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PRESS RELEASE

State Ethics Commission files civil enforcement action against Lordsburg Mayor Glenda Greene for violating the Governmental Conduct Act

Albuquerque, NM, November 27, 2023 – The State Ethics Commission has filed a civil lawsuit against Glenda Greene, the Mayor of the City of Lordsburg, to enforce the Governmental Conduct Act. The Commission's lawsuit alleges that Greene violated the Governmental Conduct Act and breached the public trust by using her mayoral powers and resources to attempt to avoid a DWI investigation and to retaliate against the former Chief of Police after he refused to interfere with the investigation.

According to the complaint, on or about May 27, 2023, Lordsburg Police Officers initiated a traffic stop and <u>DWI investigation of Greene</u>. During that investigation, Greene attempted to interfere with the investigation, using her position as Mayor to direct the former Chief of Police to halt the investigation. The complaint further alleges that Greene retaliated against the former Chief of Police for refusing to halt the DWI investigation and for producing an incident report that was later available to the public. This retaliation included the demotion of the former Chief of Police to a Lieutenant position, a position that Greene created shortly after the May 27 incident.

The State Ethics Commission contends that Mayor Greene's actions violated the Governmental Conduct Act which requires that public officers treat their office as

a public trust and refrain from using their powers and resources for personal benefit. By using her position as Mayor to interfere with and to attempt to stop a DWI investigation and to retaliate against the former Chief of Police for the faithful execution of his duties, Ms. Greene violated that trust. The Commission filed suit to vindicate the statute's purpose to deter the abuse of office in the City of Lordsburg and throughout New Mexico.

Click here to read the State Ethics Commission's complaint.

For more information about the State Ethics Commission, please visit sec.nm.gov.