

**CONCERNED RESIDENTS WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE SELECT BOARD ENDORSE
THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS**

**Thank you for engaging the public on this issue. Rather than endorse this letter,
among other things we would urge the Select Board to endorse the following
actions:**

1. The first thing the town needs to do is provide transparency on the restorative justice process, with third party legal council available to advise what the Town's options were and are currently and to conclusively advise the community whether or not termination is or was an option for Lt Pedrini
2. Lt Pedrini to remain on administrative assignment for the remainder of his contract to ensure the safety of the town and reduce further trauma to citizens
3. Clarification why the Select Board has previously refused to get involved in this personnel issue when approached with concerned citizens but are now voting on endorsing this letter without further engagement with citizen stakeholders.
4. The town manager to advise why he ignored the reservations of Chief Ryan regarding pursuing RJ and Pedrini's ability to express remorse
5. Public disclosure of Pedrini's 2002 restraining order case and the 2014 case brought forth by Attorney Howard Friedman and the financial loss the town incurred settling in those cases. Also confirmation if Pedrini was suspended without pay as indicated in the attorney letter. If so why was this not clarified when the town manager was questioned re Pedrini's record?
6. Lt Pedrini to refrain from representing the town on any committees
7. Lt Pedrini to refrain from any outward facing community engagement such as Town Day, Coffee with a Cop, the upcoming event at Robbins Farm Park, and any school events
8. Lt Pedrini should not be conducting interviews for and deciding who gets gun permits in this town, which is currently the case, he should not be doing anything public facing
9. Lt Pedrini should not get any detail work that exposes the public to risk
10. Lt Pedrini should not qualify for overtime
11. Lt Pedrini should disavow the words he wrote and name them as racist
12. Lt Pedrini should be formally requested by the town to step away from all MPA connections, including stepping down from the Board. This should be publicly confirmed by an MPA representative and his name and face should be removed from their website.
13. Binding Sanctuary Trust Act should be pursued for Arlington
14. A Citizen Review Board for our Police should be approved
15. The Select Board should grant the CBI stakeholders a closed door mtg
16. A letter from the Town Manager thanking the petition organizers for bringing these concerns to his attention rather than calling us divisive
17. The town to revisit their decision to have community policing at the schools at a minimum until a third party has assessed the department for bias

18. The town should stop putting the labor on harmed community members and to hire outside consultants to get bids from multiple organizations that can assess bias in the town Lawyers for Civil Rights and Black Lives Matter might be a good place to start.
19. Ditto for bias trainings, the town needs to hire culturally competent organizations with diverse representation, if they don't know which organizations are best, they need to research this and look into the leadership behind the various organizations.
20. The Select Board needs to educate themselves on the details of this case. All town leadership should make sure they have read the various articles, the Freedom of Information Act email files on this issue, they should be well versed in Pedrini's contract and the disciplinary actions and lawsuits brought against him.
21. Select Board members, the Town Manager and the Acting Chief of Police should sign up for annual anti-bias and whiteness training, such as the White Privilege Symposium happening next month in Cambridge that has been recommended to Adam and Julie by various people but we have gotten no response on.
22. The Town Manager and Acting Chief of Police both labelled Pedrini's comments as racist at a May DTG meeting, they need to do this in a public statement as well
23. Strengthen our Town's Code of Conduct to make it very clear for future employees that any writings, social media presence, or political stances that can be accessed by the public will result in termination
24. Have the town's counsel explain APD's labor contracts in a transparent way that explains for instance why our town does not allow suspension without pay for misconduct when others do
25. If termination is no longer a legal option, consider opening a new case based on the prior Sentinel articles that have been discovered as well as his Facebook profile
26. The town should publish a public apology to Black Lives Matter which has been maligned in multiple publications by Lt Pedrini and Town Leadership should personally reach out to the more than 2 dozen organizations signed onto the petition to understand how we have harmed them
27. Develop a campaign to provide shadow group sessions to vulnerable communities that is advertised in multiple languages and not solely online so it accesses a diverse base of residents
28. Develop a diversity statement to be read at the outset of all official town meetings

To the Selectboard members

I have been an Arlington resident since 1984 and was part of the stakeholder group convened by CBI to provide a report and recommendations to the town manager on how best to move forward and repair the damage caused by Pedrini's hate filled writing. The obvious presence within our police department of racism and hatred in itself is shocking but our leaders' response to it has been passive and flawed and demonstrates an unwillingness to address the great harm done by it. We have always prided ourselves on being a progressive oasis but we are far from a model of that. We are showing our white privilege and fragility and an opportunity to come together and heal is being lost. This is a moment in the history of our town where we can do some really meaningful individual and community work to overcome the overbearing yoke of racism and hate and become a more compassionate and united town. The damage we are doing to the future of the town by failing to address this is evidence of our elitism and will create more division and less safety for our children and future generations. I am calling on you now to show leadership and courage by first and foremost publicly labeling and denouncing the words of Pedrini as racist and acknowledging that we have racist attitudes in our police force. People of color know this, as well as their allies. By calling it what it is we are not only letting that community know that we have their backs but also informing other racists and haters in town that Arlington will not tolerate it. You have to take leadership on this because mistakes have been made and not to do so paves the way for further incidents of hatred, something we have already experienced. In addition, I ask you to exercise oversight and authority to get us to a place of civility and closure as Adam has failed to do so and for you not to assume responsibility for the process is nothing short of protectionism. Stacie Smith of CBI was invited to talk with some of the stakeholders in town and produce a report of recommendations but Adam's letter to the town was written before her report is even released and is therefore a slap in the face of all the stakeholders and an affront to the huge piece of work done by Stacie. Why did Adam release his letter before getting the report? Wasn't the report meant to inform him of next steps? It is essential that we take the time to do everything that is necessary to allow the town to move on. It is not about mollifying our leaders or protecting their images and getting this over so they can get back to business as usual. The enormous hurt caused by Pedrini's actions and the ensuing information that has come to light about his history is more than enough cause for a thorough and rigorous investigation by all our town leaders. And this investigation should not be done without input from people of color and organizations whose professional experience is dealing with racism. Please delay endorsing Adam's letter until we have a chance to review Stacie's report and use your authority to further investigate this incident as well as the decisions that were made by the town manager following it.

Lynette Culverhouse
24 Draper Ave
Arlington

To the Arlington Select Board

From: Michael Jacoby Brown, TMM Precinct 18 ¹⁷

Sept 9, 2019

Re: Rick Pedrini, Racism, and Our Town

The controversy regarding Officer Pedrini's writings is a challenge for all of us in Arlington who care about accuracy, equity and fair treatment of all people. When a police officer like Officer Pedrini compares women and children seeking asylum at the Mexican border to Japanese pilots who bombed Pearl Harbor and suggest we shoot those women and children, he not only shows his ~~an~~ astounding lack of history but a racist attitude toward people he is sworn to protect, not shoot.

For this man to carry a gun and have the legal authority to use it is a problem for me.

I suggest:

He be only allowed to work in the office, and not be allowed on the street, including any detail work. If he is directing traffic on Summer Street, near where I live and a brown skinned person drives by, this person's life could be in danger, should he make a wrong turn.

That Arlington work with a group to better understand the impact of his words on the community. The Consensus Building Institute has a good track record in many areas, but not with racism, and as far as I can tell, few if any people of color on staff – from a look at their website. [Incidentally, I have worked a little with Larry Susskind, their founder, on re-vising our Temple meeting procedure. We both dislike Roberts Rules of Order, and came up with our own rules.] The CBI does not list working to build multi-cultural and multi-racial understanding as one of its "expertise." I suggest you contact Larry Ellison, President of the Mass Assoc. of Minority Law Enforcement Officers. Larry himself is a 30 plus year police officer in Boston. I would recommend VISIONS-INC, which works specifically to build multi-cultural and multi-racial understanding and does not guilt trip white people. (Full disclosure: I sometimes work for them, but if the Town hires them I would receive no compensation.)

Furthermore, if Restorative Justice is to be used in this case, a lot more people he has hurt need to be brought into the practice. This is not a quick fix.

P.S. I called Officer Pedrini – ~~NO~~ call BACK.
Michael Jacoby Brown
10 BRATTLE TERRACE,

617-645-0226

MJBROWN24@gmail.com

P.S. VISIONS-INC's Founder, Valerie Batts, used to live in Arlington.

Dear Select Board,

This past spring, Reveal News published the findings of a year-long investigation to find out if law enforcement officers in police departments across the country have been patronizing hate groups on Facebook or posting racist and other prejudicial posts on such pages. Likewise, another group--the Plain View Project--embarked on a similar project. Their investigations yielded findings hundreds of officers who had been a part of such groups, and/or were actively posting racist and hateful screeds on social media. As a result, hundreds of officers are now under investigation and dozens have been fired. Most notably, in Philadelphia, 72 officers were placed on leave and 13 officers were terminated. It was noted in the press that those who were fired were guilty of the most egregious social media posts, such as referring "...to black people as 'thugs'...and encouraged violence." This also characterizes the rhetoric employed by Pedrini in his screeds, though they were not on social media but a state trade publication for police in the Commonwealth. Unlike the officers in Philadelphia, Pedrini was not terminated.

Those in Arlington who were concerned about Pedrini and have been keeping up to speed on the national news recently visited Pedrini's Facebook page. I am curious as to whether the town leadership has done so as well. It might find it interesting. In addition to the expected pages of alt-right darlings that Pedrini has liked who are known for spreading white supremacist messages, two pages stand out. One is called "Proud Infidels" and the other "Drug Enforcement Cops." Even the term Proud Infidels is an Islamophobic reference. There can be no mistake as to the racist intentions of the page. It is not subtle. It contains graphics of a man bearing a gun with an American flag in front of his face and the tagline "I am the infidel your Allah warned you about." Other memes refer to certain federal Democratic political representatives who are women as strippers and shame their attire. Other posts discuss immigrants as enemies for whom violence needs to be an option in handling if they do not "respect" the United States. As a scholar who specializes in hate groups and online extremism noted when exploring this group at our request: "Yes, [the] dehumanizing language is extremely troubling. It's also par for the course in the types of FB pages & groups [Pedrini] was apparently frequenting."

The other page, Drug Enforcement Cops, carries the insignia of a skull with a crack pipe and drug syringe instead of cross bones. The page is filled with YouTube videos, memes and other clips, that mock, degrade and applaud violence on those who have substance abuse disorders. One clip is called "Meth Match" and depicts those addicted to meth in a brutally insensitive way. I guess it is supposed be funny. Yet, others on the page also laugh and cheer and clap at a clip of a cop-body slamming a woman assumed to an addict, who then does not move after she hits the ground. This page also indulges in its fair share of blatant racism, such as a graphic of a cartoon character urinating on a "Black Lives Matter" sign.

It is quick to discern what these pages are about at even a passing glance and it cannot be dismissed as a mistake or something Pedrini did not understand.

Why is an officer fresh off suspension and only recently reinstated for writing racist and violent columns still proudly displaying his fandom of such apparently hateful and bigoted groups on his Facebook page. How are those in Arlington who are in recovery or close to those suffering from addiction, supposed to feel if they find this? Are we supposed to trust our APD and its opioid outreach program, when a police officer who flaunts these pages on his social media account is still on the force? How can they feel safe? How can our Muslim neighbors feel valued or safe? How can our African American neighbors feel valued or safe? They cannot. I do not after reviewing these materials and I am white and incredibly privileged.

I would implore that the town leadership follow the lead of other police departments and open an immediate investigation into Officer Pedrini's involvement of these social media pages and in the meantime place plans on advancing his reinstatement and integration into the community on hold, including the Select Board vote tonight to endorse the Town Manager's letter. It was obviously written without the knowledge or consideration of this new information.

Proud Infidel - Home x I'm An American - I'm an x

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Proud Infidel

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October 20, 2016 ·

What is your favorite coffee brand?



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Facebook is showing information to help you better understand the purpose of a Page. See actions taken by the people who manage and post content.

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Chat (14) 1 2:29


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Proud Infidel
April 23 · 🌐

People that legally immigrate to "any country" are supposed to be doing this because they want to be a citizen of that country. Therefore, they will have to conform to the laws, and customs of that country. If they want to practice their original country's customs, they can do that in private, or share it with their new countrymen. NOT FORCE their new country to change their customs to please themselves! Just my feelings!

The last line in the speech at the unveiling of the Statue of Liberty, October 28, 1886



Community See All

Invite your friends to like this Page

154,399 people like this

154,231 people follow this

About See All

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leespring.com/iamanamerican?a=home

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Chat (14)

1 2:20

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WHEN YOU GET OFF YOUR SHIFT AT THE GENTLEMEN'S CLUB,

AND HAVE TO GO STRAIGHT TO THE SENATE FLOOR. DEMOCRAT KYRSTEN SINEMA

1.1K 397 Comments 1.2K Shares

Like Comment Share

Most Relevant

Write a comment...

Gerald Allday Our government is a joke! Time for a civil war to purge the crooked government

Like Reply 27w

17 Replies

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Chat (16)

1 2:26

Cops in a Fight For Their Lives

Drug Enforcement Cops

Follow

1.1M Views · about 3 years ago ·

These officers are in a fight for their lives. What would have happened if they had shot him? His friends would have said his hands were up when the police shot him, the press would vilify the officers while showing the suspect's 8th grade picture and there would be rioting. Wake up America.

Like · Comment · Share · 8.2K · 1.7K Comments · 11,864 Shares

Chat (14)

Comments (1.7K)

Keep looking at this. Every one keep your heads up and thank you for your service 🇺🇸

Like · Reply · 2y · 21

Christopher Deppen



Like · Reply · 2y · 1

David Sheldon James Weekley hardcore jack wagons like that DONT want to be educated,all they know is violence and hatred toward police officers. Nothing you say will change their way of thinking

Like · Reply · 2y · 5

David Black Drug Enforcement Cops

Write a comment...

Cops in a Fight For Their Lives

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Laura Home Create



Cops in a Fight For Their Lives

Drug Enforcement Cops

Follow

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1.1M Views · about 3 years ago

These officers are in a fight for their lives. What would have happened if they had shot him? His friends would have said his hands were up when the police shot him, the press would vilify the officers while showing the suspect's 8th grade picture and there would be rioting. Wake up America.

Chat (14)

Comments (1.7K)



Nicole Gonzalez Drug Enforcement Cops

I agree... when they're the victim of a crime... are they gonna call a crack head... that was rhetorical

Like · Reply · 2y



Daniel Osorio Drug Enforcement Cops

don't ban these Idiots, the good educated folks here will eat them up and they will show their true stupid colors, BLM / BP aren't nothing if they start discussion with anger. The shoot them selfs on their own foot

Like · Reply · 2y · Edited



Jami Johnson

~~~~~BLM and Panther Pussies are both terrorist organizations....0% chance of supporting those groups...In the rednecks defense....The color of your neck skin is irrelevant and doesn't mean shit!

Like · Reply · 2y



Monte Hopkins

Yessir,i agree ...job is tough enough without coming across some pos begging to get his ass shot...

Write a comment...

2 2:02

Cops in a Fight For Their Lives


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#LIVE PO



5:46

Cops in a Fight For Their Lives

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1.1M Views · about 3 years ago

Chat (20)


Comments (1.7K)

13 Replies


 Maurice Larrea Unfortunately they weren't able to put a bullet in the head of that savage. Excellent Jiu Jitsu by the first officer. Here, in the People's Socialist Republic of New York City that awesome choke hold would violate departmental policy. But who cares, cops have to survive by any means necessary.

Like · Reply · 2y 211


Most Relevant is selected, so some replies may have been filtered out.

 Matt Singer Admir Abidovic you're an idiot. It had nothing to do with the plant, how about an illegal concealed firearm that can get somebody killed.

Like · Reply · 2y 7

 Josh Floyd Bout to be sitting in a cell because HE BROKE THE MOTHER FUCKING LAW YOU DUMB SHIT

Like · Reply · 2y 5

 Maurice Larrea Disregard this 3rd world Savage, he's about as relevant as Pollo

Like · Reply · 2y 7

Write a comment...

2 2:08

Ricky Pedrini

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Ricky Pedrini

DO YOU KNOW RICKY?

If you know Ricky, [send him a message](#)


**Likes**

All Likes TV Shows Artists Athletes




**Liz Pedrini for Mayor**  
Politician

Like Follow




**Stand with Police**  
Political Organization

Like Follow




**Hercules Stump Grinding, LLC**  
Local Service

Like Follow




**Taya Kyle - American Wife** ✓  
Public Figure

Like Follow




**Marion Grasby**  
Kitchen/Cooking

Like Follow




**Maximum Inspection Services**  
Home Inspector

Like Follow



**The Uncle Louie Variety Show**  
Comedian

Like Follow



**DAVE BRAY USA** ✓  
Musician/Band

Like Follow

Chat (20)

1 1:45

Ricky Pedrini

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Ricky Pedrini

Tucker Carlson Tonight  
TV Show  
Like Follow

Julian Edelman  
Athlete  
Like Follow

Kid Rock  
Musician/Band  
Like Follow

Demet's Donuts  
Bakery  
Like Follow

Brotherhood for the Fallen - Boston  
Nonprofit Organization  
Like Follow

Tom Brady  
Athlete  
Like Follow

WEEI Sports Radio Network  
Media/News Company  
Like Follow

Ted Nugent  
Musician/Band  
Like Follow

WBZ | CBS Boston  
TV Channel  
Like Follow

More About Ricky Pedrini

Chat (20)

1 1:45

Facebook interface showing a list of pages and communities liked by Ricky Pedrini. The browser address bar shows the URL: <https://www.facebook.com/ricky.pedrini.5/likes?list=9126927%3A100023774132783%3A1565156605>.

**Left Column:**

- FOOTBALL**
- Drug Enforcement Cops** (Community) - Like Follow
- Proud Infidel** (Community) - Like Follow
- Joe Lahiff for State Representative** (Political Candidate) - Like Follow
- Donohue's Bar and Grill** (Bar & Grill) - Like Follow
- Jay Talking** (Public Figure) - Like Follow

**Right Column:**

- Heidi Passalacqua, Author** (Community) - Like Follow
- Ben Shapiro** (News Personality) - Like Follow
- Medford Police Patrolmen's Association** (Nonprofit Organization) - Like Follow
- The Ingraham Angle** (TV Show) - Like Follow
- WBZ NightSide With Dan Rea** (Public Figure) - Like Follow

**Bottom Bar:** Chat (20) | 1 | 1:44

RECEIVED  
SELECTMEN'S OFFICE  
ARLINGTON, MA 02170

2019 SEP -9 PM 1:10

Dan Dunn  
Arlington Select Board

94 Grandview Road  
Arlington 02476  
September 8, 2019

Dear Dan,

I'm writing out of deep concern that the Select Board will decide this evening to endorse the Town Manager's recent open letter regarding Lt. Rick Pedrini. I hope that you and others on the board will instead take the time to reflect further on what the community needs to truly heal both from the trauma inflicted by Lt. Pedrini's writings and from the subsequent inadequate attempt to deal with their impact. I believe that the steps Adam is proposing are insufficient and will not lead to the outcome that all of us wish for—restoring trust in the Arlington Police Department and in our town leaders among those of us who have spoken up about this matter and those who perhaps have not felt safe to speak up.

In an interview last fall, Fred Ryan said that Pedrini's comments are in "direct conflict with the values and mission of the Arlington Police Department and the community as a whole." He continued, "We're only as good as the trust that the people place in us and these comments compromise that trust." Clearly, the way that this restorative justice process was handled did not restore trust; now I am asking you to work towards that goal by not endorsing Adam's letter at this time.

When the decision to use RJ was made public, I thought it was a good idea; as a member of First Parish, I felt that using RJ for the young man who defaced our Black Lives Matter banner had worked well. It was only when I read Lt. Pedrini's apology for what he termed his "careless and crude" statements that my concern and dismay set in. The apology did not convince me that Lt. Pedrini had actually come to grips with the shocking impact of his statements. In his apology he seems more remorseful for causing problems for his fellow officers than for the hatred he expressed towards types of people who actually constitute part of the community he is supposed to be serving and protecting.

Because of my concern, I attended the May meetings of the Diversity Task Group and the Human Rights Commission, and I was then invited to participate in the stakeholder meetings convened by Stacie Smith on behalf of the town. I have also paid close attention to the information about Lt. Pedrini revealed by FOIA requests this summer. In particular, I was disturbed to read Fred Ryan's assessment that Lt. Pedrini was likely to put on a good-enough show in the restorative justice process, without truly understanding the harmful impact of his words and his attitudes. Also, former chief Ryan recommended that as a condition of the RJ process Lt. Pedrini should be required to resign from his position with the Massachusetts Police Association, which printed his hateful articles in their newsletter. Yet as of tonight the MPA website shows that he still sits on the executive board. I am deeply disturbed by this.

I've come to believe that the outcome desired by town leaders in response to the articles—that Lt. Pedrini would be fully reinstated—drove the process, rather than the process driving an outcome that was not predetermined. Town leaders wished to avoid the complications and the cost of arbitration, litigation, etc., that would inevitably ensue from a firing, so they chose a secretive process that they fully expected would lead to the desired outcome. Because of this flawed approach, it's been necessary to manipulate the process and to ignore inconvenient information. I believe that town leaders chose not to anger and upset those vocal members of our community who see no problem with Lt. Pedrini's attitudes as expressed in the articles, and that they chose that segment of the community over those who felt assailed and fearful in reaction to those attitudes and words.

I tend to avoid the phrase "those who were harmed" because it often strikes me as just so much rhetoric without clear substance. But yet, I do feel personally "harmed," as well as fearful for those Lt. Pedrini maligned and threatened in his articles. As I see it, there are concentric circles of harm. First are those he spoke of, which includes immigrants, "social justice warriors," and those suffering from substance abuse and/or mental illness. Then there are those that Lt. Pedrini (and others with the attitudes he expressed) might *assume* to fit into those categories. Then there are those who love and care about individuals in the inner circles. And then there is the wider community who care about how policing is conducted in this town and believe in the de-escalation policies that Lt. Pedrini denounced.

I place myself in the third circle, as well as the fourth. My fear about Lt. Pedrini really comes up when I think about my son-in-law, Peter, a 6'5" son of Haitian immigrants. He is married to my daughter, a native of Colombia adopted into our family as an infant. Driving through Arlington in their beat-up car to visit us or to take their dog to the vet, Peter and Andrea could easily appear to Lt. Pedrini like immigrant outsiders, "invaders." I shudder when I think how Peter might be driving a bit over the speed limit on Mass Ave one day—perhaps on a day not long after a tragic killing of a police officer somewhere in the state or the country—and Lt. Pedrini might stop him. This emotion I have a hard time dismissing when I read that unconvincing apology, and when I wonder why the RJ process was organized with so little input from the targeted populations (I could say more about this) and whether the town caved to the fear of a protracted and expensive arbitration process.

I have signed and urged others to sign a petition that calls for five common-sense steps, three of which frankly I think should have been implemented before Lt. Pedrini upended our vision of a police department that was not infected with the views he expressed. Those steps are:

- Develop and announce a plan for repairing community trust by November 1, 2019.
- Restrict Lt. Pedrini to desk duty while this plan is developed.
- Work with an impartial, racially diverse, third-party organization to conduct a review of the APD and assess the presence of bias within the department.
- Based on the assessment findings and third-party recommendations, develop a plan for ongoing cultural competency and anti-racism training within APD.
- Develop a plan for the establishment of a racially and class diverse Civilian Review Board.

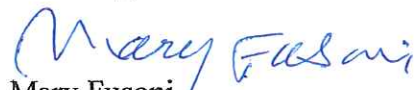
The steps outlined in the Town Manager's letter fall short of these five requests, and I hope that you will not endorse that letter at your September meeting. So much more needs to be done than what Adam is proposing. This issue is extremely serious and needs further consideration and public input.

We are now awaiting Stacie Smith's report, which will contain recommendations from me and others whom she interviewed. Both the Select Board and the public should have adequate time to absorb and react to report before the board takes any action on Adam's letter. If the Select Board chooses to rush the process, that will further undermine the trust that we desperately need to restore.

I have much more I could say about this matter, but will leave it here. However, I would be happy to talk further and answer any questions you might have about my concerns.

Thank you for your hard work on behalf of our town.

Sincerely,



Mary Fusoni  
781-646-3445

**From:** Adam Halwitz <adam@halwitz.org>  
**To:** mkrepelka@town.arlington.ma.us, JCurro@town.arlington.ma.us, SDeCourcey@town.arlington.ma.us, DDunn@town.arlington.ma.us, JHurd@town.arlington.ma.us, DMahon@town.arlington.ma.us  
**Date:** 09/08/2019 08:49 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Lt. Rick Pedrini

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On 9/8/19 6:59 PM, Robin wrote:

> Dear Arlington Selectboard,  
>  
> I am an Arlington resident writing to express deep concern about the  
> handling of Lt. Rick Pedrini's racist tirade in the Massachusetts  
> Police Association's newsletter. Such a man should not be trusted with  
> a gun for any reason, formal apology or not. I share the concerns of  
> many Arlington residents about the handling of his case, and urge the  
> town to move forward on the termination of his position, or (if not  
> possible) permanent reassignment to desk duty.  
>  
> Sincerely,  
> Robin Harney  
> 90 Brooks Ave  
> Arlington MA 02474

I'd like to echo this sentiment as I hope many others have echoed and shared with you recently. I believe in local government's power to set an example -- and a firm, unequivocal stance that racism won't be tolerated, papered over, or waved away as misjudgment is an example that is unequivocally worth setting. It's simply the right thing to do.

Best,

Adam Halwitz

90 Brooks Ave  
Arlington MA 02474

**From:** Robin <robinfharney@gmail.com>  
**To:** mkrepelka@town.arlington.ma.us, JCurro@town.arlington.ma.us, SDeCourcey@town.arlington.ma.us, DDunn@town.arlington.ma.us, JHurd@town.arlington.ma.us, DMahon@town.arlington.ma.us  
**Date:** 09/08/2019 07:00 PM  
**Subject:** Lt. Rick Pedrini

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Dear Arlington Selectboard,

I am an Arlington resident writing to express deep concern about the handling of Lt. Rick Pedrini's racist tirade in the Massachusetts Police Association's newsletter. Such a man should not be trusted with a gun for any reason, formal apology or not. I share the concerns of many Arlington residents about the handling of his case, and urge the town to move forward on the termination of his position, or (if not possible) permanent reassignment to desk duty.

Sincerely,  
Robin Harney  
90 Brooks Ave  
Arlington MA 02474