

- Officer Bernardson stated he believed Wraspir was just a drunk
- Officer Bernardson said he did not change clothes when he left the bar that it was January and he put on his winter hat, coat and gloves that he had carried out of the bar, they all happen to be black in color
- Officer Bernardson said he does not remember if he made the comment to Wraspir, "I'll remember you, you short fuck" when he was leaving the bar
- Officer Bernardson admitted that he decided to return to the Shortstop bar to confront Wraspir because he was upset with him

13.43 - Personnel Data

- Officer Bernardson said he did not go back into the bar because it would not be fair for the staff to be referees
- Officer Bernardson said "I waited outside and waited for this guy to come out and then he came out and got in a taxicab, the front seat. And then I walked up to the taxi and I walked right in front of the taxi towards it. We made eye contact. He saw me. I came around to his side".
- Officer Bernardson said that Wraspir opened the cab door and caught him off guard and threw a back hand at Officer Bernardson

- Officer Bernardson said “That caught me off guard. I wasn’t expecting that. I put my hand on top of the cab. I returned a couple of punches. It just, it happened. I don’t know if it was a result of my training or what but someone’s punching me I returned, and then I probably threw 3 punches”.

Recommendation

Officer Bernardson admitted that he had been at the Shortstop Bar drinking [REDACTED] and eventually became involved in an unprovoked verbal altercation with other males that had been at the bar drinking all day. Officer Bernardson said at one point one male had threatened to throw him through a window and that for safety reasons he [REDACTED] eventually left the bar and went home.

Officer Bernardson admitted that he was upset and angry when he got home and became even more so when he learned that someone called [REDACTED], he made the decision to return to the bar and confront someone even though he was not sure who specifically made the comment [REDACTED]

Officer Bernardson admitted returning and waiting outside the bar for Wraspir, once Wraspir was seated in a cab Officer Bernardson made the first contact by approaching the cab and making eye contact with Wraspir. Officer Bernardson claims that Wraspir opened the cab door and tried to hit him with a back hand and Officer Bernardson defended him self by punching back.

According to witnesses Quaale and Victim Wraspir it was Officer Bernardson who opened the cab door and began punching Wraspir without any exchange of words. Officer Bernardson was angry and chose to return to the bar and initiated the

confrontation that led to the assault of Wrspir. Wrspir was knocked unconscious as a result of the assault and suffered a concussion and was transported to the hospital.

While other intoxicated people may have started the verbal altercation with Officer Bernardson he left the bar without incident, went home and then out of anger he chose to return to the bar and waited outside to confront Victim Wrspir as he was leaving in a cab. This choice led to the physical confrontation and assault. The off-duty conduct and subsequent Felony criminal charge of Officer Bernardson tarnish the image of the Minneapolis Police Department. There is a preponderance of evidence to **sustain the allegation.**

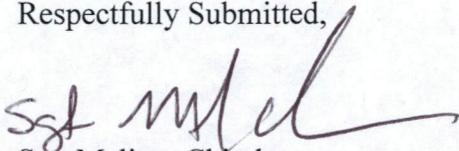


13.43 - Personnel Data

13.43 - Personnel Data

13.43 - Personnel Data

Respectfully Submitted,



Sgt. Melissa Chiodo

Internal Affairs Unit