
POLICE CONDUCT OVERSIGHT COMMISSION

Case Summary Data #10

October 2014

OVERVIEW

Complainant's car was allegedly stolen and she went to the precinct to report it. The Complainant alleges that the officers were very rude to her, used disrespectful language, and refused to assist her in filing a stolen vehicle report.

THE COMPLAINT

1. Inappropriate language or attitude: Complainant alleges officers were rude to her and used disrespectful language.
2. Failure to provide adequate protection: Complainant alleges officers refused to assist her in filing a stolen vehicle report.

OPCR and MPD POLICIES

1. OPCR Ord. § 172.20(2) – Inappropriate language or attitude
2. OPCR Ord. § 172.20(6) – Failure to provide adequate or timely police protection
3. MPD P&P § 5-105 (2) PROFESSIONAL CODE OF CONDUCT : On-duty officers shall, at all times, take appropriate action within their jurisdiction, to protect life and property, preserve the peace, prevent crime, detect and arrest violators of the law, and enforce all federal, state and local laws and ordinances.
4. MPD P&P § 5-105 (10) PROFESSIONAL CODE OF CONDUCT: Employees shall not use indecent, profane or unnecessarily harsh language in the performance of official duties or in the presence of the public.”

COMPLAINT PROCESSING

Complainant filed an online complaint detailing the incident. The complaint went through intake investigation and was reviewed by the joint supervisors. The joint supervisors determined that complaint should be sent to coaching. Coaching documents were sent to the precinct. Completed coaching documents were returned to OPCR indicating the supervisor found no policy violation.

EVIDENCE

1. An online complaint was filed
2. VisiNet report was obtained
3. CAPRS reports were obtained
4. Coaching documents were sent to the precinct
5. Final approved coaching documents were returned to OPCR.

SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE

Complaint

Complainant filed an online complaint alleging that she noticed her car was missing sometime after 5:20 PM. Complainant alleges that she went to the precinct to report her vehicle stolen and officers were rude to her and used disrespectful language. Complainant alleges she came to get victim assistance and was treated like a criminal. According to the complaint, officers stopped answering her calls.

VisiNet report

A VisiNet unit activity log indicates the Complainant's license plate was ran through the system, listing the Complainant as the vehicle owner.

CAPRS Report 1

A CAPRS report about the Complainant's stolen vehicle was obtained. According to the report, Complainant and her kids returned home around 2:30 PM and took a nap. When Complainant woke up around 5:30 PM her car was missing. According to the report, the Complainant initially believed it may have been taken by a family member. The Complainant contacted her family, and determined that vehicle was not taken by a family member. The report notes that Complainant went to the precinct to report her vehicle statement. The report similarly states that Complainant alleged officers were rude to her and used disrespectful language.

CAPRS Report 2

A second CAPRS report was obtained regarding an incident involving Complainant's stolen vehicle. According to the report, officers stopped the vehicle, and a suspect fled on foot. As the suspect was leaving he dropped a gun on the sidewalk. The report indicates that the vehicle was towed to the impound lot.

COACHING

Coaching documents indicate that the supervisor reviewed the CAPRS reports. According to the coaching document the supervisor met with Officer 1. According to the Officer 1, Complainant came into the precinct wanting to report the vehicle as stolen. Officer 1 stated she called the Auto Desk and was told that the vehicle had been impounded and was on a hold. Officer 1 then spoke with the officer who had the car towed. Officer 1 then spoke with the Complainant and explained that her vehicle was involved in a crime and was impounded. Officer 1 states Complainant started to call the precinct recorded line swearing and yelling at Officer 1. Officer 1 stated Complainant called several times throughout the night. Officer 1's supervisor attempted to contact Complainant two times, but was unable to speak with the Complainant about the incident.

The supervisor determined that no policy violation occurred and no coaching was needed. According to the supervisor, Officer 1 had a good attitude, went "above and beyond" speaking to the Auto Desk and the officer who towed the vehicle, and was courteous to the Complainant.