



# The City of Brea Police Department

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[www.breapolice.net](http://www.breapolice.net)

July 14, 2020

Honorable Mayor Marty Simonoff and Brea City Council  
Brea Civic & Cultural Center  
1 Civic Center Circle  
Brea, CA 92821

RE: Summary of Recent Police Contacts with Ms. Keri Kropke

Honorable Mayor Marty Simonoff and Brea City Council,

In recent weeks, Brea Police Officers, while engaged in the regular course of their duties, have had three contacts with Brea Olinda Unified School District Board Member, Ms. Keri Kropke. Per the direction of City Manager Bill Gallardo, the following is a brief summary of those contacts.

Contact # 1 – June 1, 2020, Brea PD Incident # 2006-0030

On June 1, 2020, Brea Police Department Officers responded to a graffiti call in Downtown Brea. Officers detained a subject who matched the description of the perpetrator as provided by the reporting party. While speaking with the subject, an uninvolved woman approached the officers, began video recording them, and identified herself as “Keri, from the Brea School Board.” The woman argued with officers regarding their detention of the subject and offered her opinion that the officers needed a warrant to search him. Further, she yelled at the subject and told him that he does not have to allow the officers to search him. The subject replied to her that he gave the officers consent to search, and he was cooperating with them. Upon hearing his response, she stopped talking. After concluding their investigation, officers returned in service and left the area.

Contact # 2 – June 30, 2020, Brea PD Incident # 2006-1898

On the evening of June 30, 2020, Brea Police Department Officers responded to City Hall Park, 401 S. Brea Blvd., Brea, CA, to a planned protest. Officers located approximately 35 to 40 protestors assembling at the park. Officers contacted the group to identify the event organizer to discuss the City of Brea’s assembly guidelines and learn the groups’ plans for the event. Before anyone identified themselves as the event organizer, a woman, known to officers as Brea Olinda Unified School District Board Member Ms. Keri Kropke, told officers that no one was in charge of the event, and refused to share any information with the officers regarding the event.

Approximately 40 minutes later, the group of protestors, Ms. Kropke, included, left the park, and participated in a march. The protestors marched north on Brea Blvd. to Lambert Rd.,

turned around at Lambert Rd., and then marched south on Brea Blvd. While marching, the majority of the protestors remained on the sidewalk; however, a small group of protestors walked in the street, partially blocking the far-right lane of traffic. The protestors briefly occupied the intersections of Brea Blvd. & Birch St. and Brea Blvd. and Imperial Hwy. and eventually ended up back at City Hall Park.

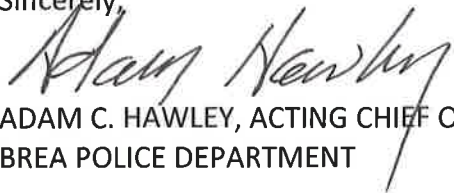
Once back at the park, the protestors occupied the southbound lanes of Brea Blvd. in front of the park. The protestors, including Ms. Kropke, began yelling at the officers, using derogatory and profane language. The protestors cleared the street and remained in the park for a short time before leaving. No arrests were made, there was no use of force incidents, and no injuries reported.

Contact # 3 – July 2, 2020, Brea PD Incident # 2007-0092

On July 2, 2020, Brea Police Department Officers responded to a theft that had just occurred at 2445 E. Imperial Hwy # D, Brea, CA. Upon arrival, one of the officers located a subject in the area who matched the description of the perpetrator as provided by the reporting party. While contacting the subject, an uninvolved woman, known to them from prior incidents as Brea Olinda Unified School District Board Member Ms. Keri Kropke, approached and asked them to explain their actions. An officer replied to Ms. Kropke's question and explained the nature of the call to her. The officer, noting that Ms. Kropke was standing in close proximity and directly behind him, requested that she move to another location so that he could safely continue the investigation. In response, Ms. Kropke took out her cell phone and began recording the officer, but eventually moved away from the officer a short distance.

The officers concluded their investigation and released the subject. As the officers were getting into their vehicles and preparing to leave, Ms. Kropke approached one of the officers. She continued to argue with him regarding the detention of the subject. During the conversation, Ms. Kropke twice uttered a highly inflammatory, racial slur. In response, the officer, who is African American, requested Ms. Kropke not to use that term. The officer eventually ended the conversation and drove away.

Sincerely,



ADAM C. HAWLEY, ACTING CHIEF OF POLICE  
BREA POLICE DEPARTMENT

cc: Bill Gallardo, City Manager