



CITY OF ATLANTA

Kasim Reed
Mayor

226 Peachtree Street, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
(404) 546-6900

Atlanta Police Department
George N. Turner
Chief of Police

October 3, 2011

Ms. Joy Morrissey, Board Chair
Atlanta Citizen Review Board
City Hall Tower, Suite 9100
55 Trinity Avenue, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

RE: Complaint #10-51/Bluette Hector

Dear Ms. Morrissey:

I am in receipt of the Atlanta Citizen Review Board's letter dated February 14, 2011, recommending that the allegation Officer Brian Thomas used excessive force when he arrested Bluette Hector on July 2, 2010 be Sustained.

On March 4, 2011, the Atlanta Police Department forwarded a response letter indicating the Office of Professional Standards (OPS) had not concluded its investigation into the allegation surrounding the incident at Stanford Village and therefore, I had to Reject your recommendation. The OPS investigation has since been concluded, and based upon the evidence contained therein; the decision was made to Sustain the charge of Appropriate Action Required against Officer Thomas. The evidence showed that Officer Thomas failed to interview all witnesses to the alleged incident prior to making a final determination to make the arrest and to properly notify his supervisor when Ms. Hector made a request for one to respond to the scene. Furthermore, the decision was made to Not Sustain the allegation of Maltreatment or Unnecessary Force against the officer. The evidence showed that Officer Thomas used what force was necessary to make the arrest.

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Before the conclusion of this investigation, Officer Brian Thomas was separated from the Atlanta Police Department and the final disposition of the allegations was Exceptionally Closed.

Having assessed the findings of both the Atlanta Citizen Review Board and the Department's investigative summaries, I reject, with modifications, the findings of the Atlanta Citizen Review Board on the allegation of excessive force.

Major E. B. Dancy, Commander of the Office of Professional Standards, can be contacted at (404) 658-7028, if you have any further concerns regarding this complaint.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "George N. Turner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

George N. Turner
Chief of Police