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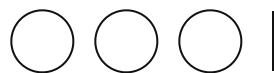
## MAY IS MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH

**BAY AREA**

# Jury finds that Oakland officials wrongfully terminated Police Chief Anne Kirkpatrick

**Megan Cassidy**

Updated: May 26, 2022 5:41 p.m.





Former Oakland Police Chief Anne Kirkpatrick poses for a portrait on Monday, Feb. 24, 2020 in San Francisco, California. Kirkpatrick was unceremoniously terminated by the agency's civilian watchdog group and she sued the city. This week, a federal jury finds that Oakland officials wrongfully terminated her.

Gabrielle Lurie/The Chronicle

A federal jury on Thursday found that former Oakland Police Chief Anne Kirkpatrick was wrongfully terminated after blowing the whistle on what she

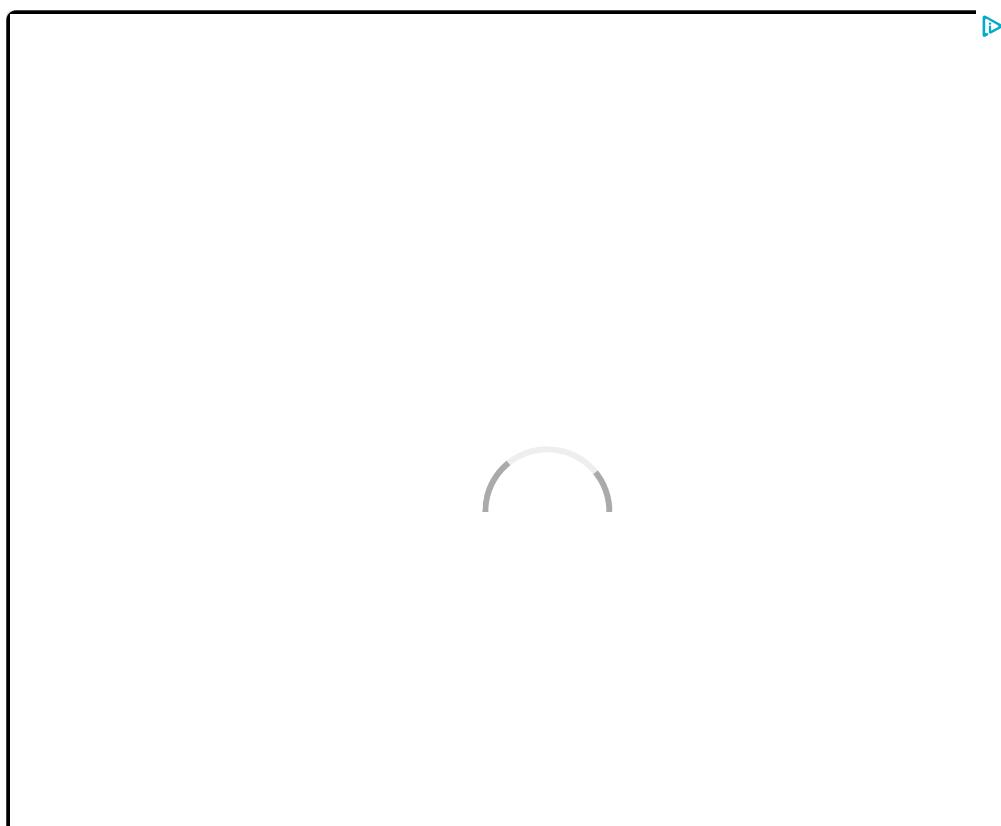
alleged was corruption within the police's civilian oversight commission, a representative for Kirkpatrick told The Chronicle.

Sam Singer, a spokesperson for Kirkpatrick, said the jury awarded the former department head over \$337,000 in a verdict that comes more than two years after she was fired by the Police Commission and Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf.

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“This is a complete vindication of Chief Kirkpatrick’s whistleblower claims of corrupt actions by the police commission and city of Oakland,” said Sam Singer, who represents Kirkpatrick. “It’s an important moment in the history of protecting public safety in Oakland, and hopefully this judgment will help in the reform of the Police Commission and of politics in the city.”

Kirkpatrick’s complaint alleged that police commissioners routinely sought access to police personnel records, asked for special treatment in their personal affairs and “frequently abuse OPD staff and interfere in day-to-day operations.”

“Put simply, the Police Commission is out of control,” the complaint stated.

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Written By  
**Megan Cassidy**

Reach Megan on

Megan Cassidy is a crime reporter with The Chronicle, also covering cops, criminal justice issues and mayhem. Previously, Cassidy worked for the Arizona Republic covering Phoenix police, Sheriff Joe Arpaio and desert-area crime and mayhem. She is a two-time graduate of the University of Missouri, and has additionally

worked at the Casper Star-Tribune, National Geographic and an online publication in Buenos Aires. Cassidy can be reached on twitter at @meganrcassidy, and will talk about true crime as long as you'll let her.

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