
POLICE CONDUCT OVERSIGHT COMMISSION

Case Summary Data #4

November 2014

OVERVIEW

Complainant alleges that she witnessed an officer speeding in the bike lane without lights/sirens. Visinet confirms the squad's location at the time provided by Complainant, and the squad reaches the speed of 51 mph.

THE COMPLAINT

1. Violation of the P&P Manual: Officer was speeding in the bike lane without lights or sirens.

OPCR AND MPD POLICIES

2. OPCR Ord. § 172.20(8) – Violation of the P&P Manual.
3. MPD P&P § 7-401 NORMAL VEHICLE OPERATION: Under normal conditions, personnel will operate police vehicles in the same manner as required for the public.

COMPLAINT PROCESSING

Complainant filed an online complaint. The complaint went through intake investigation and was reviewed by the joint supervisors. The joint supervisors determined that the complaint should be sent to coaching. Coaching documents were sent to the precinct. Completed coaching documents were returned to OPCR.

EVIDENCE

1. Complainant filed an online complaint detailing the allegations.
2. A VisiNet report was obtained.
3. Coaching documents were sent to the precinct.
4. Completed coaching documents were returned to OPCR.

SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE

Complaint

Complainant filed a detailed online complaint. Complainant stated that she was riding her bicycle and witnessed a squad turn into the bike lane. According to the Complainant, the squad remained in the bike lane and accelerated, dangerously speeding in the bike lane. The Complainant stated the squad did not have its emergency lights or siren on.

VisiNet

A VisiNet report indicates that the squad was at the location at the time stated by the Complainant. The report also indicates that the squad was traveling at 51 mph.

COACHING

Coaching documents were sent to the precinct. Documents indicate that the supervisor reviewed the VisiNet report, and spoke with the Officer. According to the Officer, he was catching up to a vehicle believed to be involved in a series of burglaries. The coaching documents do not indicate if the supervisor made contact with the Complainant. The supervisor ultimately determined there was no policy violation since the Officer acted reasonable in the situation and in accordance with policy. The supervisor stated that officers often travel over the speed limit and in different traffic lanes to catch up with suspect vehicles. Although there was no policy violation, the supervisor stated he did speak with the Officer about driving in bike lanes.