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White House finds Potter too close to gay issues

■ The former Portland police chief had been in the running to lead the federal community policing program

By ERIN HOOPER
 of The Oregonian staff

Former Portland Police Chief Tom Potter said he withdrew his name from consideration to run a federal community policing program after a U.S. Department of Justice official told him that his advocacy for gays and lesbians could hurt the Clinton administration.

Potter, 54, had been a finalist to run the federal Cops program, which administration officials say will help put as many as 100,000 new police on the streets in the next few years.

Justice Department officials had asked Potter to apply for the job.

The program is part of the Clinton administration's new crime law, which was passed by the U.S. Congress and signed by President Clinton in August.

Potter said he learned of the administration's concern Oct. 5 during a meeting with James Schmidt, lead administrator for the crime law.

"We've got a problem, Tom," Potter said Schmidt told him. "The FBI background check is completed, and it's your stand on gays and lesbians that we have a problem with."

Potter said Schmidt went on to say that administration officials were worried "how it could be construed with some of the very conservative groups in



POTTER

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A12

Potter: Gay rights advocates unhappy

■ Continued from Page One
 the United States and how that could really hurt the president."

Schmidt, contacted late Tuesday, was hesitant to talk about the specifics of the conversation with Potter.

"I don't think I should get into a discussion into what particular factors went into (Potter's) thinking or anyone else's," Schmidt said.

Potter "came to the conclusion we shouldn't go forward," Schmidt said. "I think he intends to be strongly supportive of the program."

Another Justice Department official close to the decision, who spoke on condition of anonymity, elaborated in an interview late Tuesday.

Potter "described what he thought the political pitfalls (of his views) would be. He knows his peers. He knows how line officers react," the official said. "It would have been a huge distraction from the very program he wished so much to succeed."

Potter said that when he spoke to Schmidt, it seemed as if he "was under a lot of pressure."

"I told him that I understood" the concern, Potter said. "I said, 'I think I know where you're going with this. I'll just withdraw my name.' He said, 'OK.'"

Arthur Jones, a White House spokesman, refused to comment on Potter and the Cops job.

Potter, who said he would serve as a consultant to the Cops program if needed, made national headlines when he marched as police chief in his uniform in several gay pride parades in Portland.

Potter was Portland's police chief from 1990 through 1993. He openly supported his daughter, Portland police officer Katie Potter, when she publicly acknowledged she was gay in 1991. After his retirement as chief, Potter has been active in Oregon on gay rights issues.

Crowe
 Col. Gen. P.2

Potter said he explained his advocacy for gay rights in his initial interview on Aug. 31 with officials from the Justice Department, and it was not raised as a problem then.

He said officials told him he had gained approval from the White House, and he even went as far as filling out personal forms and taking a required drug test.

According to Potter, Schmidt told him the FBI check had raised the fact that the anti-gay-rights Oregon Citizens Alliance had called for Potter's resignation as police chief in 1991 because he was specifically recruiting gays and lesbians as police officers.

Justice Department officials denied the FBI checks were a critical factor.

Potter said he told Schmidt, "If I've got to be rejected for the job, I'd rather be rejected for a principle I stand for than for a flaw in my personality."

"I told him that the consolation prize for me in all this is that I get to go back to Portland and retire again. Actually, I felt pretty good when I walked out of there."

Reaction among gay rights activists was less charitable.

"This is the Justice Department that is headed by Janet Reno? I'm absolutely stunned," said William Warren, a Portland activist who is on the Police Bureau's Sexual Minorities Roundtable.

"If anyone has any doubt in this country at this time that the issue of someone's sexual orientation is not an opportunity to discriminate, here is a very fine example of it. Reno and staff have to do some explaining."

Scott Nakagawa, an organizer with the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, said the Justice Department's concern "throws into question how gays and lesbians fit in where public safety is concerned."

But Nakagawa commended Potter's integrity, saying, "It speaks well of him to not be willing to compromise his views for his own personal gain."

Even the Oregon Citizens Alliance was surprised at Potter's description of what happened.

"Usually it's the opposite, that if there isn't a sensitivity or tolerance to homosexuals in this administration, that he wouldn't have been considered. That would have been our perspective of it," said Monte Stammer, the state business director for the OCA.

Aaron Furtress and Rose Ellen O'Connor of The Oregonian staff contributed to this report.

Crime -
Cop Crew

FRIDAY

The Oregonian



WEATHER
Cloudy to
partly sunny
Friday, a few
showers.
High 60,
low 45.
**PRICE OF
SPORTS**

← RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE

The Portland house for
families of children with
life-threatening illness is
a sanctuary of support/
LIVWAD, EY



← BOB BLYLE

LOWEY? Is he an actor?
Is he Mr. Julia Roberts?
His fine new album, "I
Love Everybody," shows
that he's a premier
songwriter/ ABE



SUNRISE
EMERSON
OCT. 21,
1994
PORTLAND,
OREGON
85 CENTS

Potter rejects offer for new consideration

The Justice
Department
appoints
successors
for
advisory
group over its
refusal of
territory's ex-
ecutive chief

By ERIN HOOPER
and ROSE ELLEN O'CONNOR
of The Oregonian staff

The Justice Department offered Thursday
to reconsider former Portland Police Chief
Tom Potter as a candidate to head a federal
community policing program.

The offer, which Potter declined, came
a day of attempts by the Justice Department
to ease the events of this week in a more fa-
vorable light.

The issue began Tuesday when Potter said
he had withdrawn from the running to direct
the Community Oriented Policing Service
with a Justice Department official, raised
Potter's advisory for gay and lesbians as a
"problem" that could hurt his ability to lead
the program.

A spokesman for Rep. Ben Rayburn, D-Ore.,
however, immediately characterized Thurs-
day's offer to Potter as simply a political
move.

Thursday morning, Attorney General

James Reno considered that her department
had discussed whether Potter's advocacy
would hinder his effectiveness as leader of
the program.

"I don't think his advocacy... has helped in
a concern," Reno said at a weekly press brief-
ing at the Justice Department. "I think if
there are issues with respect to advocacy
that his advocacy for his work might have
generated, those have to be addressed in de-
termining the impact on the program."

Reno said she accepted Potter's decision to

withdraw and did not encourage him to re-
main a candidate because the fact it was a
personal decision by Potter.

Reno noted that Potter himself brought up
the issue when he was first interviewed in
August and that she had assured him his ad-
vocacy would not be a problem.

"I said that's fine and... I didn't say any-
thing more," Reno said. "I considered my ob-
ligations."

NEWS

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POTTER, Page A1

Crime -
Cop Crew

Basic Answer

The accounts in the news stories do not reflect my understanding of what happened two weeks ago, when Mr. Potter and Mr. Schmidt spoke. At that time, while we were still reviewing Mr. Potter's qualifications and background, Mr. Schmidt raised with Mr. Potter the question of whether his activities might make him a controversial choice for the job -- and whether that controversy might impact the new COPS program. Mr. Potter, very early into this conversation, told Mr. Schmidt that he shared this concern, and that he wanted to withdraw from consideration. The decision to withdraw was Mr. Potter's.

Q. If Potter had not withdrawn, would he have been considered? Would he have been selected?

A. Had Mr. Potter not withdrawn, we would have finished our review of his background and qualifications. Since we did not finish that review, I cannot tell you if we would have ultimately selected him or someone else.

Q. Potter says that Schmidt used the word "problem" to describe Potter's views on gay rights. Is that correct?

A. The "problem" that John was raising was the question of the controversy surrounding Mr. Potter's views and practices -- not Mr. Potter's views themselves -- and whether that controversy might impact upon the implementation of this new and important program. Again, it was John's sense that Mr. Potter shared this concern, and very quickly into the conversation, withdrew from consideration.

Q. Was this material from the FBI report that raised this issue?

A. No. The FBI report had not been completed, and was not in, at the time that Mr. Potter and Mr. Schmidt spoke.

Q. Isn't it discrimination, or at least hypocrisy, for this administration to deny someone a job because they are pro-gay rights?

A. We did not deny a job to Mr. Potter, he withdrew.

Q. Are you saying that if Mr. Potter were still interested, he would still be considered at this point?

A. In the two weeks since Mr. Potter withdrew, we have progressed with the review of the remaining candidates, and are near a final announcement. And I have no reason to think that Mr. Potter wants to be re-considered for this full-time post -- in fact, he has instead expressed interest in serving on a group that advises the COPS program.

Q. But if Potter called today, and said, "I want to be considered," would you consider him?

A. Yes.

Q. You portray this as Potter's decision. But Mr. Potter says he withdrew only because he knew he was going to be rejected.

A. John Schmidt told me that day, and again this morning, that had Mr. Potter not withdrawn, we would have proceeded to complete the review of his candidacy. Again, my understanding is that, early on in his conversation with John, Mr. Potter indicated that he shared the concern that he could become a lightning rod for criticism of the COPS program, and that he no longer wished to be considered for the Director position.

Q. What changed? Potter says that early on, he had been told that his activities were not a problem. What changed between his initial interview in August, and the Schmidt-Potter conversation in October.

A. As with all the candidates for this position -- or any other -- we gathered more information on Mr. Potter as the review proceeded. Again, though, we did not reject Mr. Potter -- it was his decision to withdraw.

Q. Did the White House tell the Justice Department not to pick Potter? Did it weigh in on this?

A. The White House reviewed Mr. Potter's and several others that we submitted as potential candidates, and approved them all, including Mr. Potter.

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10-20

Reno Says Potential Controversy, Not Gay Advocacy, Was Issue in Police Job

By MICHAEL J. SNIFFEN
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) - Administration officials discussed possible controversy arising from gay rights advocacy by a former Portland, Ore., police chief but never thought his views would bar him from a top Justice Department job, Attorney General Janet Reno said today.

"He would still be under consideration if he had not withdrawn," Reno said at her weekly news conference.

The former chief, Tom Potter, said Wednesday his support for gay rights led him to give up a chance to head the new federal community policing program. Part of the recently enacted crime bill, the program is designed to pay for local communities to hire 100,000 policemen over the next six years in programs with high citizen involvement.

"I don't think his advocacy ... his belief is a concern," Reno said. "I think if there are issues with respect to controversy that his advocacy or his work might have generated, those have to be addressed in determining the impact on the program."

She said Potter raised his homosexual advocacy first in talks with her, and it did not derail his candidacy. She said Associate Attorney General John Schmidt brought up potential controversy over it in a later talk with Potter Oct. 5.

"Mr. Schmidt said that he raised the question and that Mr. Potter at that point withdrew," Reno said.

Potter said he withdrew as a finalist for the job after Schmidt told him his stand on gay rights could hurt the Clinton administration.

"I thought it was in the best interest of the program and certainly the Clinton administration," Potter said.

Potter, 54, served as Portland's police chief from 1990-93. He made national headlines when he marched in uniform in several gay pride parades.

He has openly supported his daughter, Portland police officer Katie Potter, who is gay. Since his retirement as chief, he has been active in Oregon on gay rights issues.

Justice Department officials asked Potter to apply for the job in August.

Potter said he learned of the administration's concerns earlier this month after meeting with Schmidt, the lead administrator for the crime law.

"John Schmidt raised the issue by saying, 'there's a problem' or 'we have a problem,' and then we started talking about that issue," Potter said.

Potter said he brought up his stand on homosexuality during initial interviews, but it didn't become an issue until subsequent background checks revealed that he had openly recruited homosexual officers.

Potter said the administration was concerned that his advocacy could harm the program and act as a barrier between him and other police chiefs around the country.

A Justice Department official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the administration was surprised when Potter withdrew his name.

Schmidt was traveling Wednesday and was unavailable for comment.

The Justice official said St. Louis police chief Clarence Harmon withdrew from consideration for the post a week ago after deciding he didn't want to leave his job.

The official said other candidates were under consideration but would not name them.

Crime -
Cop Czar

STEVEN BISHOP, 47, Kansas City, KS

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Chief of 1,100+-member Police Department since March 1990.

- Started as patrolman in 1970.
- Led Investigations Bureau before becoming Chief.

EDUCATION

Graduated from Central Missouri State University.

PERSONAL BACKGROUND

Was born in Salina, KS.

COMMENTS ON VIEWS AND RECORD

- "This guy's had a hard year: He survived an audit of department spending on gifts and dinners; problems with police conduct; and a budget-boosting tax proposal that failed at the polls. . . . But despite his misfortunes, local leaders think highly of Bishop, and he's earned national recognition for his work." (Ingram's, April 1992, list of 100 Most Influential People in Kansas City)
- Upon assuming office, imposed harsher responses to allegations of police brutality. The new policies "upset some officers, who in the past saw colleagues accused of using excessive force be punished with the equivalent of a slap on the wrist." Bishop, who was criticized by many of the officers, appointed a panel to study the use of excessive force in the Kansas City Police Department. (St. Louis Post-Dispatch, November 1990)
- Was selected over 8 other candidates for chief, 4 from within the department. Focused on the city's drug problems when he took over the department. Also commented, "I'm a very strong advocate of participation management and employee input in the decision-making process." (UPI, March 1990)

CLARENCE HARMON, 54, St. Louis, MO

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Chief of 1500-member Police Department since August 1991.

- Joined the Police Department in 1969.
- Promoted to sergeant after only 7 years, without strong political connections.
- Served in intelligence and internal affairs divisions.
- Served as secretary to the Police Board.
- In March 1991, was promoted to lieutenant colonel and became deputy chief in charge of the Bureau of Administration.
- In 1993, introduced \$10 million plan to hire 200 more police officers.
- Major programs include: COPS (Community Oriented Problem Solving) and SCAT (Street Corner Apprehension Team -- anti-drug program).
- Is first African-American to serve as Police Chief in St. Louis.

EDUCATION

Received graduate degrees after years on the police force.

- Left high school to serve as an Army paratrooper, then earned an equivalency degree.
- Received a B.A. degree from Northeast Missouri State University.
- In 1979, earned M.A. degrees in public administration and criminal justice administration from Webster University.

PERSONAL BACKGROUND

Grew up on the North Side of St. Louis.

- Now lives on the South Side with his second wife.
- Has 4 children from his first marriage.
- His mother still lives in the Cabanne neighborhood, which is plagued by drugs and other crimes.

COMMENTS ON VIEWS AND RECORD

- Has supported Clinton Administration initiatives: Joined Lee Brown at May 1994 St. Louis event to support assault weapon ban. (St. Louis Post-Dispatch, May 3, 1994) Praised President Clinton's anti-crime efforts, including executive orders on weapons and plans to put more police on the streets: "I think the president's action signals a new direction in the federal government of understanding the plight of the cities and the violence we're seeing." (St. Louis Post-Dispatch, August 12, 1993)
- Strongly advocates community and police interaction concerning city development and security matters: "We need to be talking to the business, civic and governmental leaders who are making these decision long before the decisions are made. We need to stop pretending that we can field any ball they hit our way. And we also need to do a much better job of staying in touch with others in the criminal justice system." (St. Louis Post-Dispatch, November 1, 1993) "If we work together, we can address not only the crimes we confront everyday, but the issues that indirectly lead to criminal behavior." (St. Louis Post-Dispatch, October 4, 1993)
- Supports prevention programs: "Part of the problem is that we don't have many treatment facilities. I'm told by people on the corrections side that a number of people want to be treated, but there aren't enough facilities. With more treatment and job training and other alternatives we could see a dramatic lowering of the crime rates." (The New York Times, July 28, 1992)
- "I've long thought that if there was one guy I'd like to buy stock in, it would be Clarence Harmon. He's smart. He's articulate. He's a thoughtful, black conservative who's running a big-city police department. With those kinds of credentials, I figured he was headed for big things in Washington." (St. Louis Post-Dispatch, March 25, 1994)
- "The St. Louis Police Board -- in its selection this week of Harmon as the city's new police chief -- showed a willingness to support racial diversity and proved that such diversity is not antithetic to hiring an individual based on merit. Chief Harmon is not only the city's first black chief. He is also a good policeman, a well-qualified individual and a decent human being. Those attributes should serve him well as he goes about what anyone would call a difficult -- if not impossible -- job." (St. Louis Post-Dispatch, August 30, 1991)

CONTROVERSIES

- Retained his position after a very public conflict with a state senator and the St. Louis Police Board. Sen. Banks had initially opposed his 1991 appointment: "He's black, but he's the wrong black." (St. Louis Post-Dispatch, March 27, 1994)
- Added to controversy (but ultimately aided his position) when he did not inform the head of the police corruption unit, a close Banks ally, about an investigation of two

detectives, one of whom was also close to Banks. Harmon personally booked the two officers and was generally praised for his actions: "By these examples, Chief Harmon is sending a strong signal about the kind of police conduct he expects. His handling of these cases helps to bolster public confidence in law enforcement." (St. Louis Post-Dispatch, March 17, 1994)

- Was criticized by some for nepotism in his son Steven's February 1993 promotion to police sergeant.
- Was involved in a fight over police raises with the mayor in 1992.
- In December 1991, a savings and loan was robbed while he was there, speaking about making the streets safer.
- An angry, anonymous letter was printed in the Police Officers Association's newsletter in 1992, accusing Harmon of representing the establishment instead of his officers. Harmon denied the charges and pointed to the unprecedented access the police had to him and his office. (St. Louis Post-Dispatch, November 22, 1992)
- Dealt with investigation of money scandal involving Circuit Attorney George Peach, leading to the resignation of the city's chief prosecutor.

GIL KERLIKOWSKE, 44, Buffalo, NY

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Commissioner of Buffalo Police Department since 1994.

- Supervises nearly 900+ officers in city of 330,000 residents.
- Became only the 2nd outsider in recent history to control the department.

Served 3 years as chief of the 100+ officer police force in Ft. Pierce, FL.

- Official population was 38,000, but migrant workers (mostly ethnic minorities) added up to 10,000 more residents.
- CBS News called the city the "crack capital of America."

Led Port St. Lucie, FL police department for 3 years, 1987-1990

- Nearly doubled the number of officers, from 42 to 80.
- Area had 68,000 residents and little violent crime.
- Was active in numerous community and charity organizations.

Served 15 years with the St. Petersburg Police Department.

- Started as an officer in 1972.
- Was a lieutenant in Internal Affairs, Vice/Narcotics and Field Training.
- Became commander of the Criminal Investigation division in 1985, restructuring the office after cases of evidence tampering.

EDUCATION

Earned advance degrees in criminal justice.

- After high school, attended St. Petersburg Junior College.
- Received B.A. and M.A. degrees from the University of South Florida.
- Studied hostage negotiations and visited American and British police departments during a year-long DoJ fellowship.
- Graduated from the FBI National Academy.
- Took advanced policing seminars at Harvard and elsewhere.

PERSONAL BACKGROUND

Grew up in Fort Myers, FL; has 2 children with his wife of 22 years.

- During high school, held part-time jobs with law enforcement.
- Briefly served in the Army, guarding President Nixon's helicopter.

COMMENTS ON VIEWS AND RECORD

- City council debated paying for his moving expenses, questioning how long he would stay in Buffalo before taking a position in Washington or elsewhere. (The Buffalo News, March 9, 1994) Says he was brought to DC to interview with the AG for 2 positions, to head NIJ or a community policing post: "I could have chosen to go to Washington. I opted out of the process to come to Buffalo." (The Buffalo News, February 20, 1994)
- Disagrees with aspects of the Crime Bill; wants police departments to have more flexibility in spending Federal funds -- "some cities don't need more officers." Emphasizes need for prevention programs included in Crime Bill and criticizes certain "draconian measures" in the Senate Bill. (The Buffalo News, April 10, 1994)
- Related story of an officer killed by a person whose family could have benefitted from prevention programs, and said: "I guess if we try to lay crime prevention as making arrests and putting bars on windows, you've really given it short sight. That's why we're in the position we're in. There are also some other crime prevention issues, such as prenatal care, adequate education, parenting skills. And the last thing that it's linked to is the safety of these police officers." (The Buffalo News, February 20, 1994)
- Talked about the importance of prevention while being considered for head of St. Petersburg police department: "I think it's crucial that community-based policing be developed department-wide. Most police departments hire for the wrong reasons. They hire for crime-fighting ability, not social service. . . . Our whole future is based on prevention. It's not based on locking people up. Prevention is the key." (St. Petersburg Times, November 13, 1992)
- Emphasizes role of citizens in community policing, in reducing crime and the fear of crime: "Law enforcement does not have all the answers. Even though we may have better equipment and more people, we may not do a better job. People must take responsibility." (The Buffalo News, January 24, 1994)
- Says it took lengthy period before community policing became widely accepted in Ft. Pierce, and that it would take even longer to become effective in a larger city like Buffalo. Vowed commitment to playing a role in developing community's trust; had personally participated in numerous neighborhood Crime Watch groups in Florida.
- Addressed officers to "set the tone" for his tenure in Buffalo. Said he would not tolerate 3 things in the department: gender discrimination, ethnic jokes and illegal drug use by officers. (The Buffalo News, January 24, 1994)
- Charles Wexler, executive director of the DC-based Police Executive Research Forum (which gave Kerlikowske its 1990 Gary P. Hayes Memorial award for outstanding initiative in improving the quality of police service): "Gil Kerlikowske has a national reputation as one

of the most innovative and progressive police chiefs in the country. He's ahead of the curve." (The Buffalo News, December 23, 1993)

- John A. Conley, member of Buffalo mayor's transition team: "Mr. Kerlikowske has an outstanding record of education and training, extensive knowledge about day-to-day police operations and an exceptional record of accomplishment as a police executive in diverse police departments. He will bring immediate national stature to the Buffalo Police Department and will work hard to instill pride in Buffalo's officers." (The Buffalo News, December 22, 1993)

CONTROVERSIES

- Was given a no-confidence vote by the Port St. Lucie police union in January 1989, largely because he decided to allocate money for the hiring of new officers in return for ending the policy of officers taking their patrol cars home at night. (The Buffalo News, January 24, 1994) At other times, had been unpopular among union members for firing 2 union presidents who lied or broke department rules.

DENNIS NOWICKI, 51, Charlotte, NC

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Became in 1994 Chief of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg police department.

- 1400-member department, 28th largest in the nation.

Served 2 years as executive director of the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.

- Administered \$18 million annually in Federal law enforcement funds.

Formerly served 3 years as head of Joliet, IL police.

- Gained national reputation for developing community policing programs and reducing crime rate.
- Won \$750,000 Federal grant for anti-gang and anti-drug program.

Served for 26 years with the Chicago police department.

- Joined department in June 1964.
- Was promoted to sergeant in 1970.
- Rose to rank of deputy superintendent in charge of administrative services.

EDUCATION

Earned degrees while serving in police department.

- Received degree in personnel management from Northwestern University.
- Earned M.A. degree in public service management from DePaul University.

PERSONAL BACKGROUND

Was born and raised in Chicago; has 2 daughters with his wife of 30 years.

COMMENTS ON VIEWS AND RECORD

- William Geller, associate director of the DC-based Police Executive Research Forum: Nowicki "is simply one of the best organizational reformers in America. . . . He has a rare gift for building on the strengths of the police department. . . . I watched him (in Joliet) as an effective manager, change police officers who were anti-community policy into some of the best supporters of it." (Chicago Tribune, March 7, 1994)
- Received unanimous vote from Joliet city council in 1991 to renew his contract; city manager said it "sends a nice message to the chief that he's doing a superb job and we want him to stay for a long time." (Chicago Tribune, August 9, 1991)

CONTROVERSIES

- Was demoted from deputy superintendent to watch commander when his superior in the Chicago police department was indicted (though later acquitted) for improper use of a city contingency fund of which Nowicki was in charge. Nevertheless, when he was being considered for the position in Joliet, he received the "highest possible recommendations" from the Chicago police chief. (Chicago Tribune, February 22, 1989)

PETER RONSTADT, 52, Tucson, AZ

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Police chief in Tucson, 1981 - 199_

- Started as a street cop in 1963.
- Headed the Detective, Uniform and Community Relations divisions and the Field Resources Bureau.
- Was a top aide to his predecessor, Chief William Gilkinson.
- Served as Interim Deputy Police Chief in 1981.
- Supervised 970 officers for a city of 400,000 residents.
- Department received \$120,000 in Federal grants from the Bureau of Justice Assistance for training and community policing programs.

EDUCATION

Graduated from the University of Arizona with a degree in Spanish.

PERSONAL BACKGROUND

Grew up in Tucson, the brother of pop singer Linda Ronstadt.

COMMENTS ON VIEWS AND RECORD

- Testified at House Judiciary Committee hearings on the Crime Bill in July 1991, discussing community policing, problem-solving training, and Federal help for local law enforcement. Cited alienation as a root of increasing casual violence, and said: "In today's world, there appears to be increasing alienation in many of our cities between the people and their governments and the agents of those governments." Recommended developing programs using good city policing role models and funded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance and the National Institute of Justice: "There needs to be increased information throughout the country about this concept. I think that some of the things that have helped have been grant funds to develop ways of spreading information or to try something out to see whether or not the damn things work. The research part of it and the coordination are beyond the local community." (Gannett News Service, July 11, 1991)
- Endorsed tough measures proposed by Gov. Symington (R), using Arizona National Guard to reduce gang- and drug-related violence, and did not preclude a further step in the efforts: "I would not be at all averse to seeing tanks on the southern border, keeping people out because I think people want to be protected." (States News Service, July 10, 1991)
- Addressed Pima County Republican Club in 1985, talking about the need for programs such as "Neighborhood Watch" to keep citizens "rationally involved" in the fight against crime, and to avoid necessity of police-state tactics. (UPI, January 23, 1985)
- According to UPI, told Pima County Republican Club in 1982 "he fears people will take the law into their own hands if Arizona cannot make its criminal justice system work effectively." Discussed increase in random street crime, shortage of prison space, fear among citizens and potential for vigilantes. Ronstadt: "In my opinion, we have lost control of the justice system." (UPI, February 16, 1982)
- Allowed but did not encourage police officers' use of assault weapons; a limited number were available for use in special situations (eg. SWAT teams), and officers were authorized to purchase semiautomatic pistols more powerful than department-issued guns. (States News Service, May 22, 1990)
- In 1989, joined 10 other U.S. law enforcement leaders on an Anti-Defamation League-sponsored tour of Israeli police situations. Remarked of difficult circumstances and negative allegations of Israeli police conduct: "Humans being what they are, it's not surprising to me that there are violations. What's surprising to me is that the police here are continuing to function and doing so well with such a difficult situation." On international perceptions: "If Israel's perception is that this is a civil disorder with some unique characteristics, as opposed to a war operation, then they have to make that fact increasingly clear to people abroad. More attention has to be paid to the perception because the perception is sometimes as important as the truth." (The Jerusalem Post, March 13, 1989)

- Was selected to be police chief after the city council's first choice backed out of the job. Ronstadt had been ranked first among candidates by a city evaluation committee, but a Dallas man had initially been picked because the city wanted to bring in ideas from outside Tucson. (UPI, October 26, 1981)
- Hired management consultant in 1981 to study the department; found that many police lieutenants were inadequately trained and felt neglected by the department leadership. Soon after Ronstadt's name was floated as a contender for the chief's position, more officers indicated optimism and interest in furthering their careers at the Tucson Police Department. (UPI, October 8, 1981)

CONTROVERSIES

- Was among several law enforcement officials named in a law suit brought by man wrongly suspected of a series of rapes in 1992. Civil rights law suit largely involved aggressive police interrogation, including the comment of one officer: "to be Jewish is to be guilty." (Associated Press, November 2, 1992)
- In 1984, police department conduct in a cocaine case was investigated, and found to be appropriate, by the AZ Department of Public Safety. After Ron Caviglia, a businessman who headed the Citizens' Bond Advisory Committee agreed to serve as a police informant in return for drug charges not being filed against him, some alleged that this deal reflected the police department's financial interest in Caviglia's prior bond proposals. (UPI, July 6, 1984)
- Had been calls for his dismissal 6 months before he was named chief; Democratic city councilmen accused him of trying to take over the department to control its budget, and a political controversy erupted. (UPI, April 29, 1981)