

OFFICE OF POLICE CONDUCT REVIEW

CLOSED CASE SUMMARY

OPCR-21-04



PUBLISH DATE: January 27, 2022

FROM: Office of Police Conduct Review

CASE SUMMARY NUMBER: OPCR-21-04

ALLEGATIONS

| | Policy Implicated | MPD Policy Manual Range | OPCR Outcome | PCRP Finding | MPD Outcome |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Allegation 1 | 7-314 (IV)(A)(6) Domestic Abuse | A-D | Sent to Review Panel | Merit | Discipline – Written Reprimand |
| Allegation 2 | 5-102 Code of Ethics | A-D | Sent to Review Panel | Merit | Discipline - Suspension |
| Allegation 3 | 7-314 (IV)(A)(6) Domestic Abuse | A-D | Sent to Review Panel | Merit | Discipline – Written Reprimand |

REPORTED DEMOGRAPHICS

Race: N/A

Gender: N/A

Police Precinct: 4th

SUMMARY OF COMPLAINT

Complaint alleged that an officer arrived to a civilian’s home and took a report. The civilian was the alleged victim in the initial incident. It is alleged that the same officer went back to the residence the following morning in plain clothes with the intention of having the individual complete a supplementary domestic violence form. During the interaction, it is said that the officer noted the individual as being attractive and later, the parties exchanged phone numbers. The parties exchanged text messages that were described as becoming “sexual in nature,” and that both individuals were trying to arrange a place to meet. Upon the civilian alleging that the officer only wanted a sexual relationship, the officer ceased to respond or send further messages.

It is further alleged that officers failed to follow the Domestic Abuse protocol as defined by policy.

SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION

1) INTAKE INVESTIGATION

- a) VisiNet report
 - i) The “Problem” is listed as “Unknown Trouble.”
- b) Other
 - i) Initial complainant statement
 - ii) Images containing screenshots of text messages

2) VIDEO ANALYST REVIEW

- a) Body Worn Camera (BWC) Review
 - i) BWC footage exists for this complaint. Video footage shows Officers 1 and 2 arriving to the home of the alleged victim. Another individual opens the door and let the officers into the home. The victim appears shortly after and quietly explains to Officer 1 that their partner had been abusing them and they believe they may have gone downstairs. Officers 1 and 2 go downstairs and announce their presence as they search for the possible suspect, however, no individual is found to be downstairs. Shortly after, the victim and the two officers go back downstairs, and the victim explains that the other individual may have escaped out of a window. Video footage ends for each officer after this search.

3) CASE REVIEW & JOINT SUPERVISOR ROUTING

- a) After reviewing the relevant and available evidence collected during intake, the Joint Supervisors agreed the complaint warranted an administrative investigation.
- b) The case was assigned to an investigator.

4) ADMIN/PRELIM INVESTIGATION

- a) Summary of the following:
 - i) Complainant Statement
 - ii) Complaint Memo
 - iii) Body Worn Camera Video
 - iv) Complainant Interview
 - v) Witness Interview
 - vi) Focus Officer(s) Interview
 - vii) Additional Evidence (i.e., text messages)

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CASE OUTCOME

5) OFFICE OF POLICE CONDUCT REVIEW

- a) An administrative investigation was completed and forwarded to panel.

6) POLICE CONDUCT REVIEW PANEL

- a) Review panel found merit on Allegation 1: Domestic Abuse
- b) Review panel found merit on Allegation 2: Code of Ethics
- c) Review panel found merit on Allegation 3: Domestic Abuse

7) LOUDERMILL HEARING

- a) Loudermill Hearings were scheduled for the two involved officers and each were given notice.
- b) The Loudermill Hearing for Officer 1 was rescheduled once and occurred following the hearing for Officer 2.

8) MINNEAPOLIS POLICE DEPARTMENT

- a) The Chief of Police determined that Officer 1 violated the Code of Ethics policy due to their conduct with the civilian. The officer received a suspension for the duration of 10 hours without pay.
- b) The Chief of Police also determined that both officers did not follow the appropriate protocol as defined by the Domestic Abuse policy. Both officers received a written reprimand for this violation.