Corruption in law enforcement is a crisis since it erodes public trust and makes the justice system unfair. A swift instance I can include is the “Albuquerque Police Department (APD) DWI (Driving While Intoxicated) unit”. According to the federal investigators, some officers in this unit have been corrupted and involved in bribery with local defence attorney, Thomas Clear. The officers obtained personal benefits by not filing charges or missing court dates for clients of Clear. After this incident, various DWI cases have been dismissed over a long period (Stamper, 2016). This case demonstrates that corruption can take place only when the supervision and rules are not sufficiently strict.

The main reason behind this incident was the fusion of personal reasons, organisations, and the entire society. Primarily, the officers made unethical choices over and over again, as this was their personal choice. They aimed at their own benefit more than they remained duty-bound to the law (Stamper, 2016). This represents their dishonesty and poor judgment, which allowed the bribery to carry on for years. Individual personality traits like willingness and greed to break the law were part of the issue.

Secondly, Organizational issues have a major role. The APD did not have meticulous control or discipline systems in place. Internal affairs investigations were steady or did not fully address the problem. The culture in the department appreciated closing cases quickly more than ethical acting (Stamper, 2016). When a department permits such behaviours or does not strongly address them, it gets easier for corruption to take place.

Thirdly, societal pressures may also have contributed. Police officers mostly undergo pressure to meet performance goals, such as case clearances or arrest numbers. Society often aims at results instead of ethics. When officers feel judgmental of society on numbers, they try to make

shortcuts or engage in unethical actions. These pressures, fusing with poor vigilance, can make misconduct more probable.

To cut a long story short, the Albuquerque DWI unit scandal is an example of corruption that has been generated through personal greed, poor departmental surveillance, and societal pressures. To stop this kind of misconduct from occurring anymore, the police department requires stronger internal vigilance, better training regarding ethics, and independent review boards. Departments should motivate the officers' honesty and ensure all officers are held responsible while acting unethically. These steps would be effective to turn down the corruption and restructure the public trust in the U.S. Justice system.

References

Stamper, N. (2016). *To protect and serve: How to fix America's police*. Bold Type Books.