

KENSINGTON POLICE PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

PRESS RELEASE

Date: April 26, 2018

Subject: Storage and Handling of Documents relating to the 2009 Initiative Campaign

A number of District residents have expressed concern with the District's handling of signed petitions supporting a 2009 initiative campaign. The petitions should have been destroyed in 2010, but for unknown reasons, the General Manager/Chief of Police at the time decided to retain them. The documents were put in an unmarked box and stored with other District records.

The controversy arose on March 25, 2018 when the records were temporarily removed from the District Offices and taken to the home of Director Chris Deppe. Director Deppe reviewed the documents solely to confirm the language of the initiative measure supported by the signatures. He returned the box to the District office within a couple of hours. An internal investigation revealed no evidence that the signed petitions were put to an improper use or of any other violation of law other than the 2010 failure to destroy the petitions. Nevertheless, some District residents have argued that the events of March 25, 2018, violated the law and have called for an investigation.

To avoid further divisiveness and in an abundance of caution, the District has turned over the box of records to the Contra Costa District of Attorney's Office. The County D.A. will decide if further investigation is warranted.