



OCEANSIDE POLICE DEPARTMENT

MISSION STATEMENT

OUR PURPOSE IS TO WORK WITH THE COMMUNITY TO BUILD TRUST AND PROVIDE QUALITY SERVICE THAT ACTIVELY PREVENTS CRIME, REDUCES THE FEAR OF CRIME, AND PROMOTES SAFETY.



☐ I WANT TO SPEAK WITH THE MEMBER'S SUPERVISOR. ☒ I WANT TO FILE A FORMAL COMPLAINT.

Name: WOODROW L. HIGDON Date of Birth: 7-18-43
Address: [REDACTED]
Daytime Phone: (760) 754 - 8703 Evening Phone: () -
Event Date: 1-31 THRU 2-25-08 Event Time: VARIABLE Case Number: 08001858
Location: OCEANSIDE POLICE DEPARTMENT
Name of Member(s): SGT. AARON DOYLE

PROVIDE A DETAILED EXPLANATION OF THE BASIS FOR YOUR COMPLAINT. ATTACH ADDITIONAL PAGES AS NECESSARY.

DOCUMENTATION : 1.5 HOURS ORAL RECORDED STATEMENT GIVEN TO SGT RON HARDY ON 11-3-09 AT THE OCEANSIDE POLICE DEPARTMENT WITH SUPPORTING WRITTEN DOCUMENTATION AS ITEMIZED IN THE AUDIO RECORDING.

THIS COMPLAINT IS ONE OF A SERIES OF FIVE (5) MISCONDUCT COMPLAINTS AGAINST DIFFERENT OFFICERS OCCURRING DURING A 20 MONTH CORRUPTION INVESTIGATION OF THE OCEANSIDE POLICE DEPT. BETWEEN 1-28-08 AND 3-11-09. THE FIRST BEING AGAINST OFFICER BRUSH DATED 2-18-08.

THIS COMPLAINT IS ONE OF FOUR INTER-RELATED COMPLAINTS FILED THIS DATE AGAINST CHIEF FRANK McCOY, SGT AARON DOYLE, DETECTIVE MICHAEL BROWN, AND OFFICER DAMON SMITH WITH THE COMMON FACTOR BEING THE MISCONDUCT OF CHIEF FRANK McCOY. ATTACHED PAGES WILL BE SUPPLEMENTAL OR SUPPORTING INFORMATION OF ISSUES DISCUSSED IN THE ABOVE AUDIO STATEMENT AND PROVIDED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE A COMPLAINT AGAINST A POLICE OFFICER FOR ANY IMPROPER POLICE CONDUCT. THIS AGENCY MAY FIND AFTER INVESTIGATION THAT THERE IS NOT ENOUGH EVIDENCE TO WARRANT ACTION ON YOUR COMPLAINT; EVEN IF THAT IS THE CASE, YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE THE COMPLAINT AND HAVE IT INVESTIGATED IF YOU BELIEVE AN OFFICER BEHAVED IMPROPERLY. CITIZEN COMPLAINTS AND ANY REPORTS OR FINDINGS RELATED TO COMPLAINTS ARE CONFIDENTIAL, AND WILL BE RETAINED BY THIS AGENCY FOR AT LEAST FIVE YEARS.

IT IS UNLAWFUL TO MAKE A COMPLAINT WHICH YOU KNOW TO BE FALSE. IF YOU MAKE A COMPLAINT AGAINST AN OFFICER KNOWING THAT IT IS FALSE, YOU MAY BE SUBJECT TO A CIVIL LAWSUIT FOR MONEY DAMAGES.

Woodrow L. Higdon, Complainant
Signature (required)

11-3-09

Date

Return completed form to: Oceanside Police Department
Professional Standards Office
3855 Mission Avenue
Oceanside, CA 92054

UPDATE 06-05-2006

11-3-09

Oceanside Police Department
Internal Affairs
Att: Sgt. Ron Hardy

Subject: Sgt. Aaron Doyle - Misconduct Complaint Supplemental Information

Supporting documentation is outlined in Documents 002 "Felony Complaint Filing History", Document 005, Misconduct Complaint dated 2-18-08 against Officer Brush, and Document 006, Misconduct Complaint dated 3-3-08. Copies of these documents were provided to Sgt Hardy this date, and also provide to the OPD with previous complaints filed during 2008, with signatures to confirm receipt.

The misconduct complaint, dated 3-3-08 and labeled as such, was originally sent to Chief Frank McCoy detailing misconduct by Detective Michael Brown and Sgt. Aaron Doyle regarding the handling and investigation of OPD complaint #08001858. No follow up or contact from Chief Frank McCoy or the Oceanside Police Department Internal Affairs was ever received.

Complaint Information

On 1-28-08 I contacted the OPD front desk to file a criminal complaint. The complaint filing process was highly obstructed as detailed in Misconduct Complaint document 005 dated 2-18-08. Due to my concerns about the accuracy of the desk report, the report's unavailability for 10 days, and the obstructions I had encountered with Desk Officer Brush, I decided it would be advisable to monitor the progress of the investigation. I left six (6) phone messages and a desk contact message with the Financial Crimes Division for Sgt Doyle over the following days requesting communication. I wanted to provide all possible assistance to Sgt Doyle and his staff in the investigation of my complaint. No calls were returned.

Two phone complaints were filed with Lt. Goldsmith over the following days regarding the misconduct of Sgt. Doyle in ignoring phone messages, obstructing the investigation, and closing a case that had never been investigated. Goldsmith stated the investigation had not been closed.

Only then did Sgt. Doyle return a call. However, the call was only to inform me that the case was closed and there would be no investigation. Sgt. Doyle refused to discuss any specifics, or to meet with me and review the evidence documents. Doyle stated that he had reviewed the evidence documents, and that he had also taken the evidence documents to the District Attorney's Office for review. Doyle was more than a little irritated with me, and went out of his way to use his position of authority to try and

convince me to drop the complaint and go away. Doyle was advised that this was police misconduct, and obstruction of justice. The conversation was terminated.

A Public Records Act request served on the OPD in 2009 reveals that there are no records, of any type, indicating any review, by anyone, or documents of transmittal, regarding the evidence documents. OPD evidence logs clearly show that during the time period of the investigation the documents never left the evidence room. The logs also show no entries regarding the copying or distribution of the evidence documents. If the documents had been copied & distributed as suggested by Sgt Hardy, the logs would have so stated as is required in evidence policies and procedures to protect the chain of evidence. Sgt Doyle, Detective Brown, and Chief Frank McCoy lied about a review of evidence documents, and an investigation that never occurred.

A similar Public Records Act request served on the District Attorney's Office also disclosed that no documents exist indicating the evidence documents were never transported to, received by, reviewed, or returned to the OPD.

All evidence indicates that when Sgt. Doyle was caught flat footed obstructing and lying about a criminal investigation that never occurred he contacted a friendly voice in the DA's office to get an unsupported opinion to cover his ass.

Sgt. Doyle was also totally relying on the Officer Brush desk report, even though he was told it was inaccurate and incomplete, and a misconduct complaint had already been filed against Officer Brush warning of the incorrect and incomplete report. Sgt. Doyle abandoned his responsibility as a supervising review officer and investigator and took the position that the victim was not worth talking to, simply because a fellow police officer could not be wrong, and that position would help to get rid of the misconduct complaint. A clear unprofessional bias and misconduct.

This is what happens when police officers get lazy, abuse their authority, and step outside the law with the arrogant confidence that no one is watching, or will be able to do anything about it.


Woodrow L. Higdon