



WESTMINSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT INTERNAL AFFAIRS INVESTIGATION SUMMARY REPORT

Case Number: CR#2017-19912
Complainant: Dominic Casement
Subject Officer(s): Officer Roger Stockman
Investigator: Sergeant M.J. Trenka

INCIDENT

On 11/11/2017 at approximately 2300 hours, Officer [REDACTED] [REDACTED] observed a vehicle run two red lights southbound on Sheridan Blvd from 120th Avenue. Officer [REDACTED] proceeded south on Sheridan. Officer [REDACTED] located the vehicle abandoned in the roadway in the 10800 block Sheridan Avenue.

Officer Roger Stockman (who was off duty and in his personal vehicle) observed the same vehicle that Officer [REDACTED] saw run the red light at 112th and Sheridan. Officer Stockman did not see any police vehicles following the vehicle, but believed the vehicle may have been fleeing from other officers. Officer Stockman observed the vehicle he saw run the red light now abandoned in the roadway on Sheridan, describing it to be in the area of 10900 block of Sheridan. Officer Stockman pulled up to where the vehicle was abandoned to check on the occupants of the vehicle. Officer [REDACTED] pulled up on scene soon thereafter. Officer Stockman informed Officer [REDACTED] of what he saw to include the description of the suspects and their direction of travel. The information was aired to other officers, who began setting up a perimeter. Officer [REDACTED] was able to determine the vehicle had been a reported stolen.

As Officer Stockman was leaving the area, he observed Officer [REDACTED] [REDACTED] about to contact a male party in the area of the 10900 block of Yates Drive. The male was dressed in similar clothing to that of one of the suspects who ran from the stolen vehicle abandoned on Sheridan. Officer Stockman decided to assist Officer [REDACTED] in contacting

the male as well as let Officer [REDACTED] know the person he was contacting appeared to be one of the males who ran from the stolen vehicle.

The male was taken into custody by Officer [REDACTED] and Officer Stockman. The suspect was later identified as Dominic Casement.

The suspect was taken to the hospital after being placed into custody. Officer [REDACTED] responded to the hospital to speak with the suspect. Officer [REDACTED] then responded to the Police Department to meet with Officers.

While at the Police Department, Officer [REDACTED] met with Sergeant [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and informed Sergeant [REDACTED] that he (Officer [REDACTED]) felt Officer Stockman used excessive force on the suspect when they made the arrest of the suspect.

The information as to the excessive force used by Officer Stockman was relayed to Sergeant [REDACTED] Supervisors.

Due to the nature of the allegations, the incident was referred to the Thornton Police Department for a criminal investigation. The criminal investigation resulted in Officer Stockman being charged. Officer Stockman retired from the Westminster Police Department on January 1, 2018.

COMPLAINT

On 11/10/19, Dominic Casement filed suit against the Westminster Police Department. The complaint filed on Mr. Casement's behalf alleges that Officer Stockman struck Mr. Casement with a pistol across the back of Mr. Casement's head and across Mr. Casement's chin, causing severe bleeding in both places. The complaint also alleges that Officer Stockman kicked Mr. Casement in the face, fracturing Mr. Casement's jaw.

INVESTIGATION

On 11/28/2017 Westminster Police Department asked Thornton Police to complete a criminal investigation reference this case, which resulted in several criminal charges filed with the Adams County District Attorney's Office. The charges filed were:

CRS 18-3-203	Second Degree Assault – Agg – Non Family - Weapon
CRS 18-3-203	Second Degree Assault – Agg – Non family – Strong Arm
CRS 18-8-404	First Degree Official Misconduct
CRS 18-8-803	Use of Excessive Force

COMPLAINANT STATEMENT

In a recorded statement to Thornton Police Department Detectives, Mr. Casement told Detectives he was afraid of retaliation if he came back to the police department. Mr. Casement told Thornton Detectives that Westminster Police Officers “kicked his ass”, specifically stating that he was on ground and did what he was told to do by Officers (on the night in question). While on the ground, Mr. Casement again said Officers “kicked his ass” specifically telling detectives they (officers) hit him in the back of the head and broke his jaw. This was according to the Thornton Police Department police report.

WITNESS STATEMENTS

N/A

WITNESS OFFICER STATEMENTS

Other than Officer [REDACTED] and Officer Stockman, no other Officers witnessed the physical arrest of Mr. Casement. Officer [REDACTED] is the first Officer to respond once Mr. Casement is taken into custody, but reports he did not witness the arrest of Mr. Casement, nor did he see any of the force used against Mr. Casement.

MEDICAL RECORDS

Thornton Police Department requested the Medical Records from Mr. Casement but were unable to obtain them for their investigation

EVIDENCE

Photographs taken of Mr. Casement on the night he was arrested were obtained documenting Mr. Casement’s injuries.

SUBJECT OFFICER STATEMENTS

Officer [REDACTED] [REDACTED] reported that he ordered the male (Mr. Casement) to lay on the ground and place his hands behind his back, which he did. Officer [REDACTED] took control of Mr. Casement’s arms, Mr. Casement rolled onto his stomach and pulled his hands away from Officer [REDACTED] grip. Officer Stockman approached and used his knee to apply pressure to Mr. Casements back and left arm. Officer Stockman then struck Mr. Casement in the back of the head 2-3 times with his handgun. Officer [REDACTED] regained control of Mr. Casement’s wrists and handcuffed him. Officer Stockman then stood up and kicked Mr. Casement on the left side of his face.

Officer Stockman reported he held Mr. Casement at gunpoint as Officer [REDACTED] was giving him verbal commands. Officer Stockman indicated Mr. Casement pulled away from Officer [REDACTED]. Officer Stockman, not knowing if the male was armed, decided to force Mr. Casement to the ground by his head, at which time Officer Stockman believes Mr. Casement's head strikes the pavement. Officer Stockman believed Mr. Casement was pulling his hands away from Officer [REDACTED] and move his head up, so he struck Mr. Casement in the face with a "knee strike". Officer Stockman believes Mr. Casement was still fighting against the Officers efforts to place him into custody and is also unable to re-holster his weapon so Officer Stockman uses his handgun as a stun devise and delivered several strikes to Mr. Casement's head.

CONCLUSION

Officer Roger Stockman was ultimately charged criminally and officially resigned from the Westminster Police Department.