

# UC Berkeley

## Recent Work

**Title**

The Chief

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**Headline/Deck:**

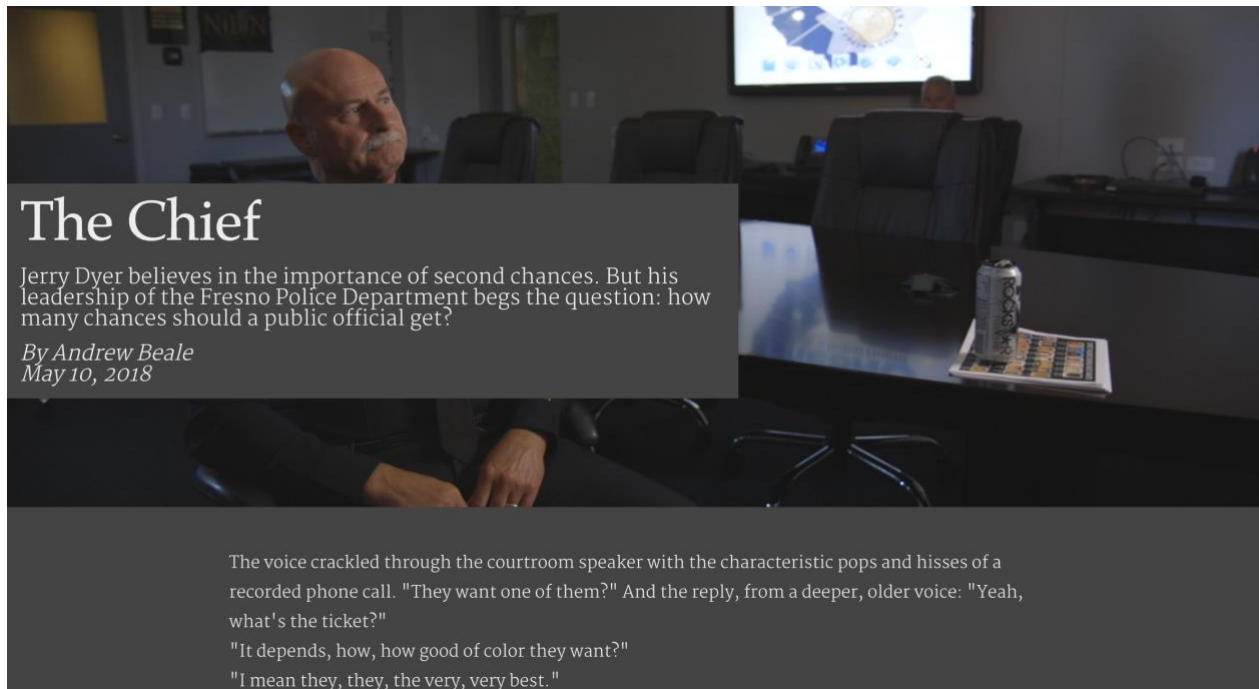
*The Chief*

Jerry Dyer believes in the importance of second chances. But his leadership of the department begs the question: how many chances should a public official get?

**Abstract:**

Fresno's deputy chief of police is in prison. Wiretap recording played for the jury exposed a web of corruption, some of which appeared to involve other members of the police department. The chief of police, Jerry Dyer, swore under oath that he never had reason to distrust his second-in-command. This multimedia project looks at Dyer's history in the department, going back to his first days as chief when he was already embroiled in a sexual misconduct scandal, and seeks to answer the question: how could Dyer not have known what his top deputy was up to?

**Screenshots:**





Dyer survived the scandal and went on to become one of the most powerful political figures in the Central Valley. Nearly 17 years later, he still has not publicly denied the allegations. It wouldn't be the last time a sexual-misconduct scandal in the department would haunt Dyer.



"I know when my boss gets a new car." — Community activist Gloria Hernandez on Dyer's apparent failure to keep tabs on his deputy.

Play video to hear why Hernandez says she was angry when she learned Foster had been dealing drugs under Dyer's nose.

## The Dead Lieutenant

At 11:51 pm on a Monday night in late November 2004, a 911 dispatcher with the sheriff's department received a call from a woman who identified herself only as Carrie. The caller reported

## Timeline: Dyer's Scandals

JULY 22, 2001

### SEXUAL ABUSE ALLEGATIONS MADE PUBLIC

Less than a week after Dyer is named police chief, the Fresno Bee publishes an article alleging Dyer was twice investigated by police for sex with a minor, potentially a felony crime. In an interview with the Bee, Dyer declines to deny the allegations.

WINCHESTER  
RETIRES

DYER'S  
HELICOPTERS IN  
THE SPOTLIGHT



Trouble with sexual misconduct inside the department didn't go away with the dismissal of Yolanda's lawsuit.



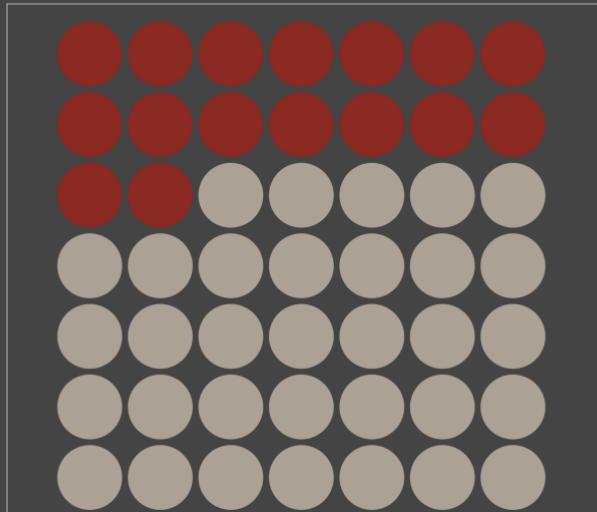
"We weren't surprised" — Ralph Avitia, a co-founder of the Fresno Autonomous Brown Berets, on hearing of Keith Foster's arrest

Play video to hear why Avitia says he wasn't shocked when he heard the news.

## The Second-in-Command

### Cases against Jerry Dyer

Federal lawsuits naming Jerry Dyer since he became chief in 2001. Hover over circles for additional information about each case. Red circles represent cases that involved a death.



Dyer acknowledged that many of his actions may seem suspicious from an outside perspective.

"If I were in Berkeley, I would be saying, that chief's probably corrupt, he's probably Teflon, he's untouchable," he said. "But that's not me... I try to live a Godly life and a good life."

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Credits: Videos by Mary Newman, additional research by Misyrlena Egofolpolu, Reis Thebault, Alexandria Fuller, Margaret Katcher

Source list:

<b>Medium</b>	<b>Name/Author/Organization</b>	<b>Title</b>
Court document (Transcript)	Jury Trial Day 1 - 8	United States of America vs. Keith Foster
Court document	Government's Trial Brief	United States of America vs. Keith Foster, Randy Flowers and Ricky Reynolds
Newspaper Article	Doug Hoagland, <i>Fresno Bee</i>	Cops twice probed allegation Dyer had affair with girl, 16 - New Fresno chief, city officials won't answer questions about problems early in his career.
Newspaper Article	Pablo Lopez, <i>Fresno Bee</i>	Keith Foster found guilty of conspiracy to distribute heroin, marijuana
Interview	Bill McEwen	News Director, <i>GV Wire</i>
Interview	Gloria Hernandez	Community Activist
Coroner's Report	Investigation Upon the Body of Jose Luis Moralez	Fresno County Coroner
Interview	Yolanda Moralez	Former Detective, Fresno Police Department
Interview	Ralphy Avitia	Co-Founder, Fresno Autonomous Brown Berets
Interview	Al Maroney	Former Captain, Fresno Police Department
Court document	Keith Foster v. Wanda Foster	Divorce Case
Court document	Yvonne Foster v. Keith Foster	Divorce Case
Court document	Keith Foster v. Terri D. Foster	Divorce Case
Court document	Dena Allende v. Diego Allende	Divorce Case
CA Office of Administrative Hearings Case File	Osteopathic Medical Board Order of Decision	In the Matter of the Accusation Against Diego G. Allende, D.O.
Court document	Keith Foster's Motion for Judgment of Acquittal or for New Trial	United States of America vs. Keith Foster
Court documents (various)	Various Federal Cases Against Jerry Dyer (Retrieved from pacer.gov)	Various
Interview	Carmen Maroney	Former Officer, Fresno Police Department

Court documents	Various	Robert Nevarez and Sharon Shaffer, Plaintiffs, vs. City of Fresno, Jerry Dyer and Does 1 – 25, inclusive, defendants
Internal Police Memos	Fresno Police Department	Robert Nevarez to Jerry Dyer, "Foster Complaints Against Al Maroney" and Robert Nevarez to Jerry Dyer, "Follow Up Information Re: Maroney Investigation"
Interview	Joe Martinez	Sanctuary and Youth Services Community Relations & Outreach Manager—Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission
Interview	Jim Franklin	Pastor, Cornerstone Church
Interview	Jerry Dyer	Chief of Police, Fresno Police Department
Interview (Confidential Source)	Doe 1	N/A
Interview (Confidential Source)	Doe 2	N/A
Interview (Confidential Source)	Doe 3	N/A
Interview (Confidential Source)	Doe 4	N/A