



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

GEORGE H. BRAUCHLER, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

18TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

SERVING ARAPAHOE, DOUGLAS, ELBERT AND LINCOLN COUNTIES

January 24, 2019

Chief David King
Parker Police Department
18600 E. Lincoln Meadows Pkwy
Parker, CO 80134

Dear Chief King:

The District Attorney's Office has reviewed the case 2018-5261, concerning Deborah Coker (AKA Debbie Lewis). In reviewing the case, I considered police reports, body cams, statements and follow up investigation conducted by investigators with my office.

On December 12, 2018 at 7:16 pm, Parker Police Department was dispatched to 19420 E. Mainstreet, Parker, Colorado on a report of a male and a female "having relations" in a motor vehicle. [redacted] and his 14-year-old daughter reported seeing a female kneeling in the passenger seat with her buttocks facing the passenger side window. [redacted] reported the female's head was moving in an up-and-down motion over the male driver's lap. In subsequent interviews [redacted] said he believed the female was performing oral sex on the male based on the location of the female's head, the female's actions and the expression on the male's face. [redacted] stated he did not see the genitalia of either person.

On arrival, Sgt. Mark Terreault saw a car in an alley just off Mainstreet behind the restaurant Parker Garage. A male and a female were in the driver's seat, with the female on the lap of and facing the male. The female quickly moved to the front passenger seat. Upon contact, Sgt. Terreault noted that both parties were dressed, but noted that the female's leggings were "pulled down to approximately just below her knees." At that time, Sgt. Terreault recognized the female as Debbie Lewis, a Parker Town Council Member. The male was Doug Dahlstrom. Both Mr. Dahlstrom and Ms. Lewis stated nothing happened and denied the accusation of

During the event, Ms. Lewis made calls to you and to Assistant Chief Tsurapas. In those calls, Ms. Lewis was upset that Parker officers were in contact with her. In one of the calls, Ms. Lewis told Assistant Chief Tsurapas that, "someone was going to pay for this."


I determined that the conduct should be reviewed against the elements of the crime of Public Indecency. Pursuant to C.R.S. 18-7-301(1)(d), a person commits Public Indecency if he or she performs a lewd fondling or caress of the body of another person in a public place or where the conduct could reasonably be expected to be viewed by members of the public. To determine whether to file a Public Indecency charge, we must look to both the strength of the evidence as to the alleged intimate conduct, as well as the location and apparent "visibility" of the conduct.

While the alley behind the restaurant is an accessible and public pedestrian area, it is clearly less travelled than Mainstreet. [redacted] statements to the police were credible. There is no reason to believe he embellished his story or that of his daughter. On the contrary, his call to the police is understandable – and to be expected – given all attendant circumstances, including his daughter being subjected to the event. However, while there is evidence to support some level of intimate conduct occurring in the vehicle, the standard in a criminal case is to prove each and every element beyond a reasonable doubt. Further, before we make a decision to file and prosecute a criminal case we consider whether there is a "substantial likelihood of conviction" of the defendant as to the alleged crime(s).

Considering the location and time of the incident (*i.e.* in a parked car, in an alley and after dark), as well as the conflicting statements as to the nature of the contact, even having considered all witnesses' motivations, I do not believe there is a substantial likelihood of conviction if this case were to proceed to trial.

Therefore, I do not believe that criminal charges are appropriate in this case.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions,



Douglas Bechtel
Senior Deputy District Attorney
(720) 733-4557