



# 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

June 12, 2012

Mr. Paul Bartels, Board Chair  
Atlanta Citizen Review Board  
City Hall Tower, Suite 9100  
55 Trinity Avenue, SW  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

RE: ACRB #11-53/Ezoeke Parks

Dear Mr. Bartels:

I am in receipt of the Atlanta Citizen Review Board's letter, dated May 14, 2012, recommending that the allegations of excessive force against Officer Jose Vidal and Officer Narottam Holden, contained in the above referenced complaint, be Sustained<sup>1</sup>; and that an allegation of abusive language be Sustained against Officer Vidal and Not Sustained against Officer Holden.

The Atlanta Police Department's Office of Professional Standards (OPS) conducted an investigation into the allegations surrounding the August 23, 2011 incident, and as a result Atlanta Police Department (APD) Employee Work Rule 4.2.50 (Maltreatment or Unnecessary Force) was Not Sustained against Officer Vidal and Officer Holden. There was insufficient evidence contained in the investigation to conclude that the officers used unreasonable or unnecessary force during the arrest of Ms. Parks. Additionally, APD Employee Work Rule 4.1.01 (Appropriate Action Required) was Not Sustained against Officer Vidal. The investigation concluded that his pulling of Ms. Parks' hair as a method to ensure that she was handcuffed was reasonable based upon the totality of the circumstances. Work Rule 4.2.02 (Courtesy) was also Not Sustained against Officer Holden. Officer Holden's statement to OPS contradicted the allegation that he used profane language during the incident, and no independent witnesses either corroborated the allegation or the statement of Officer Holden.

Having assessed the findings of both the Atlanta Citizen Review Board and the Department's internal investigation, I reject the findings of the Atlanta Citizen Review Board in regards to the excessive force allegations against Officers Vidal and Holden; and the Board's finding that Officer Vidal used discourteous language during the incident.

---

<sup>1</sup> Officer Narottam Holden resigned from the Atlanta Police Department on September 21, 2011.

Mr. Paul Bartels, Board Chair  
ACRB #11-53/Ezoeke Parks  
June 12, 2012  
Page 2

However, I do accept the Board's finding that the allegation of the use of discourteous language be Not Sustained against Officer Holden.

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,



George N. Turner  
Chief of Police

cc: Sharese Shields  
Interim Director, ACRB