

Delaware Criminal Justice Council

11 Del. C. §9210 Authorized Disclosures

Agency Information

Law Enforcement Agency: NEW CASTLE COUNTY POLICE

Date of Incident: April 4, 2024

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 April 4, 2024, at approximately 0231 NCCPD Officers responded to the area of Cynwyd Club Drive, Wilmington, DE 19808 for an unknown emergency. Officers were updated by RECOM with information from a 3rd party that reported a female had been dragged toward an apartment in the area. OFC Cronin responded to the scene when the original responding officers reported being engaged in a foot pursuit with a suspect. OFC Cronin located the suspect that was being pursued and attempted to place him into custody. During the attempted arrest, the suspect was non-compliant, prompting Officer Cronin to discharge his taser as the suspect attempted to steal Officer Cronin's fully marked patrol vehicle. The taser was ineffective and OFC Cronin discharged his firearm at the suspect as the suspect stole his patrol vehicle and drove away. An extended pursuit took place, and the suspect was eventually taken into custody. The suspect received non-life-threatening injuries to their right hand and abdomen.

II. Investigatory Steps:

NCCPD's Criminal Investigations Unit and Professional Standards Unit conducted separate investigations into the actions of OFC Cronin. A thorough review of the evidence on scene, as well interviews of witness officers, the suspect, and OFC Cronin were conducted to determine if any established laws or policies were violated.

III. Evidence Collected:

- Firearm cartridge casings on scene
- OFC Cronin's firearm
- Firearm Examiner Report
- Taser 10 report and ballistics on scene
- Ballistic evidence collected and documented from OFC's vehicle
- Suspect's medical records
- Suspect's interview
- OFC Cronin's interview
- OFC Cronin's body-worn camera footage and all witness officer's body-worn camera footage
- Nearby liquor store video surveillance

IV. Conclusions Reached:

NCCPD's Criminal Investigations Unit and Professional Standards Unit conducted separate investigations into the actions of OFC Cronin. A thorough review of the evidence revealed that OFC Cronin did not violate any established laws or internal policies.

OFC Cronin was cleared for full duty on September 10, 2024.

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

N/A

VI. Any Discipline Assigned in Connection with the Incident:

N/A

VII. The Employment Status of Disciplined Officers:

N/A