



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Michael Helle
Tel: (210) 822-4428
Email: pres@sapoa.org

KSAT 12, OTHER NEWS MEDIA USING FALSE STAT ON FIRED OFFICER REINSTATEMENT

SAN ANTONIO, TX, JUNE 22, 2020 - KSAT 12 News¹ and other news media are misleading their viewers and readers regarding the percentage of fired officers reinstated to their positions via a San Antonio City Council-approved arbitration process. Both KSAT 12 and other news media who have followed their lead, such as the *San Antonio Current*² have posted stories citing “67%” or “two-thirds” when calculating the number of fired officers returning to service after arbitration. The true percentage is much lower.

According to data compiled by the *Express-News*³ the true figure is closer to 43%, meaning that well over half (57%) of all fired police officers over the past decade have remained fired by the arbitrator.

According to the Express-News:

- Percent of time Chief McManus brought back his own officers after firing: 28%
- Percent of time City of San Antonio won their arbitration cases: 57%
- Percent of time employee won arbitration cases: 43%
- Percent of time employees quit or retire: 17% (20% if you include medical resignations)

On June 19, 2020, Chief McManus said to the *Express-News*: “When I fire somebody, they need to stay fired.” But in fact, he reinstated 20 out of the 71 contemplated cases (or 28%) before they went to arbitration.

If you include all of the termination cases heard over the last 10 years, the City and the Chief have gotten their desired outcome sixty-six (66%) of the time.

###

¹ “Pres. of San Antonio Police Officers Association weighs in on recent scrutiny of police unions,” *KSAT 12*, June 17, 2020.

² “Report: Two-Thirds of Fired San Antonio Cops Won Their Jobs Back in Arbitration,” *San Antonio Current*, January 7, 2020.

³ “Arbitrators excuse allegations of racism in police,” *San Antonio Express-News*, June 19, 2020.