

After protests in Portland turned into a chaotic night of vandalism, fires, and looting, Jamie McLeod-Skinner justified the rioting despite Portland suffering an estimated tens of millions of dollars in damages. Later, when the City of Portland was “under siege” by a violent mob that destroyed property, McLeod-Skinner criticized the federal officers who were sent to help control the protests.

BACKUP:

One day after protests in Portland escalated into a “chaotic night of vandalism and fires” and looting, Jamie McLeod-Skinner justified rioting as a response to “the normalization of Black people being killed by police”:

- On May 30, 2020, Jamie McLeod-Skinner justified rioting, explaining that people were “rioting at the normalization of Black people being killed by police.” “To those who don’t understand why people across our country are rioting at the normalization of Black people being killed by police, please take the time to listen to this.” (Jamie McLeod-Skinner, [Facebook](#), 5/30/20)



Jamie McLeod-Skinner
May 30, 2020 · 🌐

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(Jamie McLeod-Skinner, [Facebook](#), 5/30/20)

- On May 29, 2020, after hours of largely peaceful demonstrations, violence escalated in downtown Portland, culminating in “a chaotic night of vandalism and fires in downtown Portland.” “After hours of largely peaceful demonstrations, violence escalated late Friday in downtown Portland, as hundreds of people gathered to protest the Minneapolis police killing of a black man. The death of George Floyd has triggered a wave

of national outrage that culminated in a chaotic night of vandalism and fires in downtown Portland. The mayor gave a stunned early-morning TV interview, during which he said no one was prepared for the level of violence that broke out.” (Molly Harbarger, “Riot erupts in downtown Portland after peaceful protest of George Floyd killing,” [The Oregonian](#), 5/29/20)

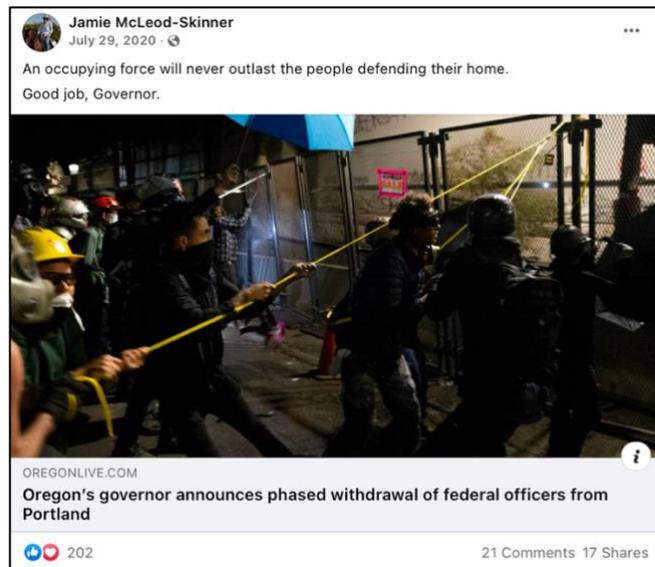
- **Rioters marched to the Multnomah County Justice Center where they smashed windows and caused fires inside a first-floor office while corrections records staff were working.** “Protesters congregated at the Multnomah County Justice Center, which houses the downtown jail and police precinct. People smashed windows and caused fires inside a first-floor office while corrections records staff were working inside, said Chris Liedle, a Multnomah County Sheriff’s Office spokesperson. Workers were able to leave unharmed and the building’s sprinklers doused the flames, he said.” (Molly Harbarger, “Riot erupts in downtown Portland after peaceful protest of George Floyd killing,” [The Oregonian](#), 5/29/20)
- **There were scenes of dumpster fires, vandalism, and widespread looting at Pioneer Place mall.** “KGW reported the Multnomah County Justice Center in downtown Portland was set on fire. That fire was put out. At least one other fire was started in the area of Southwest 4th Avenue and Main Street. There were scenes of Dumpster fires, vandalism and widespread looting at Pioneer Place mall.” (KTVZ news sources, “Portland fires, vandalism, looking as protest turns into riot; at least 13 arrests,” [KTVZ](#), 5/30/20)
- **Leaders of the Portland Business Alliance estimated that between damages, stolen inventory, and lost wages, Portland’s businesses and community suffered “tens of millions” in damages.** “Portland Business Alliance leaders estimated on Saturday that between damages, stolen inventory and lost wages, Portland’s businesses and community suffered ‘tens of millions’ in damages.” (Kale Williams, “Portland leaders condemn violence, draw distinction between peaceful protest and riot,” [The Oregonian](#), 5/30/20)

In July 2020, when the city of Portland was described as being “under siege” by a violent mob that destroyed and desecrated property—including a federal courthouse—Jamie McLeod-Skinner criticized the federal officers sent to help control the protests:

- **On July 16, 2020, Chad Wolf—then acting Secretary of Homeland Security—condemned the rampant and long-lasting violence in Portland that had led to attacks on a federal courthouse.** “The city of Portland has been under siege for 47 straight days by a violent mob while local political leaders refuse to restore order to protect their city. Each night, lawless anarchists destroy and desecrate property, including the federal courthouse, and attack the brave law enforcement officers protecting it.” (Department of Homeland Security, “Acting Secretary Wolf Condemns The Rampant Long-Lasting Violence In Portland,” [Press Release](#), 7/16/20)
 - **“The city of Portland has been under siege for 47 straight days by a violent mob while local political leaders refuse to restore order to protect their city. Each night, lawless anarchists destroy and desecrate property, including the federal courthouse, and attack the brave law enforcement officers protecting it.”** (Department of Homeland Security, “Acting Secretary Wolf Condemns The Rampant Long-Lasting Violence In Portland,” [Press Release](#), 7/16/20)
- **Acting Secretary Wolf described the protesters outside the federal courthouse as “anarchists and criminals.”** “Chad F. Wolf, the acting secretary of homeland security,

described the protesters squaring off with federal agents outside the federal courthouse in Portland as ‘anarchists and criminals.’ ‘We will continue to take the appropriate action to protect our facilities and our law enforcement officers,’ Mr. Wolf said at a news briefing this past week. ‘If we left tomorrow they would burn that building down.’” (Mike Baker, Thomas Fuller, and Sergio Olmos, “Federal Agents Push Into Portland Streets, Stretching Limits of Their Authority,” [The New York Times](#), 7/25/20)

- **Federal officers arrived in Portland in July 2020 to help control protests.** “Federal officers who arrived this month to help control protests over racial injustice and police violence have made dozens of arrests for federal crimes, including assaults on federal officers and failing to comply with law enforcement commands. More than 60 protesters have been arrested, and 46 now face federal criminal charges, said Craig Gabriel, an assistant U.S. attorney for the District of Oregon, in a Saturday news conference.” (Mike Baker, Thomas Fuller, and Sergio Olmos, “Federal Agents Push Into Portland Streets, Stretching Limits of Their Authority,” [The New York Times](#), 7/25/20)
- **Jamie McLeod-Skinner suggested that federal officers in Portland were “an occupying force” and praised Governor Brown’s announcement that the officers would withdraw.** “An occupying force will never outlast the people defending their home. Good job, Governor” (Jamie McLeod-Skinner, [Facebook](#), 7/29/20)



(Jamie McLeod-Skinner, [Facebook](#), 7/29/20)

Jamie McLeod-Skinner has refused to answer directly when asked repeatedly about whether she supported reductions in traditional police funding and claimed that she “more broadly define[s] public safety”:

- **Jamie McLeod-Skinner refused to answer directly when asked repeatedly about whether she supported reductions in funding for traditional policing – the central demand of the “defund the police” movement – and said she rejected the premise of the question.** “Occasionally, McLeod-Skinner’s efforts to leapfrog cultural third-rail issues can veer into evasiveness. Pressed repeatedly on whether she supported reductions in funding for traditional policing – the central demand of the ‘defund the police movement’ – McLeod-Skinner refused to answer directly. Specifically, I wanted to know if she supports non-police interventions (like a mental-health emergency pilot program) to replace traditional policing, or to merely supplement it. ‘I reject the premise of your question,’ she said.” (Daniel Marans, “Pharma-Friendly Democrat Kurt Schrader Has A Progressive Primary Challenger,” [Huffington Post](#), 12/23/21)
- **McLeod-Skinner claims that she “more broadly define[s] public safety than simply having officers show up in uniform, in a police car... it’s community engagement.”** “Pressed repeatedly on whether she supported reductions in funding for traditional policing – the central demand of the ‘defund the police movement’ – McLeod-Skinner refused to answer directly. Specifically, I wanted to know if she supports non-police interventions (like a mental-health emergency pilot program) to replace traditional policing, or to merely supplement it. ‘I reject the premise of your question,’ she said. ‘I more broadly define public safety than simply having officers show up in uniform, in a police car, responding to calls. It’s community engagement. It’s community relationships.’” (Daniel Marans, “Pharma-Friendly Democrat Kurt Schrader Has A Progressive Primary Challenger,” [Huffington Post](#), 12/23/21)

After the 2020 election, Rep. Kurt Schrader called the debate over defunding the police “toxic” and that it did not resonate in rural and suburban America; he further criticized the Democrats national brand as “in really tough shape”:

- **Rep. Kurt Schrader called the debate over defunding the police “toxic” and stated that the House Democrats national brand was “in really tough shape.”** “Oregon Rep. Kurt Schrader, one of the House’s more conservative Democrats, was more blunt. He called the debate over defunding the police ‘toxic.’ ‘Our national brand, with the exception of the president-elect, is in really tough shape,’ Schrader said.” (Will Weissert and Thomas Beaumont, “How Democrats came up short in bid to expand House majority,” [ABC News](#), 11/23/20)
- **Schrader stated that the “so-called Democratic message” of defunding the police didn’t resonate in congressional districts, further explaining that “it resonated better in bigger cities” but not in “rural America and parts of suburban America.”** “‘Well the so-called ‘Democratic message,’ as the media reported it, didn’t resonate in a lot of Congressional districts,’ said Rep. Kurt Schrader (D-OR-5). ‘People know that I am not a defund police, socialist type person,’ said Rep. Schrader. He’s one of many moderate members of his party who says rhetoric and messaging from the more progressive members may have cost Democrats seats in the election, specifically on calls to ‘defund police.’ ‘It resonated better in bigger cities... in rural America and parts of suburban America, the message from some of the members of our party is not a winning message,’ Schrader said.” (Joe Khalil and Elyse Russo,

“A division among Democrats: Can the party unite after mixed election results?” [NewsNation Now](#), 11/19/20)

Rep. Kurt Schrader also called the Democrats’ messaging “terrible” and explained that “the far left” members of the House Democratic caucus cause voters to “get scared”:

- **Schrader stated that the “Democrats’ messaging is terrible” and that when voters “see the far left... they get scared.”** “It didn’t matter that Biden, House Democratic leadership and most members have rejected calls to ‘defund the police,’ a position that got lost in attack ads. The attacks, moderates warned, have proved salient and powerful – and Democrats need to figure out a way to address them now. ‘Democrats’ messaging is terrible; it doesn’t resonate,’ Rep. Kurt Schrader (D-Ore.), a member of the Blue Dog Coalition, said in an interview. ‘When [voters] see the far left that gets all the news media attention, they get scared. They’re very afraid that this will become a supernanny state, and their ability to do things on their own is going to be taken away.’” (Rachael Bade and Erica Werner, “Centrist House Democrats lash out at liberal colleagues, blame far-left views for costing the party seats,” [The Washington Post](#), 11/5/20)

When Jamie McLeod-Skinner served as Phoenix, Oregon’s City Manager, the Phoenix Police Chief said that the atmosphere at city hall was “toxic” under McLeod-Skinner’s tenure:

- **On November 7, 2016, Jamie McLeod-Skinner began her job as City Manager for the City of Phoenix, Oregon.** “McLeod had been working since Nov. 7, 2016, coming on board after working for 11 years in planning positions in the Bay Area's Santa Clara Valley. Her contract was for \$92,500 with reviews slated at six and 13 months.” (Nick Morgan, “City manager fired after 4 months,” [Medford Mail-Tribune](#), 3/8/17)
- **During a public meeting held in March 2017, the Phoenix City council voted to fire McLeod-Skinner as City Manager.** “The Phoenix City Council voted 3-2 Wednesday to fire City Manager Jamie McLeod after she'd been in the job for just four months. During a 2½ hour meeting McLeod elected to make public, three department heads, including one that McLeod hired, voiced concerns about her leadership style and what Finance Director Janette Booth described as a ‘hostile work environment.’” (Nick Morgan, “City manager fired after 4 months,” [Medford Mail-Tribune](#), 3/8/17)
 - **McLeod-Skinner was terminated by the Phoenix City Council after just four months.** “She was terminated by the Phoenix City Council after just four months.” (Chris Luz, “Setting the record straight,” [The Blue Mountain Eagle](#), 9/11/18)
- **Regarding McLeod-Skinner’s tenure as City Manager, Bowker said that he believed “there’s a toxic environment at City Hall.”** “Phoenix police Chief Derek Bowker said he's worked to insulate his staff from the administration office, and that there'd been times in the last four months in which he could've quit. He said McLeod had ‘micro-manager tendencies.’ ‘I believe there's a toxic environment at City Hall,’ Bowker said.” (Nick Morgan, “City manager fired after 4 months,” [Medford Mail-Tribune](#), 3/8/17)
- **According to Phoenix Police Chief Derek Bowker, the atmosphere at City Hall had become so “toxic” that he asked his records clerk not to go there “unless you absolutely have to.”** “Police Chief Derek Bowker is recorded telling the council that the atmosphere at city hall had become so ‘toxic’ that he asked his records clerk not to go there ‘unless you

absolutely have to.' 'When I see the negativity that's going on in the city right now, it saddens me,' said Bowker." (RaeLynn Ricarte, "Firing debated in district race," [The Dalles Chronicle](#), 9/11/18)