. If I have time tonight I'll find the day/times and exact location in the park and we maybe we can work some OT on it.

10/23/19 11:05 AM

**BPD Schikore**

Are we working out??

**BPD Greg Michalczyk, 9**

No come up stairs

**BPD Schikore**

Shit. I'm in my workout garb. Be there in a minute

10/23/19 12:14 PM

**BPD Greg Michalczyk, 9**

1015 for a known parolee with sex crime no bail

**BPD Darren Kacalek, 88**

Boom! You guys earned our lunch!



10:40

4G LTE 83%



BD

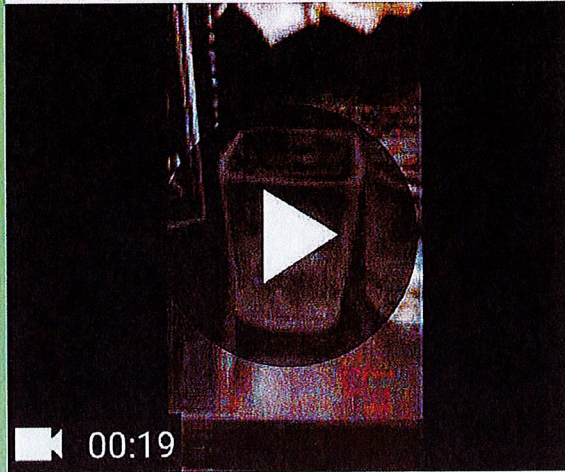


BPD, Tom, BPD + 3

Group MMS



BPD Darren Kacalek,  
88



BPD Darren Kacalek,  
88

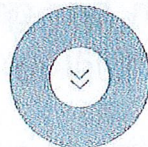
I got these for you guys from the Jack Daniels Distillery. Everyone gets one. The birthday girl gets first pick, then seniority. I'll take what's left.

BPD Darren Kacalek,  
88

Shedoudy's Obama phone fucked up the video.

BPD Darren Kacalek,  
88

Pickett?



10:59

4G 79%



BD

BG

BJ

BPD, BPD, BPD, BPD

Group MMS



BPD Greg  
Michalczyk, 9

I'm 14 coors lights down but can I  
can I get some real talk guys...we  
are the 1st street team BPD  
has had in 4+ years...we didn't  
have to interview...we have an  
open check book for the next 5  
months...have our own office...it's  
is unprecedented in this history of  
BPD...let's not fuck this up

10/19/19 9:44 PM

BPD Darren Kacalek,  
88

I just want you to know Greg, I stole  
that sign back for you!



BPD Darren Kacalek,  
88

I was at Kevin Reece's birthday  
party just now and Dave was there  
and we briefly talked about DTF.  
He said just kick ass, arrest people,  
have fun, and get me results and I  
will never jam you about overtime.





11:10

4G LTE 77%

← BD | BG BPD, BPD, BPD, BPD  
BJ Group MMS

Hows Operation 100 going

11/12/19 3:31 PM

BPD Greg  
Michalczyk, 9

Going alright

11/12/19 7:08 PM

BPD Greg  
Michalczyk, 9

Matthew Harris is off probation

11/12/19 7:20 PM

**BPD Schikore**

Ya I found out earlier. Then he  
would not consent to a search! 😂

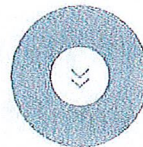
11/12/19 8:14 PM

**BPD Schikore**

INV 2 right?

BPD Greg  
Michalczyk, 9

Yeah



11:10

5G 63%



BG

BD BPD, BPD, BPD, BPD

BJ Group MMS



**BPD Schikore**

That would be perfect. Would be awesome to go out with the 10 year old b

**BPD Darren Kacalek, 88**

I'll put it this way. If you can keep a smile on the captains face from jump to Halloween AND you have kids that need to collect candy, then I'm sure we can figure out some kind of flex schedule for that day. But we'll see, I don't want to abuse any use of being in a special TEMPORARY assignment out of the gate!

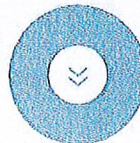
**BPD Schikore**



10/21/19 7:05 PM

**BPD Darren Kacalek, 88**

What I was trying to say is special favors are earned! 🤪



11:19

5G 62%



BD|BG

BPD, BPD  
Group MMS



7/10/20 10:39 AM

**BPD Darren Kacalek,  
88**

Where the fuck are you guys??!

Helping 187 on a thing at straw  
creek

**BPD Darren Kacalek,  
88**

How did you not catch the two cars  
loading 3-4K worth of stuff into 2  
cars?

Bc we're on foot at scp

**BPD Darren Kacalek,  
88**

Oh no shit? You think you wanna  
let me know next time?

**BPD Darren Kacalek,  
88**

Like I said. "Oh no shit? You think  
you wanna let me know next time?"



11:33

26%



BD

BG  
BJ

BPD, BPD, BPD

Group MMS



**BPD Greg Michalczyk, 9**

Jimmy!!! You missed the ceremony this morning

9/3/20 5:19 PM

**BPD Jimmy Seaton**

What ceremony?



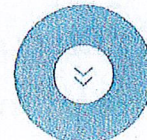
**BPD Jimmy Seaton**

Did Greg get another award?

9/7/20 9:44 PM

**BPD Darren Kacalek, 88**

Did you guys see the Media release for the Dennis Daniels bat incident. Wtf?? Interesting how he listed him as "Dennis Daniels, male, 51 years old, no address". I guess he isn't black or no one could decipher his race and he isn't homeless or even unhoused, just no address. #iwantthecoldhardtruth



11:40

25%



BD|BG

BPD, BPD

Group MMS



3/13/20 8:43 PM

**BPD Darren Kacalek, 88**

Either of you have the 375 pic from yesterday?

3/14/20 12:31 AM

**BPD Darren Kacalek, 88**

Did you guys realize that all 5 people you arrested had something in common?

They had covid?

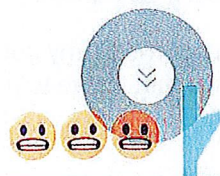
3/14/20 12:40 AM

**BPD Greg Michalczyk, 9**

No Idea

**BPD Darren Kacalek, 88**

All of the same heritage.



11:34

26%



BD

BG

BJ

BPD, BPD, BPD

Group MMS



LoI

No outbreak all year. Waite and Frankel oty!

8/24/20 12:06 AM

**BPD Darren Kacalek, 88**

<https://www.facebook.com/521684550/posts/10158901456404551/?extid=yfxhMKjWanpGZgdU>

**BPD Darren Kacalek, 88**

White Privilege Card  
\$100  
San Antonio, TX  
Like new, never used

Message

FOR SALE!

I'm selling my white privilege card. It's 48 years old and it hasn't done a damn thing for me. No welfare checks, No inheritance, No free college, No free food, No free housing, etc. I may even be willing to do an even trade for a race card. Those seem to be way more useful and more widely accepted.

Interested? Contact me on my non Obama cell phone that I have to pay for every month.

Serious Inquiries Only



12:21

22%

← BGD BPD, BPD  
Group MMS

BPD Darren Kacalek,  
88

Good work. We are gonna have to step up our game if we want to stay in business as bikes. When as staffing goes down I don't want to be the unit that gets picked apart.

BPD Darren Kacalek,  
88

Let me just take a moment to thank you for being you Corey.

lol

BPD Greg  
Michalczyk, 9

Bikes ain't happening this summer huh?

7/7/20 11:05 AM

BPD Greg  
Michalczyk, 9

We all make the same amount of money

---

Former Berkeley Police Officer Email-Corey  
Shedoudy



Williams-Ridley, Dee  
Arreguin, Jesse L., + 11

3:40 PM



Mayor and Council,

I understand that you have all received a very disturbing email from former Berkeley Police Officer Corey Shedoudy. I want to assure you that the allegations will be investigated fully and any additional investigative oversight needed will be sought. The allegations and texts messages shared, should not be distributed. I will work with the City Attorney and Human Resources to determine immediate next steps in this matter.

Lastly, I do not see any reason to pause the upcoming item requesting the appointment of Jen Louis to Chief of Police. My initial inquiry affirms that she had no knowledge of the allegations or text messages provided by Former Officer Shedoudy.

If and/or when this email is made public by Shedoudy, you should expect to have inquiries from media outlets. At this time, it is best to refer all inquiries to Matthai Chakko, Public Information Officer, who will work with me and the City Attorney on messaging. Should you need to respond please use the following:

**"My office is aware of the seriousness of the matter and has been assured that the allegations will be investigated thoroughly. Since this is a confidential personnel matter, there are no other comments at this time".**

Please call if you have any questions,  
Dee

⏪ ∨ Reply to all



[Courthouse coverage](#)

[Campus crime](#)

POLICING

# Fired Berkeley cop leaks texts alleging bias, asks officials to put off police chief vote



**Emilie Raguso**

November 14, 2022 10:06 PM 18

Officers said they were disappointed their union president had written the unprofessional messages, but deny having arrest quotas or illegal practices.



A BPD Bike Force member during an arrest in September 2022. *Emilie Raguso/The Berkeley Scanner*

A Berkeley police bike officer who was fired after inten,

We can't do it without you

according to sources familiar with the crash, has brought forward new claims about "unethical and illegal" practices he says were prevalent in his unit.

Corey Shedoudy was terminated from the Berkeley Police Department in August 2021, he told Berkeley City Council members in an email Thursday that was leaked to The Berkeley Scanner and at least one other individual.

In his email, Shedoudy claimed the bike unit had "arrest quotas of downtown unhoused" and used "questionable legal tactics" such as "stop and frisk, probation searches with no reasonable suspicion of a crime, and a very loose interpretation of stay-away orders from UC Berkeley."

Officers familiar with the unit say there were no such orders or illegal practices, and asked why — if such things had happened — had Shedoudy not raised concerns immediately to command staff, or brought it up when he was first put on leave in late 2020 after what multiple sources have described as an intentional collision with a driver near UC Berkeley.

In his Nov. 10 email, Shedoudy — who recently filed a lawsuit against the driver from the 2020 crash — urged the city to investigate his allegations and put off the ratification of a permanent Berkeley police chief. That vote had been scheduled to take place Tuesday night.

Shedoudy did not respond to multiple inquiries from The Berkeley Scanner over the weekend. As of Monday evening, his voicemail box was full.

The city has said Shedoudy's bias allegations are "disturbing" and will be taken seriously.

"We will be hiring an external investigator to verify and investigate any and all documentation and allegations arising from this complaint. This will happen in lieu of an internal affairs investigation to avoid any question about the impartiality of the investigation," the city told The Berkeley Scanner by email Monday at 5 p.m. "State law precludes the City from commenting on any personnel matters."

Interim Berkeley Police Chief Jennifer Louis said, through a statement, "We can't do it without you" had not been aware of the allegations until Thursday and that none of the alleged incidents took place under her supervision.

"These allegations are extremely concerning, and they deserve to be investigated thoroughly," she said in a prepared statement provided by the city.

## Shedoudy: Police union president sent offensive texts



Corey Shedoudy. Berkeley Police Association

Corey Shedoudy was hired by the Berkeley Police Department in 2014 after working as a police officer in Modesto for about two years, according to municipal salary records reviewed by The Berkeley Scanner.

Shedoudy was eventually assigned to BPD's Downtown Task Force, a proactive patrol unit created in 2019 in response to pressing public safety concerns from merchants at the time.

One year after its creation, the task force morphed into a bicycle patrol unit called Bike Force.

The unit has repeatedly won effusive praise at public meetings from Berkeley politicians, many of whom have supported its expansion into other neighborhoods, asked how they could get their own bike patrols, and said the proactive work the unit has done has made a real difference on Berkeley streets.

Shedoudy's email painted a different picture of the team's work. He alleged that unit supervisor Sgt. Darren Kacalek "ordered" the team "to make 100 arrests per month, which was at the time more than the rest of the Police department combined."

Kacalek is also the current president of the Berkeley Police Association. His term ends in December.

Shedoudy told Berkeley City Council members that he had hundreds of text messages from the bike team, along with emails, sworn testimony transcripts, arrest records and photos "that clearly outline a practice of illegal arrest quotas, racism, evidence suppression, lying, and quid pro quo inside th

We can't do it without you

As part of his package to the City Council, Shedoudy shared about two dozen

screenshots of text messages he said involved bike unit members. He told council this was just "the tip of the iceberg."



BPD Bike Force members, including Sgt. Darren Kacalek (center). *BPD*

The selected texts appear to show offensive remarks, particularly by Kacalek. In one, he appears to joke about a "new strain that wipes out the homeless pop. We will just ride by the bodies!"

In another text purporting to come from Kacalek, he asks: "Did you guys realize that all 5 people you arrested had something in common?"

In response to a guess from Shedoudy ("They had covid?"), Kacalek writes: "All of the same heritage."

In another text that appears to be from Kacalek, he ex  
media release had not, in his opinion, adequately described a man alleged to have

We can't do it without you

ATTACKED SOMEONE WITH A BASEBALL BAT.

"I guess he isn't black or no one could decipher his race and he isn't homeless or even unhoused, just no address," he wrote, adding #iwantthecoldhardtruth, according to the screenshot.

In another racially charged text, according to the screenshots from Shedoudy, Kacalek shared a Facebook post that appeared to have been uploaded by a Pennsylvania man; it was not clear who originally wrote the post.

In the post — set up like an item for sale — the author had written, "I'm selling my white privilege card. It's 48 years old and it hasn't done a damn thing for me. No welfare checks, No inheritance, No free college, No free food, No free housing, etc. I may even be willing to do an even trade for a race card. Those seem to be way more useful and more widely accepted."

## "Operation 100"

In one text, Kacalek appears to express enthusiasm about the prospect of the unit making 100 arrests that month — but there were no orders or directives attached to it, according to the material Shedoudy released.

"Hows Operation 100 going," Shedoudy appeared to write in another screenshot. The sender name was not visible, but the message appeared on the right side of the screen where outgoing texts are listed.

In another screenshot, a message that appears to be from Shedoudy says that arrests "are the means not the ends. For all the businesses know, we arrest 20 people a day. XX arrests wont impress them. Solving their pain points will impress them. Solving the problems they know of will impress them, arresting the right people. Making their sidewalk not smell like piss."

To that, Kacalek appears to answer: "For sure Corey but numbers are a way of quantifying it as we move to really solving the long term problems. Tickets and arrests are more of a notification to problematic people that we are out and about and there to enforce problematic criminal behavior ar We can't do it without you official way of reminding them that what they are doing as much as we can attention."

Numerous officers have told The Berkeley Scanner that the department has no arrest quotas.

"We don't have a policy on quotas. We never did. We know that's wrong," one retired veteran officer said. "But encouraging a team to be proactive, there's nothing wrong with that. That's what you want, especially on a team that was devised for that very thing."

## **Police: Shedoudy crash "dry runs" were caught on camera**

Berkeley Police Association Vice President Sgt. Scott Castle said he could not comment on the email or texts because this was a "confidential personnel matter."

But he said the union was carefully monitoring the situation.

"We want to assure the citizens of Berkeley that the members of the police department continue to pursue their mission to provide professional and compassionate service to our community," he said Monday night.

Kacalek is out of town this week on a previously scheduled vacation.

Berkeley police officers who saw the texts said they were disappointed in the tone and content of the messages.

They said the messages, particularly from the union president, were clearly unprofessional.

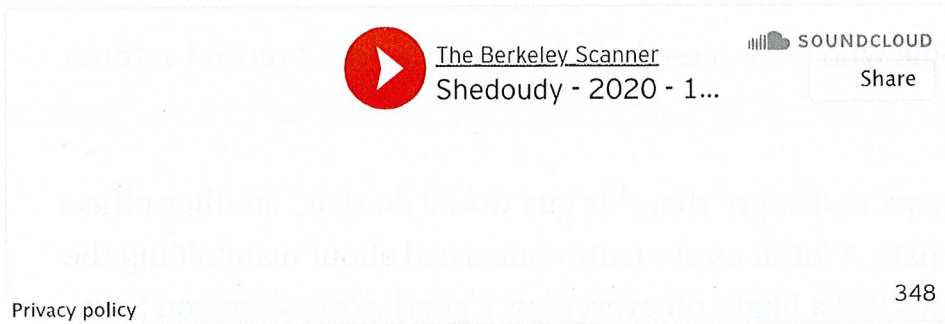
Officers also questioned, however, whether the texts were actually evidence of illegalities or improper police practices, which would be serious charges.

Shedoudy himself faced serious allegations, including the filing of a false police report and a false workers' compensation claim, which led to his termination, according to multiple veteran officers familiar with that investigation.

On Nov. 22, 2020, at 4:54 p.m., a breathless Shedoudy ( We can't do it without you cover to Ellsworth Street and Bancroft Way near the UC Berkeley campus for a traffic

collision involving his bicycle and a vehicle.

Dispatch audio of that call appears below.



The Berkeley Scanner  
Shedoudy - 2020 - 1...  
SOUND CLOUD  
Share  
348  
Privacy policy

The Berkeley Scanner · Shedoudy - 2020 - 11 - 22 - 1654

First responders rushed to the scene and took Shedoudy to Alta Bates for treatment, according to dispatch recordings reviewed by The Berkeley Scanner (TBS).

Suspicious about the circumstances of the collision arose immediately within the Berkeley Police Department, sources told TBS.

Police worked quickly to secure surveillance footage from the area and reviewed Shedoudy's body-worn camera footage as well.

The footage was shocking and appeared to show Shedoudy making more than a dozen "dry runs" on Bancroft Way in the hour or two before the collision "pulling away or braking until he finally hit a car," a veteran officer told TBS. "It appeared he was working on the timing of it."

Footage also appears to show Shedoudy turning left into the passenger side of the car when he could have veered to the right and out of its way, or hit the brakes, police said.

Many officers told The Berkeley Scanner that it had been Kacalek, the unit supervisor, who had closely reviewed the footage and documented the collision irregularities.

Shedoudy was placed on administrative leave and was eventually reinstated. "We can't do it without you" continues to appeal that decision through arbitration, and he is expected to wrap up this month.

At the time of the collision two years ago, a number of officers had heard about its questionable circumstances, sources said.

"There were a lot of people who were pissed off about it at work," a retired veteran officer said.

"They were disgusted, upset and angry that this guy would do that," another officer said. "It's so beyond the pale. A lot of us are truly concerned about maintaining the community's trust. And it's like a blight on everybody's good work when you have somebody do something like that."

Officers felt Shedoudy "should be swiftly and properly and fairly dealt with," he added. "There was no dissent at any point about anything."

"People were like, goodbye, good riddance," another officer told The Scanner.

Other officers, reached over the weekend to discuss the Shedoudy situation, said they did not know why criminal charges had never been filed in the matter.

The Alameda County district attorney's office was advised of the fraudulent worker's compensation claim, said one person familiar with the BPD investigation.

The DA's office said Monday morning that it was unable to provide a statement at the time, but would work on providing one later. The Berkeley Scanner will update the story when that information becomes available.

## **Shedoudy has sued the driver from his crash**

Although criminal charges do not appear to have been filed, Shedoudy filed his own civil case in Alameda County Superior Court on Nov. 2 against driver Fred Glass, a Berkeley resident and labor organizer.

(Glass declined to comment for this story.)

In the filing, Shedoudy wrote that he had been in the v Bancroft Way, and had the right-of-way, when Glass, w Ellsworth, struck him.

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He alleges that Glass failed to stop at a stop sign.

Shedoudy claims he was injured in the crash and may have been permanently disabled as a result.

He is seeking unlimited damages, in excess of \$25,000, as well as a jury trial, according to the filing.

In his email to the Berkeley City Council, which he sent Thursday at 11:10 a.m., Shedoudy wrote that he believed he would be vindicated in his fight to get his job back.

"I expect my termination will not be upheld for, amongst other reasons, I have the truth on my side," he wrote.

He said his main purpose in writing to the City Council was to ask officials to delay the vote to make interim Berkeley Police Chief Jen Louis permanent.

He wrote that he planned to release more materials to the public when his arbitration process concludes.

### **City manager urged officials not to comment**

Nearly five hours after Shedoudy sent his email to council members, City Manager Dee Williams-Ridley sent her own message to them.

"I understand that you have all received a very disturbing email from former Berkeley Police Officer Corey Shedoudy," she wrote. "I want to assure you that the allegations will be investigated fully and any additional investigative oversight needed will be sought."

She also told council members not to share the emails or texts. She said she would work with the city attorney's office and human resources "to determine immediate next steps in the matter."

She also wrote that she saw no reason to pause Louis' police chief.

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"My initial inquiry affirms that she had no knowledge of the allegations or text messages" sent by Shedoudy, Williams-Ridley wrote.

Williams-Ridley urged council members to refer all media inquiries to city spokesman Matthai Chakko.

Williams-Ridley also provided a brief script for officials who felt they had to say something: "My office is aware of the seriousness of the matter and has been assured that the allegations will be investigated thoroughly. Since this is a confidential personnel matter, there are no other comments at this time."

Councilman Terry Taplin issued his own statement Monday once word of the Shedoudy email and texts began leaking out into the public.

Taplin wrote that he was "deeply disturbed and troubled" by the texts, which exhibited "anti-homeless and anti-Black racial bias."

"There can be zero tolerance for racism, bigotry, and hate anywhere in our city, let alone among the first responders who interact with our community on a daily basis," he wrote. "This conduct is nothing short of a breach in public trust, and is beneath the values of our city, community, and the standards of our Police Department."

In her prepared statement from Monday evening, Louis wrote that she would have immediately initiated an investigation into the allegations had she been made aware of them during her time as chief.

Louis [stepped into the chief role in March 2021](#) when prior Berkeley Police Chief Andy Greenwood retired.

Louis did, at one point during her decades-long BPD career, oversee patrol operations as captain. But she transitioned out of that role in January 2018.


The task force and bike unit were not launched until after her move into a different division that had no oversight over patrol.

The Berkeley Scanner will be seeking all records relate

as well as his termination

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**Update, Nov. 15:** The Police Accountability Board has called a special meeting for Tuesday at 2 p.m. to discuss the Shedoudy allegations and potentially vote to recommend postponement of the Louis appointment.

 **Have questions about crime or policing in Berkeley? [Alert The Berkeley Scanner.](#)**

POLICING CITY COUNCIL BPD COREY SHEDOUDY

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S

**starburst**

One week ago · Edited

Great reporting. Thank you so much. BSide chose to focus on the homeless element per usual, but this article actually provides the facts. We're lucky to have you, Emilie. When I tried to direct people in the BSide comments to look here for an unbiased article, my comment wasn't published.

♡ 7

G

**GhostOfCornelius**

One week ago

Yes, they usually censor comments with links to this place. But they did miss one just a short while ago. :) And surprise surprise, it's one of the two most liked comments in that entire thread.

BSide's usual poor-homless-victims-can-do-no-wrong stance is on full display again. Ever since they got that Yelimeli to do homeless coverage, it's been just one big Soviet style propoganda fest over there. It's grating.

♡ 5

PJ

**Paul Jacobs**

One week ago

@Starburst~I had a similar experience when I attempted to point out the Bside's coverage (at least as of a few hours ago) neglected to mention why former officer Shedoudy was terminated.

♡ 5

ZF

**Zank Frappa**

Long-time employee of UC Berkeley · One week ago

@GoC It only looks like they let the link through. The link, if you check, is incomplete, and that's not how it was when I created the post. Petty and passive aggressive, sez I, but that's Berkeleyside.

♡ 3

We can't do it without you

... **Lorraine Mahlev**

LIV1

One week ago

I just stopped supporting Berkeleyside and donated \$100 to The Berkeley Scanner. Beside's reporting is becoming intolerable. Thank you Emilie for your excellent reporting!

♡ 10

RB

**Richard Boubelik**

Berkeley....an often great place · One week ago · Edited

What a mess. It appears that a justly-fired Shedoudy is trying to cause enough mischief that he might....what...get some money? Not good. I truly hope that the powers that be keep the Shedoudy firing (and the underlying allegations of fraud) COMPLETELY separate from his accusations against Kacalek.

Having said that, it's essential that all Police officers treat everyone the same; no bias, no agenda. If Kacalek is/was acting unprofessionally, he should be called to account. We - the public - need to make sure that all policing, all arrests, are done for valid reasons. Although it doesn't appear that the evidence provided shows Kacalek was treating black folks differently than white folks, I can understand how you might think "hey, if that's his attitude, who knows if he is being fair."

And that's not OK.

♡ 3

PC

**Public Citizen**

One week ago · Edited

Reply to Richard Boubelik: you said " We the public need to make sure that all policing & all arrests are done for valid reasons" , are you talking about Berkeley , Illinois? There are no police in Berkeley! There are no arrests in Berkeley ! there is no policing in Berkeley at all so I don't know what you're getting at? have you walked or driven around the streets lately , I'm not trying to sound hostile I'm just saying that anyone with eyes that has walked/ driven around Berkeley anytime in The Last 5 Years , there are simply no police in Berkeley , what part of there are no police in Berkeley don't a lot of people understand ? We're talking about "we the public have to make sure that police are doing the right thing ". What police are we talking about ?We have got to get police back then we can worry about what they're doing you're talking about if we had police they should be fair but We can't do it without you That's why the 29 year man of the cloth , Elijah does anyone think that was just a coincidence? - the 8 pedestrians killed in

berkeley last year that wasn't a coincidence either , when all but \$40 million has been cut million from the police budget over the last 4 years , all crime is attributed to the \$40 million cuts to BPD , I know it, you know it, everybody knows it and especially the God of Heaven & Earth knows it , the woman employee who was raped in a kitchen pantry in downtown Berkeley by a homeless man was a victim of the police budget cuts and if it wasn't for our fearless leader Emilie , who broke the story , we wouldn't even have known about this , how many other horrific crimes don't we know about? The brutal , vicious mayor & city council & city manager had the arrogance to eliminate 80 police positions as well & not replace them with armed , city wide patrolling security guards on an emergency basis, until further notice like rational City governments are doing all across the country, they refuse to hire armed security guards on an emergency basis because they don't value human life , not one iota.

♡ 1

RB

**Richard Boubelik**

Berkeley....an often great place · One week ago

Greetings Public Citizen - thanks for commenting on my post.

In my view, there is no conflict between your position and mine. You address the inadequate BPD staffing levels; I address that fact that our Police need to be unbiased.

Berkeley needs a fully staffed Police force....one which uses license plate readers and any other technology or methodology which would take criminals off the street.

I'm commenting on the necessity of doing the job in an unbiased manner. If you police in an unbiased way, any "disparities" in crime rates between groups of any type will be due to the behaviors of those groups, not the actions of the police.

I have little reason to think that the disparities we see all through the USA are due to police actions - based on what I've witnessed for decades, it's clearly the behavior of the groups - but nonetheless, we need to be scrupulous about this. Fair play is paramount.

♡ 1

PC

**Public Citizen**

One week ago · Edited

We can't do it without you

Reply to Richard Boubelik :

Greetings ,

I can't find anything in your comment to disagree with, you're talking about the standard of care so to speak . In medicine ,negligence or lack of thereof , is not whether the patient lived or died , etc ,but rather did the provider treat the patient in their condition , and whatever they were suffering from similarly to how another healthcare provider with their same training and experience would treat the patient .I think that's what you're pointing out.

♡ 0

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# Berkeley investigating police texts alleging arrest quotas of the homeless

By Lisa Fernandez | Published November 15, 2022 | Updated 5:42PM | Berkeley | KTVU FOX 2

## Berkeley investigating police texts alleging arrest quotas of the homeless

The city of Berkeley has launched an outside investigation into leaked texts and allegations from an ousted police officer claiming the department's bike patrol unit was engaged in arrest quotas and a sergeant was sending anti-homeless texts.

**BERKELEY, Calif.** - The city of Berkeley has launched an outside investigation into leaked texts and allegations from an ousted police officer claiming the department's bike patrol unit was engaged in arrest quotas and a sergeant was sending anti-homeless texts.

City spokesman Matthai Chakko told KTVU on Tuesday in an email that the city manager plans to hire "an external investigator to verify and investigate any and all documentation and allegations arising from this complaint."

Chakko added that "these are very disturbing allegations, and we take them very seriously."

The allegations he was referring to were made public on Monday by Brian Hofer, executive director of the Oakland advocacy group, Secure Justice.

Secure Justice posted selective texts and emails collected by former Berkeley police officer Corey Shedoudy, who alleged the presence of an arrest quota program of homeless people for the Downtown Task Force Bike Patrol, of which he was a member in 2019 and 2020.

Arrest quotas are against the law in California. The city emphasized that Berkeley police do not have any arrest quotas.

"Arrest quotas have been held unconstitutional for a long time," Hofer said. "They lead to the practice of racial profiling and officers then begin to start targeting people to hit a certain number their superior is giving them."

And yet, Berkeley police have a "troubling past with regard to racial discrimination," Hofer said, and its present stop-data reports reveal that BPD is specifically targeting Black drivers even more egregiously than the Oakland Police Department.

Still, in an email to the city council on Nov. 10, Shedoudy alleged the quota was given at the direction of Sgt. Darren Kacalek, president of the Berkeley Police Association, which did not respond for comment. Kacalek also couldn't be reached for comment.

"DTF/Bike Force was ordered by Sgt. Kacalek to make 100 arrests per month, which was at the time more than the rest of the police department combined" Shedoudy wrote the city council on Nov. 10. "We were ordered to do so using questionable legal tactics that included stop and frisk, probation searches with no reasonable suspicion of a crime and a very loose interpretation of stay-away orders from UC Berkeley."

The hand-chosen snippets of text messages that Shedoudy released also painted Kacaleck as making derogatory comments about people of color and the unhoused.

For example, the texts released show that a person named Kacaleck complained that one news release didn't specifically say the suspect was Black and joked about a "new strain" of COVID that "wipes out the homeless pop."

The same person wrote that he wanted to increase the number of homeless arrests as a way to show effectiveness of policing.

"81 arrests! We can do 19 by Friday for sure," the person identified as Kacaleck wrote in a text from November 2019.

Kacalek also sent a text joking: "I was thinking whoever gets the least arrests today does the waxing."

In 2016, plaintiffs sued several Berkeley police officers, including Kacaleck, for using excessive force during the arrests of homeless people. However, in 2019, a judge ruled in favor of the police.

Civil rights attorney Jim Chanin said that even though Berkeley police may not have an official arrest quota, they have not implemented an "Early Intervention System," to identify problem officers with a history of racially disparate stops.

"If it had been implemented, it likely could have prevented, or at least limited, the scandals we are facing today," he said.

Shedoudy intimated in his email that he has "hundreds" more text messages, emails and other documents that he plans to release in the future.

Hofer said he was given this material by a trusted whistleblower and that he has not talked to Shedoudy himself.

In his email to the council, Shedoudy acknowledged to the city manager and other council members that he was terminated in August 2021, but he feels like he will win his job back.

Shedoudy did not say why the department is seeking to terminate him. Efforts to reach him at the same email he wrote the council were not returned on Tuesday.

The Berkeley Scanner reported that Shedoudy was fired because he intentionally collided into a car, citing anonymous sources.

City Manager Dee Williams-Ridley gave the mayor and council talking points to respond to Shedoudy's allegations.

In an email, she told them to say that her office is "aware of the seriousness of the matter and has been assured that the allegations will be investigated thoroughly."

Berkeley's mayor, however, didn't stick to those talking points.

"I am outraged by the news of these disturbing texts and a pattern of behavior by some officers of the Berkeley Police Department," Mayor Jesse Arreguin told KTVU in an email on Tuesday. "These actions are unacceptable and do not reflect our city, its values, or any standards of professional or constitutional policing.

"Racism and hate cannot be tolerated anywhere in our society, but it's simply incompatible with the profession of policing. When police exhibit explicit bias it undermines community trust in the fair administration of justice and jeopardizes accountability in cases that rely on their testimony."

The Berkeley City Council is poised to appoint the city's next police chief on Tuesday, but the text-message revelation is now threatening to possibly disrupt that.

Shedoudy claims that Jennifer Louis, the current interim chief, knew what was going on regarding the arrest quotas. Louis was a captain of a different division at the time of the alleged incidents, but the bike unit was not in her chain of command.

Nathan Mizell, the vice chair of Berkeley's Police Accountability Board, issued a statement Monday calling for the city council to postpone Louis' appointment until his agency has investigated them.

"Hastily confirming the interim chief now would severely undermine public confidence in the independent oversight that Berkeley's citizens voted for in establishing the Police Accountability Board," Mizell wrote in a statement. "There is no conscionable way for the confirmation process to go forward."

Louis also chimed in to the text revelations, saying she had no idea what was going on and if she did, she would have investigated it.

In an email to KTVU on Tuesday, Louis said she first learned of these arrest quota allegations last week and that none of these "alleged incidents occurred underneath my supervision."

Still, she acknowledged, that these allegations "are extremely concerning, and they deserve to be investigated thoroughly."

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## Berkeley interim police chief appointment on hold amid investigation of alleged racist, illegal behavior

Until the claims can be corroborated, Interim Chief Jennifer Louis will not be permanently appointed to lead the department



Berkeley Police officers in riot gear watch from a distance as protesters march down Telegraph Ave. in Berkeley, Calif., on Sunday, Sept. 1, 2019. (Jose Carlos Fajardo/Bay Area News Group)

By **KATIE LAUER** | [klauer@bayareanewsgroup.com](mailto:klauer@bayareanewsgroup.com) | Bay Area News Group  
PUBLISHED: November 16, 2022 at 4:06 p.m. | UPDATED: November 17, 2022 at 5:55 a.m.

BERKELEY — Damning allegations of arrest quotas, racial profiling and a targeted focus on homeless people have rocked the Berkeley Police Department and jeopardized efforts to confirm its top cop.

Last week, a former Berkeley police officer emailed Mayor Jesse Arreguín and the entire City Council dozens of text screenshots that appear to implicate several officers — including Sgt. Darren Kacalek, a 20-year department veteran and president of the police association — in making disparaging messages against unhoused residents and people of color.

Kacalek, the supervisor of the police department's Downtown Task Force and Bike Detail, allegedly advocated focusing on homeless people to successfully make 100 arrests each month, despite California law banning arrest quotas.



"These messages undermine trust and confidence," said Sgt. Scott Castle, the police association vice president. "Discrimination has no place in modern police work."

Until the claims can be investigated, Berkeley City Manager Dee Williams-Ridley announced late Tuesday night that the city would postpone permanently appointing Interim Chief Jennifer Louis, an action that was previously expected to be approved without any discussion.

Berkeleyside, a local online news organization, reported Monday that Louis said she first learned about the allegations Thursday and they did not occur under her supervision.

"If at any point during my tenure, from officer to interim chief, I had become aware of these allegations, I would have immediately done my part to initiate an investigation," Louis wrote in a statement.

Williams-Ridley said the postponement, a mutual decision made with Louis, came after they heard from dozens of furious residents, many of whom said bringing in a new official chief in the current atmosphere would only further splinter public trust. Louis has led the department since March 21 after former Chief Andy Greenwood retired.

"We both feel that it's very, very valuable and important that we listen to the community and that we try and do everything that we can to ensure public trust, especially in this appointment," Williams-Ridley said at the council meeting.

While the city manager reaffirmed her plan to hire an external investigator to verify the "very disturbing" messages and allegations, she and Arreguin said Tuesday that they believe Louis did not know about the alleged messages or behavior of Berkeley Police Department officers.

However, Brendon Woods, Alameda County's chief public defender, shared first-hand experiences of what he said was derogatory and predatory behavior within the Berkeley police department. He passionately asked council members Tuesday night to not only postpone Louis' confirmation but also consider not appointing her at all.

"To be honest, I do not have faith that she will also respond properly to these new allegations," Woods said. "On July 6, I sent her an email outlining outrageous conduct by her officers, that they refuse to read youth Miranda rights while they're on the phone with our attorneys. The officers we spoke to were hostile, they were rude and they would often hang up on our attorneys."

Woods said he attempted to reach Louis again on July 10 and Aug. 8 but never got a response.

"Arrest quotas, comments about unhoused people and racism have no place in policing," Woods said. "They seem to be prevalent in the Berkeley police department and prevalent under the current leadership."

Secure Justice, an Oakland advocacy group that first publicly shared the allegations on Monday, also demanded holding off on appointing Louis. It has contacted state Attorney General Rob Bonta to investigate the claims.

Nathan Mizell, vice chair of the Berkeley Police Accountability Board, was one of the first public figures to speak out about the allegations, arguing that postponing Louis' appointment and immediately initiating an investigation was the only way to instill and keep the public's trust.

"Obviously, the content of the allegations is quite disturbing," Mizell said during Tuesday's special accountability board meeting. "There's obvious racism, classism and anti-homeless remarks in this office, which potentially lend itself to illegal police practices and tactics. All of these things are very much under the purview of this board to investigate."

The police accountability board unanimously voted to initiate an investigation of the allegations and ask all city employees to preserve any records connected to the allegations.

The city charter empowers the police accountability board to review all Berkeley police policies, complaints filed with either the police department or accountability board and records from any city department.

Board member Kitty Calavita pointed out that for years, several subcommittees of the accountability board have advocated for the police to implement an effective early warning system, which would identify officers and patterns within various units of discriminatory searches or targeted arrests — if they exist — to prevent allegations of misconduct.

During public comment of the accountability board meeting, Soli Alpert, a Berkeley rent board commissioner, said it was "scandalous" that the city manager earlier said she investigated the issue and initially wanted to push ahead with Louis' appointment.

"That clearly demonstrates a complete lack of interest in actually pursuing justice, accountability and transparency," Alpert said. "These were not just from any officer. These were from someone who is issuing orders, and also the president of the police union."

"As we know, the fish rot from the head down."




"The larger issue is we have a police force in Berkeley that seems to pay lip service to change — that would like to see things happen — and then really just go along to get along," Staton said during Tuesday's police accountability board meeting. "None of the things that we're trying to do in Berkeley work unless we have a department that has some willingness to buy into it."

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## **Katie Lauer** | Berkeley, Richmond and East Shore reporter

Katie Lauer covers local news in Berkeley, Richmond and the East Shore for the East Bay Times and The Mercury News. She joined the Bay Area News Group in 2022 after writing about the COVID-19 pandemic, housing, disability access, the LGBTQ community and everything in between across the South Bay. Prior to moving west, she was anchored at several community newspapers in the Land of 10,000 Lakes, where she attended the University of Minnesota's Hubbard School

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