



City of Bristol

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bristol, CT, May 12, 2006 - In a prepared release, Mayor William T. Stortz today announced that he has received a letter from the Chiefs States' Attorney office regarding allegations made last year of racist activity in the Bristol Police Department.

"This letter is the result of contact with the State by then Mayor Couture, with follow up continuing during my administration," stated the mayor.

The letter from the State, essentially says that no criminal charges can be supported by the facts and evidence that their investigation has disclosed. This is the third of three investigations: one initiated by the city, one at the federal level and the third at the state level.

Said Stortz, "I certainly appreciate the efforts and cooperation in all the investigations. At the same time, we will continue to work to improve efforts towards the advancement of improved race relations, relations between all city departments and the people we serve."

Stortz continued, "We are in the process of scheduling diversity training for all of our police officers, which will enhance their ability to work with our city's culturally diverse population. We will also work with the NAACP and other appropriate groups to achieve common goals. I continue to support our police officers, the chief, and his staff. I am confident that working together, starting with my office, that we will develop and foster the appropriate vital relationships with the community and provide equal and fair protection for everyone."

Stortz concluded, "Collectively, we are fully committed, at all levels, to working together to address any racial concerns within the community."

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