

Statement of Attorney Nick Carter on behalf of Commissioner Dennis White

Commissioner White is deeply disappointed by Acting Mayor Janey's decision. He is a Black man, falsely accused of crimes, not given a fair trial or hearing, and then convicted, or terminated which is the equivalent here. This reflects an ugly pattern in our country.

The investigation was biased. Two of the most obvious witnesses with exculpatory information were never interviewed by the investigator, including Tiffany White, Dennis White's daughter who had publicly disclosed that the allegations against her father by her mother were false. The final report was based on unidentified witnesses who were allowed to make terrible allegations without being placed under oath. This is not how we get to the truth in America.

The Acting Mayor published the report and communicated that Dennis White was guilty of the allegations and needed to go, without pausing to evaluate the obvious flaws in the report. She destroyed a good man's name and livelihood in the process.

Dennis White asked that the Acting Mayor and City be guided by the truth and facts, because he knew the truth was on his side. Acting Mayor Janey never asked Commissioner White a single question throughout this process, including at her final meeting with him on June 2. As revealed in sworn video testimony this week from several important witnesses, including Sybil White's own daughter and sister, Sybil White has been a violent serial abuser for much of her life. The truth revealed in this testimony is that she abused Dennis White and her own daughter, Tiffany, among many others. Dennis White, as the sworn testimony shows, walked away, never hit her, hurt her, or threatened her.

What makes the mistreatment of Dennis White especially wrong is that he is a good man who has stood by multiple family members who needed help and helped them without asking for anything in return. He regularly participated in weekly peace walks in the City, and when he encountered residents facing financial hardship he provided financial help to them too. And he has what Boston needs in a Commissioner: he is experienced, he grew up in the City and knows the community, he understands the problem of racism and lack of equity, and he is committed to reforming the police department. He was on the Boston Police Reform Task Force and was committed to implementing the Task Force recommendations for change. Reform likely will not come easily and will require police buy-in. The Commissioner who can get the job done is a reformer who has the trust of their fellow officers. That is Dennis White.

In a rush to judgment, the Acting Mayor got this one wrong and destroyed Dennis White in the process. Dennis White intends to amend his Complaint to assert civil rights claims against the Defendants to recover for his own losses and to send a message that this kind of unlawful and harmful treatment must not be allowed to happen again to anyone.