

# TORRANCE

## Press Release

Police Department  
August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021

### CHARGES FILED AGAINST FORMER OFFICERS

In January of 2020, Torrance police responded to a call of vandalism. An investigation was conducted by the Detectives Division – Crimes Persons Section. This vandalism investigation led to evidence indicating that two patrol officers, Cody Weldin and Chris Tomsic, were responsible for the crime and they were relieved of duty. At the conclusion of the investigation, detectives presented the criminal investigation involving charges of Felony vandalism, Filing a False Police Report, Witness Tampering, Conspiracy, and a Hate Crime to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office – Justice System Integrity Division (JSID). Neither individual works for the Torrance Police Department. Cody Weldin has not been employed by the Police Department since July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020, and Chris Tomsic has not been employed since September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

On August 19, 2021, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office filed formal charges against Weldin and Tomsic for Felony Vandalism and Conspiracy. The two defendants are awaiting their pre-trial date.

Torrance Police Department has policies and procedures in place to identify misconduct by its employees. The Department conducted a thorough investigation, which led to the filing of formal charges against these defendants.

Recently appointed Police Chief Jay Hart has stated: "The Torrance Police Department is dedicated to the service and safety of our community. Immediately upon learning of the reprehensible allegations in 2020, the Torrance Police Department opened a criminal investigation and the officers were put on leave. The criminal case was delivered to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office in April of 2020 with a recommendation that criminal charges be filed. The defendants do not work for the Torrance Police Department, and we are cooperating to the fullest extent with prosecutors. I am committed as the new Police Chief to holding all of our members, including myself, accountable to the highest standards of policing."

This investigation is being conducted under the command of Torrance Police Special Operations Bureau, and the Administrative Bureau.



Sergeant Mark Ponegalek  
Torrance Police Department Public Information Officer  
(310) 618-5688  
[MPonegalek@TorranceCa.gov](mailto:MPonegalek@TorranceCa.gov)

**TORRANCE POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**3300 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE, TORRANCE CALIFORNIA 90503**  
TPD 181 (Rev. 1/06)