

DURHAM



1869
CITY OF MEDICINE

CITY OF DURHAM

Office of Public Affairs
101 CITY HALL PLAZA
DURHAM, NC 27701



For Details, Contact:

Kammie Michael
Public Information Officer
(919) 560-4322 x29195
Kammie.Michael@durhamnc.gov

News Release

Durham Police Department

For Immediate Release: September 6, 2013

Statement from Police Chief Jose L. Lopez Sr.

It was recently alleged that during a private meeting with some of my staff members this summer, that I made an inappropriate comment about a crime victim who is a defense attorney.

While I do not recall making the alleged comment, as the chief of the Durham Police Department, I take full responsibility for anything I may have said that may have offended anyone or any group of people.

I can assure you that any comment that may have been made among peers of this organization concerning the defense attorney was not made with malice, and I apologize if it offended anyone. It is regrettable when a statement is taken out of context and causes unintended harm. I would never condone such a comment being made as a personal statement, organizational statement or an opinion.

Law enforcement officers work very closely with attorneys on a daily basis and I sincerely respect the work they do. I have faith in the justice system, and we each play an important part in making it function effectively. We all work together to obtain justice for the victims of crimes and ensure due process for those charged. It would be unfortunate if an allegation like this was allowed to bring a wedge between our professions.

In closing, I want to again reiterate my commitment to lead this department and serve the entire Durham community. I apologize for any cloud this incident may have brought on the Durham Police Department.

Jose L. Lopez Sr.

Chief of Police

Durham Police Department