



News Release

Dallas Police Department

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Chief David O. Brown Disciplines Officers

Dallas Police Chief David O. Brown disciplined the following officers during hearings this morning.

1. Sergeant Ramon Gonzalez, #6793, was involved in the following incident:

- Division supervisors reviewed Sergeant Gonzalez' timecard and recognized inconsistencies between his timecard and payroll entries. This prompted an audit into Sergeant Gonzalez' payroll entries from January 2011 to July 2012. The audit revealed approximately 189 missing hours. After the Department's Public Integrity Unit was unable to pursue criminal charges, an administrative investigation was conducted by the Internal Affairs Division. The Internal Affairs investigation revealed that between January 2008 and June 2012, Sergeant Gonzalez was not charged for Vacation Leave, Compensatory Leave, Sick Leave and Attendance Incentive Leave. Based upon Sergeant Gonzalez' pay rate during this time, the approximate monetary value Sergeant Gonzalez owes the City is over \$19,450. The Internal Affairs investigation concluded that Sergeant Gonzalez failed to report his receipt of compensation which he was not entitled to receive.

Sergeant Gonzalez received a 30 day suspension for his actions. He was hired in September 1991 and was assigned to the Northwest Patrol Division.

2. Officer Cortenay Howard, #8235, was involved in the following incident:

- On June 14, 2012, Officer Howard filed an insurance claim for hail damage that occurred to his personal vehicle. On July 6, 2012, a claims investigator inspected Officer Howard's vehicle and determined the damage was not caused by hail and was artificially manufactured. The insurance company closed the file and referred Officer Howard's claim to the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB). A special agent with NICB discovered two other insurance companies had made referrals regarding inflated damages, documents altered, forged, falsified, and duplicated insurance claims filed by Officer Howard for personal property damage and a vehicle burglary. NICB contacted the Dallas Police Department's Public Integrity Unit. The Department's Public Integrity Unit found that none of the claims were appropriate for criminal prosecution. The Public Integrity Unit forwarded the investigation to Internal Affairs for an administrative review. Internal Affairs investigation concluded that Officer Howard engaged in adverse conduct when he filed a fraudulent insurance claim.

Officer Howard was terminated for his actions. He was hired in April 2004 and was assigned to the Southwest Patrol Division.

3. Senior Corporal Adam Conway, #7599, was involved in the following incident:

- On May 25, 2013, Senior Corporal Conway, while off duty, was involved in a crash in the City of Rockwall. The investigating officer smelled alcohol on Senior Corporal Conway's breath and observed other signs of intoxication. Senior Corporal Conway was arrested at the scene after he refused to perform a field sobriety test. A mandatory blood draw was conducted which subsequently resulted in Senior Corporal

Conway being charged with Driving While Intoxicated M/A. On October 10, 2013, the DWI charges were dismissed. The Internal Affairs investigation concluded that Senior Corporal Conway drove a vehicle under the influence of alcohol.

Senior Corporal Conway was terminated for his actions. He was hired in February 1998 and was assigned to Field Services Division.

4. Officer Christopher Watson, #9359, was involved in the following incident:

- On October 14, 2013, an individual called into the 911 Call Center describing her son as being very violent, standing in the cul-de-sac yelling, and possibly having a knife. Officer Watson and Officer Spencer, who was terminated during a previous hearing, responded to the location on a Crisis Intervention Team call.

In an Affidavit In Any Fact dated October 14, 2013, Officer Watson gave testimony stating that the individual raised the knife and took an aggressive stance. Officer Watson further stated in his testimony that the individual extended his knife forward, away from his body towards Officers Spencer and Watson. The individual took approximately two steps towards the officers in an aggressive manner. This led to Officer Spencer shooting the individual.

The home surveillance video shows that prior to being shot, the individual had his hands down at his side, did not have an aggressive stance, did not raise the knife away from his body, and did not take any steps towards Officers Spencer and Watson.

The Internal Affairs investigation concluded that Officer Watson violated the Patrol Bureau's Standard Operating Procedure 1401 when he immediately advanced on a possibly armed person and failed to recognize that entering the space of a person experiencing an episode may cause the person to react violently. The investigation also concluded that Officer Watson was being untruthful in a Sworn Affidavit.

Officer Watson received a 15 day suspension for his actions. He was hired in January 2008 and assigned to the Southeast Patrol Division.

Under civil service rules, all employees have the right to appeal their discipline.