

## **Office of Professional Standards Summary**

### **February 2014**

#### **COMMENDATIONS/AWARDS RECEIVED:**

On February 11, 2014 Sgt. Sprayberry penned the following:

On 02/05/13 Cpl. Allen O'Mara responded to a fire. On his arrival he learned a fire had started at the listed residence due to children playing near a furnace and catching a mattress on fire. Cpl. O'Mara investigated the matter further and found the children were in a state of neglect/maltreatment and took appropriate action to more than adequately document and report the condition to which the children were subjected. He completed the endangering report and took over 25 pictures of the residence to further his documentation.

I think Cpl. O'Mara did an OUTSTANDING job of collecting information and evidence to substantiate his report. He then made a point to contact Det. Deason (SIU) about his findings and evidence. Det. Deason voiced her appreciation of his efforts and so do I. Thanks Cpl. O'Mara for your diligence and teamwork in this matter!

#### **COMPLAINTS RECEIVED:**

An Administrative Inquiry was launched after investigators learned there was possibly an inappropriate relationship between a civilian and an officer. During the investigation it was determined that the officer in question was indeed having an affair with the civilian employee, whose husband is also an officer. This inquiry was cleared as Unfounded, as it was determined there were no policies or rules violated during the course of the affair.

Another Administrative Inquiry was launched in relation to the summary above. Investigators learned that there were several rumors circulating amongst officers and civilian employees which were of a serious nature, and included a potential conflict amongst officers. The matter was cleared as Unfounded after all involved had been interviewed.

An Internal Complaint was investigated where a civilian employee alleged she was being treated unfairly and otherwise targeted by a supervisor. There were multiple allegations leveled against the supervisor in this one complaint and each allegation was addressed through interviewing civilian employees and officers. This complaint was cleared as Not Sustained as there was not enough evidence to prove violation of policies or rules violations.

An Internal Complaint was lodged against a civilian employee for engaging in inappropriate conversations concerning personal and confidential matters in violation of City and Police Department policies on harassment. After interviewing several potential witnesses to any of the alleged conversations none of the witnesses actually told the subject of the complaint that the subject matter of the conversations was felt to be inappropriate or that it made them feel uncomfortable. Although this complaint was cleared as Unfounded, as the findings did not rise to the level of a violation of rules or policies, there was a perceived negative impact expressed by several employees. It was recommended by the investigating supervisor to offer training on city

and agency policies concerning harassment so that everyone is familiar with their rights and responsibilities.

An Internal Complaint was lodged against an officer for making statements about another officer which were perceived as threatening in nature, as well as other derogatory comments directed towards the complainant and his family. Based on interviews with the subject of the complaint, as well as others who were interviewed as witnesses to the remarks made, it was determined that the threats were not criminal in nature and there were no comments made in violation of policies or rules. This complaint was cleared as Not Sustained.

A Citizen Complaint was lodged against an officer alleging excessive force during an arrest. The complainant stated that he was thrown down to the ground and was then held down by the officer, which caused an injury to his back. He also alleged that the other officer present grabbed his brother by the throat. However, the complainant's brother never came forward to file a complaint. Investigation revealed that the officers entered the residence because they heard an active disturbance inside. When they entered the residence the complainant was already lying on the floor and had a bloody nose. The complainant and his brother were arrested on warrants and there was no use of force during the arrest. This complaint was cleared as Unfounded.

**OFFICER INVOLVED REPORTS:**

- Pursuits: 3**
- Vehicle Accidents: 1**
- Sick or Injury Reports: 4**
- Strip Search Reports: 0**
- Bias Based Policing Reports: 0**
- Total # of Sustained Complaints: 0**

**USE OF FORCE STATISTICS:**

**Total number of use-of-force incidents: 14**

**Total number of officers involved: 33**

**Type of force tally:**

Type of force	Effective		Not effective		Total #
	#	%	#	%	
ASP Baton	0	0%	1	100%	1
Elbow Strike	2	67%	1	33%	3
Force to ground	8	100%	0	0%	8
Force/Push	3	100%	0	0%	3
Grappling	3	100%	0	0%	3
Hands-on	14	100%	0	0%	14
Hard hand strikes	3	100%	0	0%	3
Knee strike	1	100%	0	0%	1
Other Weapon(not listed)	0	0%	1	100%	1
Other(explain in report)	1	100%	0	0%	1
Pinning technique	5	100%	0	0%	5
Pressure Point	1	100%	0	0%	1
Taser	3	38%	5	63%	8
Verbal Commands	4	50%	4	50%	8

**Citizen condition tally:**

Condition or injury	Count	Percent of total
---------------------	-------	------------------

Abrasions/Contusions	2	22%
Bruises	1	11%
Cuts/Scrapes	2	22%
No injury	1	11%
Other (explain in report)	1	11%
Probe Wounds	1	11%
Puncture Wound	1	11%

**Total** 9

**Citizen arrested in conjunction with use-of-force (# incidents):**

	Count	Percent of total
No	1	7%
Yes	13	93%

**Total** 14

**Citizen was injured in conjunction with use-of-force (# incidents):**

	Count	Percent of total
No	8	57%
Yes	6	43%

**Total** 14

**Citizen taken to hospital in conjunction with use-of-force (# incidents):**

	Count	Percent of total
No	12	86%
Yes	2	14%

**Total** 14

**Officer injuries tally:**

Condition	Count	Percent of total
Abrasions/Contusions	4	67%
Attempted bites	1	17%
Swelling	1	17%

**Total** 6

**Officer injured in conjunction with use-of-force (# incidents):**

	Count	Percent of total
No	10	71%
Yes	4	29%

**Total** 14

**Officer taken to hospital in conjunction with use-of-force (# incidents):**

	Count	Percent of total
No	13	93%
Yes	1	7%

**Total** 14

**Reason for use-of-force:**

<b>Reason</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent of total</b>
Active assault on another	1	7%
Armed	2	14%
Fleeing Scene	4	29%
Other(explain in report)	1	7%
Refusing to Submit to Arrest	1	7%
Resisting Arrest	4	29%
Uncooperative	1	7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	

**Type of service being rendered at time of use-of-force:**

<b>Service type</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent of total</b>
Attempting arrest	5	36%
Call For Service	3	21%
Routine Patrol	1	7%
SWAT Callout	1	7%
Traffic Stop	2	14%
Warrant Service	1	7%
Welfare Check	1	7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	

Average age of involved Citizens:33

Report date range criteria: Incidents received Between Feb 1, 2014 and Feb 28, 2014

**Cpl. Steven Dooly**  
**Office of Professional Standards**