



July 8, 2015

ACRB Members

William Harrison
Chairperson
Bill Bozarth
Vice Chairperson
Paul Bartels
Secretary

Chief George Turner
City of Atlanta Police Department
226 Peachtree Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Alan Morris
Ruth Price
Gerald Souder
Sherry Williams

RE: Complaint of Erica Tucker, ACRB File
#14-018 & Brandon Parrott, ACRB File #14-032

Samuel Lee Reid II
Executive Director

Dear Chief Turner:

Mayor of Atlanta
Kasim Reed

Please be advised that the Atlanta Citizen Review Board (ACRB) has concluded its investigation and adjudication of the complaint filed by Ms. Erica Tucker & Brandon Parrott alleging that on February 7, 2014, Atlanta Police Officer Denis Joseph (Unique ID #5031) committed the following acts of misconduct: (1) falsely arrested Ms. Tucker, (2) slammed Ms. Tucker's head into a brick wall, (3) pointed his firearm at Mr. Parrott and (4) engaged in abusive language at them. Mr. Parrott further alleged that the handcuffs were applied extremely tight.

Atlanta City Council

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The Board determined the following:

- The **false arrest** allegation assigned a finding of **Sustained** and recommend that Officer Joseph received a five (5) day suspension and psychological counseling.
- The **excessive force** allegation as it relates only to Ms. Tucker's allegation that Officer Joseph slammed her head into a wall be assigned a finding of **Sustained** and recommend that he received a five (5) day suspension and psychological counseling. However, as it relates to the other excessive force allegations raised (*the tight handcuffs and the pointing of the firearm*) the Board assigned a finding of **Not Sustained**.
- The **abusive language** allegation assigned a finding of **Not Sustained**.

The Board further recommends that APD does the following:

1. Any incident that results in the arrest of a citizen, APD should always ensure that the dash cam footage be downloaded and saved;
2. Look into the issue of what took place at the location (999 Dill Avenue) prior to the issuance and execution of the search warrant. Specifically, the allegations that officers went into Mr. Parrott's vehicle and appeared to have taken something out of it (*an allegation that was caught on tape*);
3. The incident report indicates that a small plastic bag containing one (1) gram of marijuana was recovered from the passenger side door handle of Mr. Parrott's vehicle. However, this item is not listed in the property report and APD's Property Unit has no record of it. APD needs to investigate this matter further to determine what happened to it or if it existed at all;

Chief George Turner

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July 8, 2015

Page 2

4. The Use of Force Report was not prepared until eight (8) months after the incident and only after ACRB's inquiry of its existence which is in violation of APD's policies. Therefore, it is recommended that APD look further into this issue and takes appropriate action that is in accordance with APD's disciplinary matrix; and
5. It is further recommended, to lessen response-errors, such as responding to the wrong location that Sergeant Joseph be counseled on the importance of paying attention to details when given an assignment.

The file is available for review upon request. The ordinance requires that the Chief respond in writing regarding which recommendations are accepted, rejected, or will be implemented with modifications within thirty (30) days of the submission of a recommendation for action by the Board to the Chief (*see Sec. 2-2211(O) of the Ordinance 07-0-0141*).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William Harrison", written in a cursive style.

William Harrison
Board Chair

cc: Mayor Kasim Reed
Council President Ceasar Mitchell
Atlanta City Council Members
ACRB Members
Executive Director Lee Reid