

OFFICE OF POLICE CONDUCT REVIEW

CLOSED CASE SUMMARY

OPCR-21-56



PUBLISH DATE: July 15, 2022

FROM: Office of Police Conduct Review

CASE SUMMARY NUMBER: OPCR-21-56

ALLEGATIONS

| | Policy Implicated | MPD Policy Manual Range | OPCR Outcome | PCRP Finding | MPD Outcome |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Allegation 1 Officer 1 | 4-401.02 Vehicle- Seat Belts | A-B | Sent to Coaching | NA | No action taken |
| Allegation 2 Officer 1 | 4-410 City Vehicles and On-Duty Accidents | A | Sent to Coaching | NA | Coaching completed |
| Allegation 3 Officer 2 | 4-401.02 Vehicle- Seat Belts | A-B | Sent to Coaching | NA | No action taken |
| Allegation 4 Officer 2 | 4-410 City Vehicles and On-Duty Accidents | A | Sent to Coaching | NA | Coaching completed |

REPORTED DEMOGRAPHICS

Race: N/A

Gender: N/A

Police Precinct: 4th

SUMMARY OF COMPLAINT

Complaint alleges that officers were responding to a call when the squad side-swiped a tree, causing minor damage to the passenger side of the squad. The officer attempted to put the squad in reverse and hit another tree, causing damage to the passenger side of the squad. There were no reported injuries. It is also alleged that officers continued to the call and failed to notify dispatch of the accident. Officers involved were not wearing seatbelts.

SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION

1) INTAKE INVESTIGATION

a) VisiNet report

- i) The “Problem” is listed as “Property Damage Accident”. The call log indicates officers were working as partners on the day of incident.

b) Police Report

- i) Public Section of the report states that a City of Minneapolis vehicle was involved in an accident. State accident report filed. Photographs were taken and uploaded to evidence.com. BWC/MVR.

c) Other

- i) Initial complainant (Accident review committee)
- ii) Any other documents used to properly identify the officer

2) VIDEO ANALYST REVIEW

a) Body Worn Camera (BWC) Review

- i) BWC footage exists for this complaint. BWC was reviewed for both officers. Officers are seen driving through a residential area with lights and sirens activated. Officers are observed slowing and or stopping at lights and stop signs. Officers are observed taking a direction that is not wide enough for the squad to get through. This is made apparent by Officer 2 indicating that the squad would not fit. Officer 1 is observed proceeding anyways. Impact with a tree is observed as the video and tree are seen shaking. Officer 1 reverses the squad and slowly backs up before stopping. Officer 2 is then heard indicating that Officer 1 has hit another tree. This is not visible on BWC. As officer 1 begins to pull forward scraping against the squad car is heard followed by Officer 1 swearing. Officer 1 puts the squad in drive, then reverse to get around the second tree. Once free from the trees the squad continues with the pursuit. Neither officer called over radio to indicate they had hit two trees during their pursuit. Officers were observed getting out of the squad without delay or needing to remove seat belts.

b) Squad Video Review

- i) Squad video was active at the time of the incident. Size of the trees matches that in the complaint of being 4-6 inches in diameter.

3) CASE REVIEW & JOINT SUPERVISOR ROUTING

- a) After reviewing the relevant and available evidence collected during intake, the Joint Supervisors agreed the incident warranted coaching.

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4) *ADMIN/PRELIM INVESTIGATION*

N/A

CASE OUTCOME

5) *OFFICE OF POLICE CONDUCT REVIEW*

- a) Officers were referred to their precinct for coaching.

6) *POLICE CONDUCT REVIEW PANEL*

N/A

7) *MINNEAPOLIS POLICE DEPARTMENT*

- a) Both officers were coached on City Vehicles and On-Duty Accidents.
- b) Both officers had no action taken regarding Vehicle Seat Belts.