



**Central Falls Police Department  
Investigative Report**

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09/23/2020

Case #: 16-9-IA

Date/Time Reported: 09/06/2016 @ 0900  
Report Date/Time: 09/07/2016 @ 1042

Complaint Type: Civilian  
Disposition: Not Sustained

Reporting Officer: [REDACTED]

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

#	OFFENSE(S)	A/C	TITLE/CHAP	SECTION
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LOCATION TYPE: Residence/Home/Apt./Condo      Zone: ZONE 2  
● CLEVELAND ST Apt. #3RD  
CENTRAL FALLS RI 02863

1	<b>COURTESY</b> OCCURRED: 09/03/2016 1052	C	2	7
2	<b>CONDUCT UNBECOMING</b> OCCURRED: 09/03/2016 1052	C	2	8

#	VICTIM(S)	SEX	RACE	AGE	SSN	PHONE
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1	<b>CHARLES, CLARENCE</b> ● CLEVELAND ST CENTRAL FALLS RI 02863 DOB: [REDACTED]/1986 CONTACT INFORMATION: Home Phone (Primary) 401-771-[REDACTED] ETHNICITY: Not of Hispanic Origin RESIDENT STATUS: Resident VICTIM CONNECTED TO OFFENSE NUMBER(S): 1 2	M	B	[REDACTED]	NOT AVAIL	401-771-[REDACTED]
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#	PERSON(S)	PERSON TYPE	SEX	RACE	AGE	SSN	PHONE
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1	<b>CHARLES, CLARENCE</b> ● CLEVELAND ST Apt. [REDACTED] CENTRAL FALLS RI 02863 DOB: [REDACTED]/1986 CONTACT INFORMATION: Home Phone (Primary) 401-771-[REDACTED]	COMPLAINANT	M	U	[REDACTED]	NOT AVAIL	401-771-[REDACTED]
2	<b>RUSSELL, SHERRY J</b> ● CLEVELAND ST Apt. [REDACTED] CENTRAL FALLS RI 02863 DOB: [REDACTED]/1990 CONTACT INFORMATION: Home Phone (Primary) 401-479-[REDACTED]	WITNESS	F	B	[REDACTED]	NOT AVAIL	401-479-[REDACTED]
3	[REDACTED] ILLINOIS ST CENTRAL FALLS RI 02863 DOB: [REDACTED]/1972 EMPLOYER: CENTRAL FALLS POLICE 401-727-[REDACTED] CONTACT INFORMATION: Home Phone (Primary) 401-727-[REDACTED] Work Phone (Primary) 401-727-[REDACTED]	WITNESS	M	W	[REDACTED]	NOT AVAIL	401-727-[REDACTED]

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#	PERSON(S)	PERSON TYPE	SEX	RACE	AGE	SSN	PHONE
4	[REDACTED] 160 ILLINOIS ST Central Falls RI 02863 DOB: [REDACTED] 1968 EMPLOYER: CFPD · 401-727-[REDACTED] CONTACT INFORMATION: Home Phone (Primary) 401-727-[REDACTED] Work Phone (Primary) 401-727-[REDACTED]	WITNESS	M	B	[REDACTED]	NOT AVAIL	401-727-[REDACTED]

#	OFFICER(S)	SEX	RACE	AGE	SSN	PHONE
1	[REDACTED] 160 ILLINOIS ST CENTRAL FALLS RI 02863 CONTACT INFORMATION: Home Phone (Primary) 401-727-[REDACTED]  BODY: NOT AVAIL. DOB: [REDACTED]/1971 LICENSE NUMBER: NOT AVAIL.  COMPLEXION: NOT AVAIL. PLACE OF BIRTH: NOT AVAIL. ETHNICITY: NOT HISPANIC  EMPLOYER/SCHOOL: CENTRAL FALLS POLICE · 401-727-[REDACTED]	F	W	[REDACTED]	NOT AVAIL	401-727-[REDACTED]

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NARRATIVE FOR [REDACTED]

Ref: 16-9-IA

Entered: 09/19/2016 @ 1331      Entry ID: CH  
Modified: 09/29/2016 @ 1004      Modified ID: CH  
Approved: 09/19/2016 @ 1523      Approval ID: CH

On 09/06/2016, I was assigned 16-9-IA by [REDACTED]. The complaint was initiated by a civilian, Clarence Charles, DOB [REDACTED]/1986, against [REDACTED] concerning Officer [REDACTED] behavior during their interaction on 09/03/2016 at approximately 1100 HRS at Mr. Charles' residence, [REDACTED] Cleveland Street, [REDACTED] floor right. (From this point forward, Mr. Charles will be referred to as Crystal, a name he now goes by and requested I use when I later interviewed him.)

**Allegation:**

In the initial complaint, Crystal alleges hearing a banging at the door and believed it was connected to the violence threatened against him. Crystal called the police while the banging was going on at his door as he was instructed to do the previous evening by Officer [REDACTED] (16-21416) when he reported threats received from a former girlfriend, [REDACTED] DOB [REDACTED] 1996. Officer [REDACTED] was very aggressive, unprofessional and "treated me as if I was less than a person." Officer [REDACTED] told Crystal she was going to let [REDACTED] into Crystal's apartment and take whatever she wanted. Officer [REDACTED] began taunting and ridiculing Crystal for having a panic attack. Officer [REDACTED] kept her hand on her gun the whole time displaying herself as a thug and not a police officer. Officer [REDACTED] supervisor ([REDACTED]) was present and did not stop her taunts and insults. Crystal quoted Officer [REDACTED] at one point in the complaint, "Why are you so emotional" and to "take whatever the fuck I needed to be fucking normal." Officer [REDACTED] showed no compassion to a combat veteran with PTSD, who was in the hospital two nights prior for death threats received by the same person Officer [REDACTED] wanted to allow into his apartment to gather belongings. Crystal was in fear for his life and his anxiety was worsened by Officer [REDACTED]. Crystal tried to explain her situation to Officer [REDACTED] but Officer [REDACTED] remained aggressive the entire time. Crystal felt the altercation was not with a law enforcement officer but a thug with a gun.

**Findings:**

[REDACTED] made a DVD of the recording of the phone conversation between Crystal and Dispatcher [REDACTED] as well as radio transmissions. On the recording of the phone conversation, Crystal acknowledges knowing the police are on the other side of the door but keeps referring to "she" threatening to kill her and Crystal is afraid to open the door even with the police there. Dispatcher [REDACTED] repeats several times that Crystal needs to open the door for the police but Crystal refuses for a short while. Officer [REDACTED] is overheard in the background twice. The first time, Officer [REDACTED] is overheard stating, "It's ok. We're the police." The second time, Officer [REDACTED] is heard asking, "Do you have her stuff?" Neither statement comes across aggressive through the audio recording.

On 09/15/2016, I scheduled interviews with Crystal and his roommate/aide, Sherry Russell, DOB [REDACTED]/1990. Interviews were conducted with [REDACTED] and Officer [REDACTED] on 09/27/2016. Officer [REDACTED] was interviewed on 09/28/2016 with [REDACTED] also present for the interview. All interviews were audio taped.

**Synopsis of Interview with Clarence "Crystal" Charles (09/15/2016):**

Crystal stated she thought [REDACTED] was on the other side of the door with the police when the loud banging was happening and that was why she was afraid and didn't want to open the door. Crystal didn't know what could or would happen if she allowed entry. Crystal said Officer [REDACTED] aggressive behavior began as soon as Officer [REDACTED] was in the doorway. She described the taunts as not just being verbal but through body language and it

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made her feel like less of a person. Officer [REDACTED] knew of Crystal's anxiety and panic attacks but not Crystal's war veteran status or PTSD. Crystal was trying to explain this to Officer [REDACTED] but Officer [REDACTED] kept insulting her and making fun of her.

Crystal also stated she has not filed a restraining order against [REDACTED] to this point. Crystal is afraid to go out in public when it can be avoided. Crystal said [REDACTED] never lived in this apartment, [REDACTED] was just a friend who needed to keep some stuff in the apartment for a short period of time, but they had a "falling out" and [REDACTED] needed to take her stuff out. Crystal said the only other person to witness this incident was her roommate/aide, Sherry. Sherry helped me through my panic attack and to help de escalate the incident. Crystal felt like Officer [REDACTED] was a hired gun for [REDACTED] and she had to give her own stuff away just to get rid of Officer [REDACTED]. It was the longest time of Crystal's life.

#### Synopsis of Interview with Sherry Russell (09/15/2016):

Ms. Russell believed the same as Crystal that [REDACTED] was the person banging on the door. [REDACTED] had been texting and calling Crystal and telling Crystal she was going to come to the house "with backup" and get her stuff. Ms. Russell heard the person on the other side of the door saying, "Open the fucking door, it's the fucking police." Once the police were observed in the doorway, Ms. Russell said she and Crystal were still afraid of what was going to happen because the situation was getting out of hand. It appeared to Ms. Russell that officers were under the impression that Jade lived in their apartment, which was not the case. [REDACTED] never lived there, only kept some belongings there.

Ms. Russell's impression of Officer [REDACTED] was that of a "gangsta" with a badge and she felt Officer [REDACTED] was more manly than most men. Officer [REDACTED] had her hand on her gun or Taser the whole time she was there and this was very intimidating, "with everything going on in society today." (She noted, although both she and Crystal are not black, they appear to be because they are dark skinned Hispanic.) Ms. Russell said Officer [REDACTED] kept making fun of Crystal by telling Crystal to, "take what you wanna take to be normal."

Ms. Russell said she was able to tell police about Crystal's PTSD and combat veteran status, but only when turning over [REDACTED] cat to the police. She also acknowledged [REDACTED] did try to get everyone to calm down and just gather any belongings [REDACTED] had in the apartment. Ms. Russell also made me aware [REDACTED] previously threatened Crystal that she would tell the police Crystal raped her. Ms. Russell is Crystal's best friend and informed me Crystal and [REDACTED] just broke up their relationship three weeks prior to this incident. They were definitely in a substantive dating relationship and [REDACTED] may be [REDACTED] with Crystal's [REDACTED]

#### Synopsis of Interview with [REDACTED] (09/27/2016):

[REDACTED] clarified the discrepancy regarding time differences listed on the dispatch log. He said all three officers working the day shift on September 3rd were Officer [REDACTED] Officer [REDACTED] and himself, with all three of them responding together to the keep the peace call at said address. Initially, [REDACTED] and her companion remained outside while all three officers went to the third floor apartment, knocked on the door and returned outside after no one answered the door. After a couple minutes, Dispatch called the units on scene and told them she was on the phone with the third floor tenants, who were afraid to open the door and he believed the occupants inside the apartment knew the police were present. Eventually, the occupants opened the door. At no time, before or after the door was opened was Officer [REDACTED] unprofessional. Officer [REDACTED] did not say or do anything inappropriate to either occupant of the apartment. The [REDACTED] person (Crystal) was in hysterics saying nothing coherent, just yelling and screaming uncontrollably. Crystal said he needed a [REDACTED] to control his panic attack. When asked about Officer [REDACTED] stating to Crystal, "take whatever you need to take to be normal", [REDACTED] did not remember the statement, but insisted Officer [REDACTED] took control verbally,

## NARRATIVE FOR [REDACTED]

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Crystal calmed down and now admitted to having the clothes he initially denied possessing. When asked about Officer [REDACTED] keeping her hand on her gun and/or Taser, [REDACTED] said that was not done in a threatening manner. Officer [REDACTED] never pulled the gun out, deployed her Taser and made any threats about using either weapon.

[REDACTED] said he was not aware of Crystal's status as a combat veteran until now as I interviewed him and he did not find out about the hospitalization until after the incident was over. [REDACTED] said the relationship between Crystal and [REDACTED] was confusing because Crystal was all over the place with his statements. He did not believe [REDACTED] ever lived in the apartment, only kept stuff there. In the end, he believes Officer [REDACTED] did a good job of controlling the situation. Officer [REDACTED] calmed the situation, [REDACTED] did not need to take charge. He believes Officer [REDACTED] demeanor and actions were fine, not hostile and there was no need for him to intervene.

**Synopsis of Interview with Officer [REDACTED] (09/27/2016):**

Officer [REDACTED] explained his limited role on this call for service. He accompanied [REDACTED] and Officer [REDACTED] to the third floor the first time they arrived on the scene. They knocked on the door, didn't get a response and retreated back outside to the subjects who were there to gather their belongings. After a few minutes, Dispatch informed the units on scene, the third floor residents were on the phone with Dispatch and they were afraid. It was unclear to Officer [REDACTED] whether or not the callers were afraid of the police or [REDACTED]. Officer [REDACTED] went back up the stairs with [REDACTED] and Officer [REDACTED]. He was down several steps because of the limited space. He remained with the other officers until he saw a heavy set black woman open the door and begin speaking with officers. He went back downstairs and rejoined the parties who wanted their belongings. Officer [REDACTED] said he did not see or hear anything out of the ordinary. He did not observe Officer [REDACTED] speaking or doing anything inappropriate. He left the interior of the building when the apartment door was opened. He left the entire scene when [REDACTED] and her companion went inside to gather their stuff from the hallway.

**Synopsis of Interview with Officer [REDACTED] (09/28/2016):**

Officer [REDACTED] did not remember the exact time frame it took from when she arrived on scene with [REDACTED] and her companion to when the door was opened, but she knew she and the other officers knocked, no one answered and when they were back downstairs outside the house, Dispatch advised officers the occupants of the apartment were on the phone. She and fellow officers went back upstairs to the third floor right apartment in an effort to keep the peace so [REDACTED] could gather belongings. Officer [REDACTED] did not say much prior to the door being opened except to advise the occupants there was no reason to be afraid, it was the police. She said she was not aggressive or inappropriate with her language or demeanor. She could not make out what was being said from the other side of the door. It sounded like erratic behavior and she could not make out everything being said.

Once the door was opened, Officer [REDACTED] explained they were there just to keep the peace so [REDACTED] could gather her belongings. The occupants of the apartment were going back and forth in admitting they had [REDACTED]'s stuff. One of the occupants, Crystal, was running around the apartment, continuously acting erratic. Crystal kept saying he needed his [REDACTED]. Crystal kept going into the kitchen and Officer [REDACTED] had to raise her voice to keep Crystal where he could be seen because Officer [REDACTED] was unsure what Crystal could have been getting from the kitchen (knife, etc.). Ms. Russell kept telling her and other officers they were allowed in the apartment without a warrant. Officer [REDACTED] had to raise her voice again to gain control of the situation.

Officer [REDACTED] said she never told Crystal to "take whatever she needs to take to be normal." She said Crystal kept rambling about needing his [REDACTED] and running around the apartment. In reference to Officer

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[REDACTED] keeping her hand on her gun, she said there was no malice, intimidation or show of force intended. She always rests her hand on her gun when at calls, she has a gun on her every day.

Officer [REDACTED] was not aware, until I told her during this interview, about Crystal's status as a war veteran with PTSD, nor was she aware of the nature of Crystal's hospital stay days prior to the incident. She was aware of the nature of the relationship between Crystal and [REDACTED], but she did not know the time line of when it ended. Officer [REDACTED] was under the impression [REDACTED] had been "staying" in the apartment prior to the incident date.

Officer [REDACTED] was not aware of the threats made by [REDACTED] to Crystal.

Officer [REDACTED] wanted it known her verbal commands were the driving force to bring a peaceful resolution to this incident. It was a keep the peace call. [REDACTED]'s clothes were put out on the stoop outside the apartment, [REDACTED] was able to retrieve the clothes without a problem between the two parties and she was sent on her way.

**Conclusion:**

This investigation ends with no way to definitively state whether Officer [REDACTED] conduct or courtesy was or was not in accordance with our Rules and Regulations. The complainant and his biased witness depict an officer who is a "thug with a gun", while [REDACTED] and Officer [REDACTED] depict an erratic complainant and uncooperative roommate. The only recording of the incident with any value is through the phone conversation between Crystal and Dispatch. As previously stated, Officer [REDACTED] is overheard twice and her demeanor is more in line with what she and [REDACTED] report. There is no recording of anything before that call or after Crystal hangs up the phone and continues to speak with officers on scene. This investigator can neither confirm nor deny the allegations made by the complainant with limited evidence other than opposing testimony.