

Comm. Dewaelsche stated she cut out a newspaper article regarding a woman from the 3rd or 4th Precinct who had just had a baby and was detained for a week. She had to go back to the hospital and then she was detained again for another week. She asked was the woman a suspect, witness, or was there reasonable cause?

AC Winkler stated there is a litigation against the department in that case. But his inquiries suggest that she was a suspect and not a witness.

Comm. Dewaelsche stated she heard it was her husband or someone else who committed the crime.

AC Winkler stated the investigation lead to her husband, but she was brought down because they believed that she was a suspect in a crime.

Comm. Dewaelsche asked why don't we get the information to the press stating that she was not a witness and that she could be a possible suspect?

AC Winkler stated we always try to be forthright and get the truth out. If things come to our attention that we did wrong we are the first to admit that we did wrong and we correct it. We can't control how the press releases information and the context they put it in.

Chairperson Vann stated we are getting reports of lawsuits actually being paid by the city in these kinds of cases.

AC Winkler stated because a lawsuit is paid does not mean that any wrong was done. It could be a legal strategy.

Chairperson Vann stated he keeps hearing that over and again.

Ac Winkler stated it is a fact.

Chairperson Vann stated it becomes a weak argument, if we keep continuing to pay millions of dollars in various lawsuits. It does not make sense to keep paying money out on lawsuits if we are not guilty.

AC Winkler stated because they settle lawsuits does not mean we did something wrong.

Comm. Norris stated the Chief stated that we are arresting more than suspects and now she is told that this is not the case. She suggested that this should be looked into. She also stated we need to look back as to why we don't have an explanation for why the arrests are so disproportionately high.