



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CONTACT INFORMATION:

**Julia Valdez
Assistant City Administrator**

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**Phone: 1815-967-6779
E-mail: julia.valdez@ci.rockfordil.gov**

CHET EPPERSON APOLOGIZES TO FORMER OFFICERS

ROCKFORD – Chet Epperson responded today to the media releases by retired City of Rockford Police Department officials.

STATEMENT OF CHET EPPERSON

I want to publicly apologize to Dominic Iasparro, Steve Pirages, Tim Ferguson and Ted Getty for the remarks on their pension benefits. In my interview on WIFR, I did not intend to disparage them in any way. The full context of my remarks displays a lack of animosity toward these former Rockford Police Officers. Their remarks regarding my leadership style are at odds with their lack of direct conversations with me, so the content of their release was startling. While I reject their premise that the only resolution would be my resignation, I have sought out the opinions of my peers on my leadership style and will do all I can to take these comments to heart and grow from the experience. It was never my intent to be arrogant or disrespectful to these former colleagues.

Tonight we have an opportunity to attempt to resolve the issues that divide the department. I am focused on that effort and hope these events will not disrupt those efforts.

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