

# Delaware Criminal Justice Council

## 11 Del. C. §9210 Authorized Disclosures

### Agency Information

Law Enforcement Agency: Delaware River and Bay Authority Police Department

Date of Incidents: Friday, December 22, 2023, and Saturday, December 23, 2023

### Incident Details

Law Enforcement Officer has discharged a firearm at a person.  Yes |  No

Law Enforcement Officer's use of force that results in serious physical injury.  Yes |  No

An investigation that results in a sustained finding that a Law Enforcement Officer engaged in a sexual assault or sexual harassment. For purposes of this paragraph, "sexual assault" means the commission or attempted initiation of a sexual act by means of force, threat, coercion, extortion, or offer or implication of leniency or official favor, under the color of authority. Propositioning sex or commission of a sexual act while an officer is on duty is deemed a "sexual assault."  Yes |  No

An investigation that results in a sustained finding that a Law Enforcement Officer engaged in dishonest conduct. This includes, but is not limited to sustained findings of perjury, false statements, filing false reports, witness tampering, and destruction, falsification, or concealment of evidence.  Yes |  No

A sustained finding of domestic violence by a Law Enforcement Officer.  Yes |  No

### Detailed Narrative

Please include a detailed narrative of the incident. A "detailed narrative" means a complete description of the facts, steps taken to further an investigation, evidence collected, conclusions reached, the names of officers involved for whom misconduct was substantiated, any discipline assigned in connection with the event, and the employment status of disciplined officers. 11 Del. C. § 9200(b)(1).

The detailed narrative may not reveal the name or any personal identifying information of a victim or witness. In a domestic violence case where revealing the name of the officer would also allow identification of the victim, the officer's name may be redacted.

The Criminal Justice Council shall post the narratives they receive under this paragraph on their website within 30 calendar days of receipt.

I. Complete Description of the Facts:

On Friday, 12/22/23, at approximately 1948 hours, the officer responded to his residence in north Wilmington, DE., which is outside of the Delaware River and Bay Authority Police Department jurisdictional patrol area, in his assigned departmental vehicle (814), while on duty, without authorization from his on-duty supervisor, when the CAD system showed him out on a security check at ILG (New Castle Airport) at approximately 1949 hours, which he reported to the departmental dispatcher, and the Patrol Explorer GPS Report reflected that he was never on site.

On Saturday, 12/23/23, at approximately 2025 hours, the officer responded to his residence in north Wilmington, DE., which is outside of the Delaware River and Bay Authority Police Department jurisdictional patrol area, in his assigned departmental vehicle (814), while on duty, without authorization from his on-duty supervisor, and then responded from that location to a disabled vehicle on the Delaware Memorial Bridge at a very high rate of speed (between approximately 93 to 109 mph) arriving at approximately 2055 hours, approximately 15 minutes after being dispatched.

II. Investigatory Steps:

Received notification and documentation from LTC / Deputy Police Administrator for internal investigation.  
Reviewed preliminary information and opened an internal investigation.  
Informed Colonel / Police Administrator of internal investigation.  
Informed officer and FOP (CBA Requirements) of internal investigation.  
Collected additional documents, audio transmissions, GPS tracking records, computer entries and reports.  
Conducted witness interviews with supervisors, OICs, patrol officers and dispatchers.  
Interviewed the involved officer.  
Reviewed all evidence and concluded investigation portion of the case.  
Prepared and issued charging forms to the involved officer.  
The involved officer pleaded to the below described sustained violations.  
Investigation closed.

III. Evidence Collected:

Fact-finding emails exchanged between Operations Lieutenant and Deputy Police Administrator.  
Officer Activity Reports from Communications Center computer system.  
Cleared Call Search Results Reports from Communications Center computer system.  
Verizon Connect Reveal Detailed Reports for DMBV814POL – Explorer (GPS & Speeds)  
Call For Service Detail Reports from Communications Center computer system.  
DRBAPD Troop 1 Shift Reports and Assignments from Communications Center computer system.  
DRBAPD audio radio transmissions between involved officers and dispatchers.  
Digital recordings of all witness and officer interviews.  
Transcripts of all digital recorded witness and officer interviews.

IV. Conclusions Reached:

DRBAPD Rules & Regulations Manual, 4 - Conduct (on 12/22/23) – Sustained  
DRBAPD Rules & Regulations Manual, 5 - Neglect (on 12/22/23) – Sustained  
DRBAPD Rules & Regulations Manual, 14 - Knowingly Make a False Statement (on 12/22/23) – Sustained  
DRBAPD Rules & Regulations Manual, 22 - Operation of Departmental Vehicle (on 12/22/23) – Sustained  
DRBAPD Rules & Regulations Manual, 27, A & B - Assigned to Patrol or Post (on 12/22/23) – Sustained  
DRBAPD Rules & Regulations Manual, 4 - Conduct (on 12/23/23) – Sustained  
DRBAPD Rules & Regulations Manual, 5 - Neglect (on 12/23/23) – Sustained  
DRBAPD Rules & Regulations Manual, 22 - Operation of Departmental Vehicle (on 12/23/23) – Sustained

DRBAPD Rules & Regulations Manual, 27, A & B - Assigned to Patrol or Post (on 12/23/23) – Sustained

V. The names of officers involved for whom misconduct was substantiated:

M/Cpl. Christopher Schemm, 1121

VI. Any Discipline Assigned in Connection with the Incident:

Recommended 40-hour suspension prior to investigation conclusion.

\*Officer retired on May 1, 2024, and the recommended 40-hour suspension could not be imposed.

VII. The Employment Status of Disciplined Officers:

Active officer when investigation opened.

Retired officer when case concluded.