



CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS

DATE: March 26, 2003

TO: [REDACTED]

FROM: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: SAFETY RISK

Since our current government began discussing the possibility of war with Iraq and now that our country has gone to war with Iraq, there have been some sectors of our community that are opposed to the war effort. This has led to public debate in the form of anti-war demonstrations in which some civil disorder has erupted.

In an attempt to watch for civil disorder crimes we have put members of the G.R. Vice Unit in the crowd of protestors at several events in the city. I have personally been undercover in two of these events. The first was the visit from President Bush and the second was protest outside the Federal Building at Michigan/Ottawa NW on March 20, 2003. On both of these occasions I saw and spoke with Abby Puls, who I knew as an employee at the Kent County Courthouse. She is an interpreter for court proceedings. She was a participant in the protests. On both occasions I advised Puls not to mention what I was doing in the crowd.

On March 20, 2003 vice officers Galloway and Bylsma went to a meeting at 1117 Wealthy St SE. This meeting was again a meeting for those opposed to the War. It was also held after the protest that I was at. In this meeting the leader, who was also at the earlier protest that I attended, told the group that he had a person who told him that undercover officers were at the protest when President Bush was in town and there were also 4 vice officers at the earlier protest in front of the Federal Building. He stated that this person pointed the vice officers out to him. The speaker, who we have not identified by name, told the group that his friend could pick the vice officers out by face.

MEMORANDUM

When I learned of this information, I advised the other officers that I believed that Abby Puls was the person who was identifying undercover officers and notifying the leaders of the protests. On March 21, 2003 at another protest, Officers Bylsma, Konynenbelt, and Galloway saw Puls as she was walking near the protest. They spoke with Puls and advised her that if she continued to point out the police to protest leaders, it would result in a Hindering and Opposing charge. She responded with telling the officers that she only knew 3 or 4 vice officers. Again it was emphasized that she not point out officers in the crowd to leaders of the protest for safety reasons. Puls stated she did understand, but then added that if we attempted to come to any of the meetings, she would ask any vice officer to leave.

This memo is to inform you of the safety factors and possible danger situation this breach of information could cause to the officers while attempting to work undercover in these protests. Furthermore, this memo is also to inform you that Puls was spoken to and warned not to leak any further information that could cause any further danger risks to our officers. Since she has gotten to know officers only from contact through her job at the court house. I feel as though any future contact could pose even further problems based on her lack of ethical and moral decision making she has shown thus far.