Attn: Alex (Metromedia)

February 7, 2017
From the City of Elkins
For Immediate Release

Recently City Officials became aware of the existence of a memorandum believed to be initiated from within the Elkins Police Department. Once it was confirmed the memorandum was in fact authored by former Elkins Police Chief C.D. Cross, and recognizing their legal obligations, the City took immediate action to inform the Randolph County Prosecutor's Office of this memorandum and its potential impact on pending cases investigated by the Elkins Police Department. Subsequently, the City of Elkins responded to a subpoena from Michael Purker, Randolph County Prosecuting Attorney, requesting certain information from the Elkins Police Department. Among the documents produced was a copy of this same memorandum. Mr. Parker, as part of his duties as prosecutor, disclosed a copy of the memorandum to all attorneys representing defendants charged with criminal offenses which were investigated by the Elkins Police Department. Although there are those that might believe that the City and Mr. Parker should not have disclosed this memorandum, they had no choice but to uphold the United States Constitution and the West Virginia Constitution. The rule of law is what makes our country strong and free. As always, the Elkins Police Department under the leadership of interim Chief J.C. Raffety, City Officers and all City Officials will cooperate with the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney. This memorandum does not reflect the conduct of the Elkins Police Department. Our officers have exemplified professional and effective law enforcement over the years and we are proud of the work they do. The Elkins Police Department has the complete support of the Mayor and Council.