



SILVER CITY POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Silver City Police Officers Association Calls Out District Attorney Michael Renteria for Weak Plea Agreements and Lack of Accountability

Silver City, NM – The Silver City Police Officers Association (SCPOA) is voicing serious concerns regarding District Attorney Michael Renteria's weak plea agreements for offenders who perpetrate violence against police officers. This leniency undermines the safety of our community and the dedicated officers who serve it.

Despite representing 25 police officers within his district, Mr. Renteria has refused to meet with the SCPOA to discuss these critical issues. His apparent lack of enthusiasm for prosecuting violent crimes against police officers raises alarming questions about his priorities and commitment to law enforcement.

On one occasion, Renteria allowed an offender who assaulted police officers with a knife, a plea agreement which lowered his crimes down to one misdemeanor charge, despite strong disagreement from the victim officers. Police officers share the same protections under the New Mexico Victims Rights Act as any citizen. Police officers expect that when they are attacked while serving the community, that justice will be served on their assailant.

Furthermore, we believe that Mr. Renteria's actions are likely personal. The SCPOA endorsed his political opponent in both 2020 and 2024, and have openly criticized his treatment of women working in law enforcement. This pattern of behavior suggests that his unwillingness to engage with us may stem from a desire for political retribution or a personal grudge rather than a commitment to public safety. The SCPOA reserves the right to endorse political candidates without fear of retaliation.

We will continue to advocate for the protection and respect that all law enforcement officers deserve, and we call upon District Attorney Renteria to address these serious concerns

Additionally, Mr. Renteria has refused to hold himself accountable for the shortcomings in his office, instead shifting the blame onto his hired prosecutors. This lack of accountability is unacceptable, especially when the safety of our officers and community is at stake. SCPOA respects the remaining hardworking staff of the District Attorneys Office, with special gratitude to its female employees, and has been disturbed by the mass exodus of staff under Renteria's reign.

END OF RELEASE

