

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

TO: Chief John Mackey

FROM: Officer Chad Slaven, Edgewater Police Department

REFERENCE: Formal Complaint

As a sworn Police Officer for the City of Edgewater, I, Chad Slaven, hereby affirm that the following statement is a true and accurate recollection of an incident that occurred on 03-01-2021 at 1800 Harlan St.

On 03-01-2021 at approximately 2030 hours, I was called in to the Sergeant's office at the Edgewater Police Department, by Sergeant Geerdes, whom had recently resigned his employment at the Edgewater Police Department after the completion of an internal investigation. Prior to entering the Sergeant's office, Sergeant Geerdes handed a stack of paperwork to Officer Perez and instructed him to read it. Sergeant Geerdes then told Officer Perez, "Be careful who you trust."

Once I entered the office, I was instructed to have a seat on the metal chair near the door. Sergeant Geerdes was sitting at the desk, Sergeant Palmer was sitting on the couch, Corporal Young stood at the door way with his arms crossed, and Officer Perez, a junior officer to me, was sitting at the single desk near the CAD with in ear shot of the Sergeant's office. The door to the Sergeant's office remained open.

Sergeant Geerdes proceeded to say to me, "Chad what the fuck did I ever do to you? I've fucking bent over backwards for you. And you are going to fuck me over like this!" Sergeant Geerdes appeared to be very upset and was speaking in a higher volume. Sergeant Geerdes proceeded to accuse me of single handedly ruining his career, his marriage, and his livelihood. Sergeant Geerdes accused me of ratting him out and falsifying information during his investigation. Sergeant Geerdes stated I testified in the investigation that I overheard him talking on the phone with Officer Rees, who was the victim listed in his investigation. I informed Sergeant Geerdes that I did not know what he was talking about, and I never said anything of that sort. Sergeant Geerdes replied, "Cut your shit! I already know about all of it." I again informed Sergeant Geerdes I was unaware of what he was talking about. I clarified with Sergeant Geerdes that my only involvement with his investigation was I provided information about how Sergeant Geerdes and Sergeant Palmer had approached me in the past about signing a letter that was described to me as a letter of no faith for Sergeant Forsythe and Corporal Brink. I refused to sign the letter, which had not yet been physically drafted by this point. I also refused to take sides in this matter. This letter and the effects it caused has been fully addressed in the prior investigation. Sergeant Geerdes refused to believe me and continued to accuse me of being untrustworthy. Sergeant Geerdes continued to belittle me with his accusations of me.

Sergeant Geerdes stated the law enforcement community is a small community and he knows people at almost every agency. Sergeant Geerdes stated he was going to ruin my law enforcement career, and that he could "Destroy" me with one phone call. Sergeant Geerdes also stated, "I'm going to sue the City, the police department, YOU, and everyone else involved in fucking me over."

The entire time Sergeant Geerdes was scolding me, Sergeant Palmer was nodding his head in agreement with Sergeant Geerdes. This entire incident lasted approximately twenty minutes, where Sergeant

Geerdes accused me of being worthless, a liar, a rat, and I'm not to be trusted. At no point in time did Sergeant Palmer or Corporal Young interject, or attempt to stop Sergeant Geerdes.

On 03-02-2021 Corporal Young pulled me into his office and apologized to me for the incident that occurred the night before. Corporal Young informed me Sergeant Geerdes asked him to stay while he talked to me. Corporal Young stated he was unaware of what Sergeant Geerdes was going to talk to me about. Corporal Young also apologized to me for the way Sergeant Geerdes belittled me, and talked down to me in such an unprofessional manor especially in the presence of a junior officer.

On 03-02-2021, I informed Commander Hamilton of this incident. Commander Hamilton stated this will be investigated along with other complaints. Commander Hamilton stated, "Your name came up a lot in the last investigation, that's probably why he's so mad at you." Commander Hamilton stated that Sergeant Geerdes will not be coming around anymore, but if he does I don't have to be around him.

In conclusion, during this incident I felt personally attacked by Sergeant Geerdes, as well as Sergeant Palmer for allowing this to happen. Sergeant Palmer is currently my direct Sergeant and supervisor. At this point I do not feel safe coming to work, because I do not know who within the police department I can trust. Sergeant Geerdes still has multiple close friends within the police department, especially in a leadership position, who could believe that I am untrustworthy and could retaliate effecting my career. Law enforcement is a very dangerous career as it is, and officers should know and be able to trust their fellow officers to keep them safe. At this point I do not feel this way.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chad Slaven", with the number "1604" written to the right of the signature.

Chad Slaven

Police Officer

Edgewater Police Department

cslaven@edgewaterpd.com

303-241-1135