City of Canandaigua Police Department

## Internal Investigation Report

## I.A. 004-2019

## Accused: PO Anthony Liberatore

Assignment: Patrol Division

Prepared by Lt. Scott P. Ferguson

Stephen A. Hedworth Chief of Police

## Internal Investigation Complaint 004-2019

Accused Member (s): PO Anthony Liberatore

Complainant: PO Joshua Raymond

## Summary of Complaint Investigated:

A police officer made a complaint to a supervisor relating to the unsatisfactory performance of another officer during a domestic dispute.

### Investigation results:

## July 17th, 2019

I received an email from Sgt. Mastracy stating that on 07/12/19, PO Raymond was in the dispatch area and said to him, "Somethings got to be done." When Sgt. Mastracy asked him to elaborate, PO Raymond went on to describe a domestic incident that he and PO Liberatore responded to (also with PO Catalfamo who was on FTO with PO Raymond) and expressed that the complaint was PO Liberatore's responsibility (occurred in his post), PO Liberatore should have made an arrest but realized that he "was not going to do anything" and PO Raymond "didn't want any part of it." Officer Liberatore did not make an arrest and PO Raymond didn't think PO Liberatore properly did his job.

When hearing this, Sgt. Mastracy was signing in at the start of his tour. Sgt. Mastracy dressed for duty then again spoke to PO Raymond in the sergeant's office. PO Raymond reiterated what he previously stated. Sgt Feldman, who Sgt. Mastracy was replacing, entered the sergeant's office and Sgt. Mastracy inquired if he knew of PO Raymond's complaint. He hadn't and PO Raymond gave him a synopsis and Sgt. Feldman told PO Raymond to memorialize his complaint in memorandum form and give it to Sgt. Mastracy.

Sgt. Mastracy had yet to receive the memorandum from PO Raymond (5 days had past). I reminded Sgt. Mastracy that since a supervisor directed PO Raymond to complete a memo, he was obligated to do it.

I received another email from Sgt. Mastracy. He ordered PO Raymond to provide him the memorandum by the next day. PO Raymond responded saying he was just "Venting" and did not want to make a "formal" complaint. Sgt. Mastracy reiterated to complete the memorandum.

I conferred with Chief Hedworth regarding the complaint. Chief Hedworth advised to have Sgt. Feldman review the BWC footage of the incident and give his opinion as to whether he believed the matter should move forward as a formal internal investigation or be handled by a first line supervisor. \* *Sgt. Feldman has previously formally counseled PO Liberatore regarding work performance.* 

## July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019

Sgt. Feldman viewed the BWC footage of PO Liberatore, PO Raymond and PO Catalfamo. He believed the complaint was not properly handled and due to his personal knowledge of some past performance issues PO Liberatore he recommended that a formal internal be conducted. He brought up issues with both Officer Raymond and Liberatore's performance. Sgt. Feldman advised to issue a memorandum to me regarding such.

Incident and domestic incident reports were obtained from laser fiche and reviewed.

## July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019

I received the memorandum from PO Raymond via Sgt. Mastracy. In summary it states:

- On 07/12/19 at approx. 1528hrs he was PO Catalfamo's FTO and they were "unofficially out of service" due to being not caught up from a backload of paperwork from previous days.
- At that time, they heard a call of a female in distress at the second second Since they were close by, they responded. Once on scene it was determined that a domestic incident had taken place.
- A male, was outside the residence holding onto a small child. He explained to PO Raymond that had attacked him over a claim of infidelity. PO Liberatore arrived and PO Raymond went upstairs to interview
   With PO Catalfamo. When doing so he observed an "overwhelming odor of freshly burnt marijuana in the apartment.
- **Sector** said that she and **Sector** got into an argument which turned physical (both partied did have scratches and redness apparent). The young child (8-monthold) was in proximity during this fight sitting in a 'play seat'.
- admitted to physically engaging and alleged that picked up and threw a knife which struck a refrigerator in proximity of the child.
- PO Raymond and Catalfamo went outside and interviewed who stated that it was who threw the knife.
- PO Raymond describes himself looking at PO Liberatore and PO Liberatore told him to tell **Internet Sector** that "it was a cross complaint, and to be done with it." Raymond describes how he "could tell that Liberatore was in the mindset that he was not going to entertain any portion of the incident."
- PO Raymond then returns to where was and explained "that if I was the primary officer on the case it would be a duel arrest." PO Liberatore came up and

"began to delegate" with both and arranged for **second** to leave for work. Raymond feels irritated because to him the incident was serious as a baby was present.

- PO Raymond reiterates how back-logged they were and all of the work needed to be done as PO Catalfamo was moving on to the next phase of field training. He said that he feels that since the complaint was not on "his side" he shouldn't be responsible for investigating or making the "proper decisions set forth by the evidence provided."
- They cleared leaving PO Liberatore at the scene. When they returned to the station PO Raymond explained to PO Catalfamo that an arrest should have been made.
- Out of frustration he "vented to Sgt. Mastracy. Sgt. Feldman overheard the through the doorway of the sergeant's office, and ordered me to write this memo."

I received the memo from Sgt. Feldman, (attached).

The 911 job card of the incident was printed and reviewed.

PO Liberatore was advised via email that he was the subject of an internal investigation. PO Liberatore did acknowledge the email the same day.

I attempted to view the BWC footage but due to an issue with Axon, it was unable to be viewed or downloaded. Axon support was contacted to remedy the issue.

July 24th, 2019

The BWC footage from PO Liberatore, PO Raymond and PO Catalfamo was downloaded and copied to disk.

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## Examination of BWC footage

Officers Raymond and Catalfamo arrive first and the male half, is in the front vard of the residence holding his eight-month-old child he has in common with He appears agitated and paces about but is not aggressive. PO Catalfamo enters the building and goes to the second floor where the involved live. PO Raymond . After about two minutes, PO Liberatore arrives at which time PO stavs with Raymond enters the building and goes upstairs with PO Catalfamo. claims to physical contact between her and that would not appear to rise past a violation alleges that threw a knife which struck a refrigerator and level offence. came in close proximity to the 8-month-old and also damaged property within. PO Raymond observed an odor of marijuana, questions about it. admits smoking it in the bathroom area and they do so to keep it away from to her and stated that she does not want to go to jail but there does the child. appear to be probable cause accumulating for an arrest for their conduct in front of the child. After approximately six minutes both PO Raymond and Catalfamo come downstairs to where PO Liberatore and are.

While PO Catalfamo and Raymond were speaking with states, PO Liberatore stayed with states. PO Liberatore engages with casual small talk and does not ask any questions of him relating to the call for service.

When PO Raymond comes down, he first askes PO Liberatore, "Who's side is this?" to which PO Liberatore reply's, "East side, my side, what's up?" PO Raymond, then describes the incident to PO Liberatore as "Apparently mutual, physical." PO Raymond then begins to question who:

- Repeatedly denies to putting his hands on or striking
- claims not to have thrown a knife,

Y

- accuses
  of throwing the knife
- insists
  insists
  insists
  insists
- shows officers marks she caused on him (small scratching and redness)
- claims he was trying to leave the residence to go to work

describes how he was trying to get away from and leave for work and that's how he previously has diffused the altercations with her and PO Liberatore interjects saying, "She good with that? Is that what.... she's good?" to which Raymond replies to him, "Well we talked to her and came down and were about to go up and see what she wants to do." Liberatore states, "I mean if he's leavin', she can get the baby.... fine, advise her about cross complaints too, I'm sure she doesn't want that, and we'll be done."

PO Raymond goes back upstairs with PO Catalfamo and speaks again with . He explains to her how, 'If it were up to him' he would arrest them both and explains order of protection possibilities. Not long after, PO Liberatore comes into the apartment with where where retrieves the child and where begins gathering items to leave the area. PO Raymond states to Liberatore, "You going to stand by for that or what? (keep the peace function) I really don't give a fuck; I'm going to leave." Po Raymond then turns off his BWC as he is walking down the stairs leaving the apartment. PO Liberatore then stands by until were some property then as welking down the sidewalk away from the residence, PO Liberatore enters his patrol vehicle and turns off his BWC.

\* Note that he is not seen completing the domestic incident report and giving it to either parties as notated on the DIR. PO Liberatore also did not have enough information to accurately fill out a DIR and the DIR reflects such.

## August 22nd, 2019

Email notification made to PO Liberatore requesting him to meet on 08/26/19 at 1400hrs. The next day I received a reply that he acknowledged and would be brining representation.

## August 26th, 2019

At 1400hrs I met with PO Liberatore and his union representative John Pusloskie from the Local CWA. PO Liberatore gave a general account of the incident and stated he did not review his BWC footage since the incident (confirmed on audit). He and Pusloskie then watched the Liberatore's BWC footage of the incident. He was asked first if he gave a copy of the domestic incident to **be and** to which he replied, "I didn't think I did, I meant to mail it." He later reaffirmed that he did not give either party a copy of the DIR nor completing it on scene.

I asked him if he thought there was an arrest to be made in the incident. PO Liberatore said, "No it was a cross complaint all day." He was very insistent that with the information he had at the scene and what PO Raymond had told him an arrest was not warranted.

PO Liberatore was then asked to explain why he made little to no effort to effectively interview when he arrived on scene. PO Liberatore explained that he is very familiar with both when he arrived and material and had responded to many disturbances involving them. Due to his experience he "had an idea of what happened, the incident wasn't at a "significant level" and with material holding onto the child his goal was to keep him calm. He didn't want to risk provoking him with probing questions and was waiting to hear what information Raymond had to give him. With what information PO Raymond gave him and his observations, he stands by how the incident was handled.

PO Liberatore told that in subsequent conversations with PO Raymond, PO Raymond told him that he didn't want to write the memorandum as directed by Sgt. Mastracy and that Sgt. Mastracy threatened that he wouldn't be promoted if he didn't. PO Raymond also told him that on his original memorandum he had a heading that said something to the effect that he was writing the memo under duress and under threat that he would never be promoted. PO Liberatore questioned if this was an ethical tactic by a supervisor.

### August 27th, 2019

I spoke to Sgt. Mastracy regarding the circumstances of PO Raymond providing him with the memorandum. The explanation is detailed in the attached memorandum from Sgt. Mastracy to me.

## Summary of Investigation:

The domestic incident was mishandled by both PO Liberatore and Raymond. PO Catalfamo was under the direct supervision of PO Raymond and was not considered for council or reprimand. Violations listed below are regarding PO Liberatores conduct. PO Raymond's conduct was handled separately by Sgt. Feldman.

Departmental Rule and Regulation Violations to be considered:



### IV. UNSATISFACTORY PERFORMANCE: Unfounded \_\_\_\_\_ Sustained V

A. Members shall maintain sufficient competency to properly perform and discharge their duties and assume the responsibilities that accompany their position of rank. They shall perform their duties in a manner, which will maintain the highest standards of efficiency in carrying out the functions and objectives of this Department.

## XVIII. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS: Unfounded \_\_\_\_\_ Sustained \_\_\_\_\_

B. No members or staff shall knowingly enter or cause to be entered any false, inaccurate or improper information on any document filed in the performance of their duties.

## Attachments:

Email correspondence from Sgt. Mastracy to author X2 Email correspondence from author to PO Liberatore X2 Memorandum from PO Raymond to Sgt. Mastracy Keystone 911 printout Incident report for CR 1923635 DIR from CR 1923635 Memorandum from Sgt. Feldman to author Administrative warnings form Memorandum from Sgt. Mastracy to author BWC footage of PO Raymond for CR 1923635 BWC footage of PO Liberatore for CR 1923635 BWC footage of PO Catalfamo for CR 1923635 Audio of call form the 911 Center for CR 1923635

## **Scott Ferguson**

From:	Peter J. Mastracy
Sent:	Wednesday, July 17, 2019 4:43 AM
То:	Scott Ferguson
Subject:	Complaint
Follow Up Flag:	Flag for follow up
Flag Status:	Flagged

#### Lieutenant Ferguson,

I'm writing to inform you of a complaint I received regarding one officer against another officer within our department. On July 12, 2019 at around 3:45pm when I arrived for my overtime shift before my regular C tour, as I was signing into the log book, Officer Raymond was in the patrol office and stated, "something's got to be done". I inquired what he was talking about and he stated, "Tony". I asked what happened today and he stated that him and Officer Catalfamo (who was on FTO with Officer Raymond) responded to a domestic and observed drug paraphernalia "all over the place". Officer Raymond stated that it was his opinion that an "obvious arrest" was warranted. Officer Raymond stated that this particular call for service was "Tony's side". Officer Raymond stated that when Officer Liberatore arrived, he spoke with Officer Liberatore and that Officer Liberatore stated, "It's a cross complaint so whatever.". Officer Raymond stated that he realized that Officer Liberatore was "not going to do anything" and Officer Raymond didn't want any part of it. Officer Raymond stated that Officer Liberatore did not make an arrest and it appeared he didn't do his job. I then got dressed for my shift which was going to begin at 4:00pm and was in the Sergeant's Office when Officer Raymond came in and sat down. I inquired Officer Raymond to inform me again on what took place and he reiterated what was stated above. During this time, Sergeant Feldman came up to the Sergeant's Office and I inquired if he was aware of what took place prior to my arrival. Officer Raymond gave a brief synopsis' and Sergeant Feldman requested Officer Raymond to provide me with a memo containing the details because I was the Sergeant that he gave this information to. Due to the call volume, Officer Raymond was not able to complete the memo on that date. Sergeant Feldman advised to not have Officer Catalfamo complete a memo as you may possibly desire to interview him yourself.

On July 13, 2019 at 8:19pm I sent Officer Raymond a text message inquiring if he was going to have a memo ready for me when I arrived for my regular C tour. He stated he would complete same and shortly after I arrived for duty, I observed Officer Raymond in the upstairs patrol office typing a report and Officer Catalfamo was present. After my C tour began and when there was nobody else around, I inquired if he was able to complete the memo. He advised that due to the call volume, he was unable to complete it but will complete it when he returns for his next shift.

July 14, and July 15 were my pass days.

On July 16, 2019 after I conducted C tour roll call, I inquired Officer Raymond if he had completed the memo. Officer Raymond's body language appeared to be reluctant in completing same but he advised that he would have it completed tonight (July 17, 2019) when I arrive for my C tour. It is obvious to me that Officer Raymond is having a difficult time with completing a memo regarding conduct of another Officer, especially one who is on the same shift as him. He has expressed to me that he feels like a "buddy f\*\*\*\*" and I have explained that if an Officer is not doing their job then it is that Officer who is causing damage to themselves.

I am scheduled to be off July 18-July 22.

The process regarding this complaint is new to me and I respectfully request direction on how you would desire me to proceed. I believe the call for service that Officer Raymond is referring to is C# 1923635. If this is the correct job, it is coded a 31 in Keystone but there is an incident report in SJS under C# 1923635 and the box for completed DIR is

checked. I am not aware of any further details other than what I have provided above due this alleged incident occurring while I was off duty. Thank you in advance for any assistance in this matter and I will keep you advised of what transpires regarding Officer Raymond providing a memo tonight.

PJ

Sergeant PJ Mastracy **City of Canandaigua Police Department**  *Road Patrol Division* 21 Ontario Street Canandaigua, NY 14424 (585) 396-5035 (main line) (585) 396-5034 (fax)

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#### Scott Ferguson

From: Sent: To: Subject: Peter J. Mastracy Thursday, July 18, 2019 4:53 AM Scott Ferguson RE: Complaint

#### Lieutenant,

Upon my arrival for duty last night, I spoke to Sergeant Jackson who stated that the B tour remained steady. I observed Officer Raymond to be completing a report in the upstairs patrol office. I spoke with Officer Raymond after roll call and I instructed him to provide me with a memo by the next day he is working.

I know I'm off for the next four nights and wanted to provide you with as much information as possible regarding additional conversations I've had with Officer Raymond. Officer Raymond has stated that he wasn't filing a formal complaint with me but was just "venting". I had mentioned in my previous email that it was complaint and just wanted the little details known. He has added that he did not desire any action other than me listening to him. I'm under the assumption that this may not change anything but just wanted you aware that a formal complaint wasn't made as of yet. I apologize if I caused any inconvenience or misrepresented anything regarding this incident.

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Respectfully,

PJ

#### Scott Ferguson

From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject: Anthony R. Liberatore Tuesday, July 23, 2019 3:46 PM Scott Ferguson Stephen Hedworth RE: Complaint

Received.

Thank you.

From: Scott Ferguson <spf@canandaiguanewyork.gov> Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 3:29 PM To: Anthony R. Liberatore <Anthony.Liberatore@canandaiguanewyork.gov> Cc: Stephen Hedworth <SH@canandaiguanewyork.gov> Subject: Complaint

This email is to notify you that I am looking into the handling of a domestic incident that you were involved with. The nature of the allegation is unsatisfactory performance. Since you have been counseled previously for such, the results of this inquiry may lead to discipline. I will contact you in the near future to set up a time to discuss the incident. Lt

Lt. Scott P. Ferguson Canandaigua Police Department 21 Ontario Street Canandaigua, New York 14424 585-396-5032, fax. 585-396-5034

"This message may contain confidential, sensitive and/or proprietary information and is intended for the person/entity to whom it was originally addressed. Any use by others is strictly prohibited."

## INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Sgt. Mastracy

FROM: Officer Josh Raymond

DATE: 07/19/2019

RE: Domestic/EWOC,

On July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019, at approximately 03:28 pm, I responded with my recruit to **Dispatch** advised that they had received a 911 Call and that all they could ascertain from the emergency call was that a female was in distress.

On this date, my recruit and I were unofficially "out of service" because we had a large workload resulting from several arrests, and involved cases stemming from the days prior. Since we were in close proximity to the location of the distress call, we responded to get an officer on scene quickly.

When we arrived, I observed that the call came in as a result of a physical domestic between **and his girlfriend**, **and his girlfriend**, **and attacked** him over a claim of carrying an infant in his arms. He expressed that **attacked** him over a claim of infidelity. The sector car for that side of the city, P.O. Liberatore showed up, and I went upstairs to interview **attacked** with my recruit. There was an overwhelming odor of freshly burnt marijuana in the apartment.

that the two of them got into an argument that turned physical. Both subjects showed what appeared to be scratches, and redness on theirs bodies. It was ascertained that the young child was in the immediate vicinity of this fight, sitting in a small play-seat in the doorway between the main room, and the kitchen.

During the interview with second she admitted to engaging physically. She also made an allegation that second seco

I came outside and advised Officer Liberatore, who was standing outside. Was them questioned by myself, and my recruit in regards to the knife being thrown. Interaction stated that was the one who threw the knife. Regardless, a knife was thrown during mutual combat in close proximity to an infant. I looked at Liberatore, as it was his sector of the city, and he stated that I needed to tell the that it was a cross complaint, and to be done with it. I could tell that Liberatore was in the mindset that he was not going to entertain any portion of the incident.

I then went upstairs where I explained that if I was the primary officer on the case it would be a dual arrest. Officer Liberatore came up, and began to delegate with the subjects. Since had to work, he was going to have **I** leave for work, and be done with it. At this time, I felt irritated, because to *me*, it was a serious issue in regards to the baby being present.

With the amount of casework needed to be completed with my recruit before he moved on to his next phase of field training, I felt that we could not afford to take on another dual arrest, nor should we have had to in this instance. I am under the belief that the sector car assigned to that side of the city is responsible for investigating an incident and making the proper decisions set forth by the evidence provided. Just because the officer assigned to that sector does not want to take action, it should not fall on the back-up officer to pick up the caseload. I advised my recruit that Liberatore was "all set", and we cleared the scene.

I returned to the station, where I had to explain to my recruit that an arrest should have been made. My recruit was under the impression that it was a mandatory arrest, that the parents should have been charged, and a notify to CPS should have been made. It put me in a very uncomfortable position to have to explain the real reason why an arrest was not made.

Out of frustration with the situation, I vented to Sgt. Mastracy. Sgt. Feldman overheard through the doorway of the Sergeants office, and ordered me to write this memo.

The incident was captured on BWC.

I have nothing further.

Respectfully submitted,

Officer Joshua Raymond #811

!. Raymond #811

C.A.D.	Event Listing For: P191930089	07/23/19	
Event Number: P191930089		Page 1	
Start Dt Time 5 07/12/19 15:24:24 FND: 2 ( C. 1 Taker: CHRISTOPHERME		HR PF 5 ( AM Pos: P20 Weather:	)
Location Town: C CANANDAIGUA		C/A USE OPEF 29 PHERMF	
Caller Information female caller	(How Red	ceived: E911)	
Cause/Extent: FEMALE ON T Suspect Info: female on t	HE CRYING - YELLING SHE CAN'T I he crying -	DO THIS ANYMORE	-1923635
Rpt No Officer I1923635 CATALFAMO, A	District NTH P29 C CANANDAIGUA	Citations	
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( 15:25:25 15:25	:28 15:27:16 15:32:54	Avail Cleared Stat 15:45:10 15:45:10 R 15:45:10 15:45:10 R 15:55:51 15:55:51 AP	
E911 Information: 07/12/2 MOBIL VERIZON Units Dispatched at Alarm 1 805 811 801	+042.880411	-077.268047 0000000	

Run Card: 3 Type:

1. Agency CANANDAIQUA POLICE DEPARTMEN	2. Div/Precinet PATROL	New Yo INCIDENT		5. Case No. 2900 1923635	6. Incident No. 50004
7,8,9. Date Reported (Day, Date, Time) FRIDAY 07/12/2019 15:24	10,11,12. (	FRIDAY 07/12/20		4,15. Occurred To (Day, 1	Date, Time)
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## ASSOCIATED PERSONS

25. TYPE	Name (Last, First, Middle, Title)	DOB	Street Name Bidg, Apt.No., City, State, Zip	Res Phone Bus Phone
VICTIM/COMPLAIN ANT				
SUSPECT		$(\mathbf{m})$		
SUSPECT				
VICTIM				

#### VICTIM

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		21 FEMALE	WHITE	NOT HISPANIC	NO	RESIDENT
Victim DID receive informa	tion on Victim's	Rights and Services pursu	ant to New York	State Law 🖾 Yes	D No	
Náme	27. DOB	28. Age 29. Gender	30, Race	31. Ethnicity	32. Handicap	33. Residence Status
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			57441 604.5			A 144400 1467 1467 7 X

241 St W W 23

## SUSPECT

27065 SUSPECT 37. Apparent Condition 39a. Home Phone 39b. Work P 45. Ethnicity 46. Skin NOT HISPANIC BLA	hone 40. Social Security	38. Address (Street Name. B	lidg., Apt. No., City, State, Zi	9)	
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56. Scars/Marks/Tattoos /Descr	iption				
36. Alias/Nickname/Maiden Nan	iie				
Last Name	First Name	Middle Name			
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Last Name	First Name	Middle Name			

## NARRATIVE

Date of Action	Date Written	Officer Name & Rank		
07/12/2019	07/12/2019	LIBERATORE, ANTHONY (PO)		
Narrative				
he went outside of the stated that	was cheating at which he apartment. When I he wished to go to we	or the physical disturbance. Upon arrival, time he got in her face and pushed her. spoke to stated that ork and did not want to file any criminal char, charges as well. Both parties rufused medica	told officers that she and stated that she then began hitting had scratched him to which he had minor ges against stated al attention. DIR completed. BWC used.	
Closed by prosecuti	on declined.			

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## ADMINISTRATIVE

74. Inquiries	75. NYSPIN Message No.		76, Complainant Signature	
77. Reporting Officer Sig	nature (Include Rank)	78. ID No.	79. Supervisor Signature (Include Rank)	80. ID
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Ch	E-P	801	1- Sor mail	825
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Canandaigua Police Department 21 Ontario Street Canandaigua, New York 14424 (585) 394-3311

## **Patrol Division**

# Memo

To:	Lt. Scott Ferguson
From:	Sgt. Donald J. Feldman
Date:	7/23/2019
Re:	Sgt Mastracy complaint email

#### Lieutenant,

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You asked me to review the email that was sent by Sgt. Mastracy in referice to complain #1923635, a disturbance complaint between and and and and at the second sec

On Friday July 12<sup>th</sup>, I was just turning command over to Sgt Mastracy when I went upstairs and into the sergeant's office. PO Raymond was speaking to Sgt Mastracy in the sergeant's office when I came in. PO Raymond, stated that a knife had been thrown in the area of a baby and PO Liberatore would not do anything about it, he just blew off the complaint. I don't remember anything about the drug paraphernalia that is mentioned in the email as I was focused on the EWOC.

I stood by for several minutes and listened to the rest of what PO Raymond had to say which in sum and substance was that PO Liberatore did not make an arrest on a complaint on his side that clearly needed to have an arrest made. PO Raymond stated that he was tired of carrying the work load for Liberatore and that something needed to be done. I then requested that PO Raymond complete a memo in reference to his complaint about PO Liberatore and submit that memo to Sgt Mastracy as I was going out of service for 9 days. I also directed PO Raymond to have PO Catalfamo complete a memo but I later withdrew that directive as I did not want PO Catalfamo involved at this point. With Catalfamo still in the recruit stage I felt it better that he not complete a statement but be interviewed later by you if needed. I then asked Sgt Mastracy to follow up with the complaint as I had to leave for another engagement and PO Raymond had approached him with the issue.

The case incorporates accusations of physical contact by both parties and both parties admit to their portion of that contact. There were marks visible on and he complained about them at least twice to PO Liberatore. There is an accusation by that that the there is that the refrigerator which bounced off. The knife when it struck caused a dent in the refrigerator. When the knife was thrown and bounced off, the baby was in a walker about 3 feet away and off to one side of the refrigerator, well within the potential injury area to the baby had the knife flown towards it.

was the original caller but she was so upset when she called that dispatch was unable to get a name. Set that she and set that she and got into a fight after set the threw the knife at the refrigerator. She says that they both started yelling and she pushed him first because he could have hurt the baby. Set that states that set the began punching her everywhere and she started to hit him back. Set that when she called 911, set the started yelling in the background that she threw the knife. The knife in question was on the stove top when Catalfamo asked where it was. Stated that had picked it up off the floor after he threw it.

further states that I smashed a bunch of her belongings when the work threw them on the floor. One of the items thrown was the urn that contained **states and the states** mothers remains. Both parties at some point during the officer interviews warned the officers of the glass on the floor so they would not get cut.

Both parties involved are on probation. When officers entered the home, there was a smell of marijuana in the home. Questions were asked about the marijuana and admissions were made that both parties smoked marijuana in the bathroom, allegedly away from the baby. Officers then found packed bowls with marijuana in the bathroom.

Through all of this, I did not even once hear any of our people ask if either of the individuals in the home would complete a supporting deposition statement. Both parties are less than stellar people with a sketchy history of telling the truth but after seeing the video I feel that the female, **statement** is more credible with the knife portion of the incident and **statement** was the primary aggressor. **Statement** showed signs of physical contact in the form of scratches while **statement** did not and she admitted to pushing **statement** first. Again, I believe that was a reaction to **statement** throwing the knife near the baby. An arrest for either an EWOC or harassment would have resulted in the issuance of an order of protection and separated the parties for a period of time.

Officers Raymond and Catalfamo were the first car on scene and Liberatore was just finishing up an impound release, arriving about two minutes into the call. When Catalfamo and Raymond arrive, Catalfamo separated the parties went upstairs with **Catalfamo** and started doing a halfway decent interview while trying to calm **Catalfamo**, while Raymond stayed downstairs where **Catalfamo** was extremely agitated and had the baby in his arms. When Liberatore showed up, Raymond went upstairs with **Catalfamo** and looked around while interjecting questions to **Catalfamo** What he and Catalfamo heard was enough to justify an arrest had a statement been taken. I believe **Catalfamo** would have completed one in this instance.

Liberatore stayed outside with **sectors** when he got on scene and did nothing to find out what was going on. **Sectors** was literally saying small things that would lead any other police officer to ask follow-up questions but Liberatore aske none. He clearly did not participate in police work in any way on this case. There was a brief exchange between Raymond and Liberatore in reference to whose side this complaint was on and Liberatore said it was his side. I would have to relisten to the video but I did not hear Raymond tell Liberatore that he needed to pick up the complaint nor did Raymond explain the incident. Raymond did ask accurate a couple questions in front of Liberatore in reference to who threw the knife to which **stated** that **stated** did.

The issue in question was who should have handled this case? It was Liberatore's side as Raymond and Catalfamo had been assigned to back up and told to complete their backlog of paperwork. However, Raymond and Catalfamo were the first car on scene and had most of the details before Liberatore arrived and while they did make a small effort to brief Liberatore about the case so he could start his own interview or arrest process, that effort was not significant. In the end, we have two officers and a cop in field training that failed to perform their duty and enforce the law in any way. According to the job card, this case was closed with a 31 by Liberatore but Liberatore then completed an SJS and domestic incident report so he knew he was responsible for the job and thought he better cover his back after words. That to me speaks volumes in itself. After looking at the DIR, Liberatore noted that arrest was declined but in fact it was never offered and a family offense harassment could have been completed without cooperation based on the statements made and the injuries to the DIR indicates that the DIR was completed on scene which also just is not true. My recommendation is that both officers receive disciplinary or corrective action in reference to this case.

## **Scott Ferguson**

From:	Anthony R. Liberatore
Sent:	Friday, August 23, 2019 1:08 PM
То:	Scott Ferguson
Subject:	RE: Complaint

No problem. I'll be there with representation at 1400.

Thank you.

From: Scott Ferguson <spf@canandaiguanewyork.gov> Sent: Thursday, August 22, 2019 2:11 PM To: Anthony R. Liberatore <Anthony.Liberatore@canandaiguanewyork.gov> Subject: Complaint

Tony,

I would like to meet with you regarding the previously referenced complaint regarding CR#1923635. I would like to meet August 26<sup>th</sup> at 1400hrs. It is your choice if you would like union representation. Lt

Lt. Scott P. Ferguson Canandaigua Police Department 21 Ontario Street Canandaigua, New York 14424 585-396-5032, fax. 585-396-5034

"This message may contain confidential, sensitive and/or proprietary information and is intended for the person/entity to whom it was originally addressed. Any use by others is strictly prohibited."

## General Order #335

## ADMINISTRATIVE WARNINGS

I wish to advise you that you are being questioned as part of an official investigation of the Canandaigua Police Department. You will be asked questions specifically directed and narrowly related to the performance of your official duties or fitness for office.

You are entitled to all the rights and privileges guaranteed by the laws and the Constitution of this state and the Constitution of the United States, including the right not to be compelled to incriminate yourself.

However, I further wish to advise you that if you refuse to testify or to answer questions relating to the performance of your official duties or fitness for duty, you will be subject to departmental charges that may result in your dismissal from the Department. If you do answer, neither your statements nor <u>any</u> information or evidence, which is gained by reason of such statements, can be used against you in any subsequent criminal proceeding. However, these statements may be used against you in relation to subsequent departmental charges.

Any member being questioned in respect to possible disciplinary charges shall have the right to representation by the PBA President or his designee before making any written statement. The members shall be allowed reasonable time to procure such representation.

OFFICER'S SIGNATURE DATE TIME:

## Canandaigua PD

# Memo

To:	Lieutenant	Scott	Fergusor
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From: Sergeant P.J Mastracy

Date: 8/27/2019

Re: Memo regarding Officer Raymond and Officer Liberatore

Lieutenant Ferguson,

As you have been previously aware, Officer Raymond was instructed to provide me a memo regarding statements he made about Officer Liberatore. It became obvious to me that Officer Raymond was very reluctant in providing written documentation of his verbal statements about Officer Liberatore and a call for service at

There came a time that I spoke with Sergeant Feldman, in private, and we discussed how difficult it is for a member to provide a memo regarding conduct of another Officer of the same rank but as a Sergeant, it is something that comes with the job. Sergeant Feldman and I made mention that it was known Officer Raymond had desires to advance his career and that he would need to come to terms with having to do difficult tasks at times because sometimes Sergeants have to set personal feelings/friendships aside to get the job done.

While speaking with Officer Raymond on a separate occasion, I informed him that Sergeant Feldman and I discussed we knew he desired to advance his career and I suggested he get used to making difficult decisions and completing difficult tasks. I advised him that he was in the "top three" and even though he desired not to complete a written statement, he could look at this as preparing himself for the position of Sergeant by showing he can overcome personal feelings.

A couple days before Officer Raymond provided me with a written memo, while speaking with Sergeant Lawrence, he informed me that Officer Raymond had reached out to him and apparently Officer Raymond was under the impression that if he didn't complete a memo then it would put his chances at Sergeant in jeopardy. I assured Sergeant Lawrence that nothing was mentioned to that effect.

After speaking with Sergeant Lawrence, I immediately called Officer Raymond and spoke to him. I informed him that him completing the memo about Officer Liberatore affects him in no way regarding any possibility of promotion. I informed him that I never stated it would affect him and then I informed him again that him completing the memo about Officer Liberatore has no effect on promotion. I then instructed him to provide the memo to me by my next scheduled day and that he didn't have a choice. He stated he understood and the phone call was ended.

On my next scheduled day, I received a memo from Officer Raymond and in the beginning, he stated something similar to that he was completing the memo under threat of being denied career advancement. I asked him who threated him and he stated I did. I informed him that I never threatened him and in fact told him the exact opposite. Officer Raymond replied, "Okay.", and I instructed him to take out the part of threat of career advancement because it was untrue. I advised him that he could leave in the part that he was being instructed to complete the memo against his will if he desired. Officer Raymond then completed an edited memo, submitted same to me, and I turned it over to you via department mail.

I assure you that I did not threaten Officer Raymond in any way. If his perception was that he was threatened, it was in no way intentional on my part. My comments to him about difficult decisions as a Sergeant were meant to shed light on how difficult this position can be at times and to help him understand that he may have to go against personal feelings and put friendships aside in order to fulfill the position of Sergeant property. I understand he has a

viable chance of being promoted and my comments to him were to help prepare him in the event he was promoted in addition to help him fully grasp how much different the position of Sergeant is compared to Patrolman.

Respectfully submitted,

Sergeant P.J. Mastracy

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In the Matter of a Disciplinary Proceeding Pursuant to Section 75 of the Civil Service Law

CITY OF CANADAIGUA

## STIPULATION AGREEMENT

-against-

Anthony Liberatore, (Employee)

WHEREAS, I, the undersigned employee, have agreed to the results of the internal affairs investigation #004-2019.

WHEREAS, I have been informed that the City has the right to initiate Disciplinary Action against me under Section 75 of the Civil Service Laws of New York, wherein I would have the right to a hearing at which the City must prove any charges and I would be given an opportunity to be heard at the hearing and present evidence or witnesses on my behalf; and

WHEREAS, in lieu of a Disciplinary Action and hearing I am desirous of making an agreement with the City relative to my actions and violations of the General Orders listed in this agreement.

NOW THEREFORE, it is stipulated by and between the parties as follows:

Employee acknowledges they failed to thoroughly investigate a Domestic Incident that occurred at **Construction** on July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at approximately 1524 hrs. Employee acknowledges they failed to take appropriate police action and also acknowledges that the reports which were completed in regards to this incident were inaccurate, insufficient and incomplete. Employee acknowledges violating the following General Orders of the Canandaigua Police Department during the investigation into this incident;

## **General Orders 105 Rules and Regulations**

#### VI. Unsatisfactory Performance (1 count)

- A. Members shall maintain sufficient competency to properly perform and discharge their duties and assume the responsibilities that accompany their position of rank. They shall perform their duties in a manner, which will maintain the highest standards of efficiency in carrying out the functions and objectives of this Department.
- B. Unsatisfactory performance may be demonstrated by:
  - 1. Lack of knowledge of the application of laws required to be enforced
  - 2. Unwillingness or inability to perform assigned tasks
  - 3. Failure to conform to work standards set forth in this manual (General Order Manual).
  - 4. Failure to take appropriate action on the occasion of any incident or condition brought to the attention of the member.
- C. In addition to other indications of unsatisfactory performance, written records of repeated infractions of Departmental rules, regulations, directives or orders will be considered prima-facie evidence of unsatisfactory performance. Employee has two prior counseling memos for similar violations within the previous 18 months.

#### **II.** Departmental Reports (1 count):

A. No members or staff shall knowingly enter or cause to be entered any false, inaccurate or improper information on any document filed in the performance of their duties.

WHEREAS, Employee hereby waives any rights and entitlements he has pursuant to

current labor agreement, Section 75 of the Civil Service Law or article 78 of the CPL, and accepts

the within discipline in satisfaction of potential disciplinary action and hearing for incompetence

and/or misconduct.

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WHEREAS, the disciplinary action shall consist of;

• Written Reprimand entered into Personnel File

- Re-medial training on the proper handling of Domestic Incidents and completion of Domestic Incident Reports
- Loss of 2 Vacation Days
- The decision and penalty of the Chief of Police shall be final and binding, and shall not be subject to challenge or appeal under the collective bargaining agreement, the Rules and Procedures of the City of Canandaigua Police Department, or Civil Service Law Section 75, or any other law, rule, regulation, or theory.
- By agreeing to the terms of this settlement offer you knowingly and voluntarily waive your right to any of the above procedures.

4. Employee knowingly, freely, and voluntarily enters into this Stipulation Agreement. At the time that Employee entered into this Agreement he was not intoxicated or otherwise impaired. Employee consents and agrees to be bound by its terms and conditions and understands the contents thereof. Employee further understands that he is entitled to be represented by an attorney and hereby waives any such representation.

Dated:

Anthony Liberatore Employee

Union Representative (Optional)

Stephen A. Hedworth Chief of Police

Dated: 9/16/15

I do not accept the above and wish to proceed at a Section 75 hearing. I am fully aware that if I choose this hearing, disciplinary action is at the discretion of the hearing officer.

Anthony Liberatore	
Employee	Dated
Union Representative	Dated
(Optional)	
Stephen A. Hedworth	Dated
Chief of Police	

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# INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM TO: OFFICER ANTHONY LIBERATORE FROM: CHIEF STEPHEN HEDWORTH SUBJECT: WRITTEN REPRIMAND FOR INTERNAL INVESTIGATION 004-2019 DATE: SEPTEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup>, 2109

Officer Liberatore,

This memo serves as a **written reprimand** that is being placed into your personnel file, and is the result of internal affairs investigation 004-2019. It also serves as written documentation for our conversation regarding, which took place in my office on August September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

The internal investigation involved your failure to take proper actions and investigative steps surrounding a Domestic Incident, which occurred on July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The internal investigation also involved the inaccurate and incomplete reports that were filed by you, as part of the investigation.

The findings of the investigation determined that that you failed to properly investigate the incident and failed to take appropriate police action as required by General Order 105 and General Order 630. The domestic incident involved allegations of Domestic Violence on behalf of both involved parties, as well as clear evidence of open drug use within the residence. In addition, an infant child was present during the time of the incident and the well-being of the child was clearly endangered by the actions of the involved parties.

There was no formal police action taken on your part. The most severe violations of policy and oversight are outlined below;

- A proper interview of the victim/complainant was never completed by you, however the Domestic Incident Report you completed clearly contradicts the events described by the victim. The information required to properly and accurately complete the report could only be obtained if the victim was properly interviewed on scene.
- A domestic incident report was never completed on scene and left with the victim as required, even though the DIR report indicates otherwise.

DORIGINAL

- The victim was never given information about victim assistance, domestic violence services, family court options or order of protection options.
- The child involved is not listed anywhere on the Domestic Incident Report.
- The fact that a knife was allegedly thrown in the vicinity where the child was seated is not documented anywhere in the Domestic Incident Report. Further investigation in regards to charges for endangering the welfare of a child never occurred.
- There was clear evidence and admissions of illegal drug use in the home which was never documented.
- A referral to Child Protective Services was never made even though there was ample evidence to indicate the welfare of the child was endangered
- Both parties involved were under the supervision of Probation and no notification was made to Probation as required.

The allegation that you violated General Order 105 and General Order 630 in your handling of this incident have been sustained. This written reprimand will be entered into your personnel file and you will receive remedial training with Sergeant Allen in regards to the proper investigation and handling of Domestic Violence related calls. Your failure to properly investigate and document incidents in the future could subject you to further discipline.

CC: personnel file of Officer Liberatore

9/120/19 9/120/19