

Officer Reuben said he loads his weapon out in his squad car; he puts the magazines in his pocket and then walks out. I asked why he does this and he said, "Cause I don't like being around a bunch of people when I do it in the Traffic office."

I asked Officer Reuben if he handcuffed Yuliya on March 23, 2011 and he said he was not sure, he might have. He said there were pictures of Yuliya in his handcuffs. I asked Officer Reuben if he made a comment to Yuliya that he should search her and he said, "No, I didn't, no, absolutely not." I asked again if he said it in a flirtatious manner and he said, "No, absolutely not."

I asked Officer Reuben if Yuliya pointed to his holster and gun and asked him what it was and he said he could not remember. I asked Officer Reuben if he pulled out his gun, told her it was a gun and asked her if she wanted to see it and he said, "No , absolutely not." He said Yuliya asked to see the gun and he told her she could.

SUMMARY OF ALLEGATIONS

13.43 - Personnel Data



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Allegation # 2 It is alleged that while in the Minneapolis Police Department Traffic Unit's roll call room and while working in full uniform, Officer Reuben willingly handed his service weapon to a 17-year-old female foreign exchange student while she was touring the Traffic Unit Office. During the investigation, no one could verify that the weapon was unloaded when the event allegedly occurred. If this were found to be true, it would violate the following:

5-105 PROFESSIONAL CODE OF CONDUCT

13.43 - Personnel Data

16. Employees shall conduct themselves in the buildings and offices of the Department in a manner, which would not discredit the Department.

Investigative Facts

- Officer Rueben was in full MPD uniform and in the MPD Traffic Unit roll call room when this incident took place
- Officer Reuben was fully aware that the two girls touring the Traffic Unit were 17-year-old high school foreign exchange students. (Reuben Statement 1, pg. 2, lines 23-46)
- Officer Reuben said that the exchange student, Yuliya, asked to see his gun and he eventually said "sure" and let her see it (Rueben Statement 1, pg. 3, lines 16-20, Reuben Statement 2, pg. 4, lines 38-39)
- Officer Reuben said he could not recall if Yuliya pointed at his holster and asked him what his gun was (Reuben Statement 2, pg. 4. lines 26-27)

- Officer Reuben said he held the gun out in his palm, told the student to treat every gun like it is loaded and to point it away from people and let her take the gun (Reuben Statement 1, pg. 3, lines 26-41)
- Officer Reuben said the gun was not loaded when Yuliya held it (Reuben Statement 1, pg. 4, lines 37-39)
- Officer Reuben denied pulling out his gun and asking Yuliya if she wanted to see it (Reuben Statement 2, pg. 4, lines 29-31)
- Yuliya said Officer Reuben had a gun, she asked what it was and he said it was a gun and asked her if she wanted to hold it (Yuliya Statement pg. 2, lines 1-3)
- Yuliya said that Officer Reuben took his gun out of his holster and had it in the palm of his hand and she held it (Yuliya Statement pg. 2, lines 2-14)
- Yuliya said she asked if the gun was real and Officer Reuben said it was (Yuliya Statement pg. 2, lines 24-25)
- Yuliya said she held the gun up to her head and she later clarified and said she was holding it next to her head while pointing it up (Yuliya Statement pg. 2, lines 24-26, & 41-46 & pg. 3, line 1)
- Yuliya said she did not know if the gun was loaded and had never handled a gun before (Yuliya Statement pg. 2, lines 30-39)
- Linda Cushing did not see or hear Officer Reuben unload his gun before he handed it to Yuliya (Linda Statement pg. 3, lines 32-45)
- Officer Pfaff did not see or hear Officer Reuben unload his gun at any point before he handed it to Yuliya (Pfaff Statement pg. 2, lines 38-46 & pg. 3, lines 1-19)

- Officer Indehar did not see Officer Reuben unload his gun at any point (Indehar Statement pg. 3, lines 4-5)
- Sgt. Stichter asked Officer Reuben if his gun was loaded during the incident and Officer Rueben said it was unloaded (Sgt. Stichter Statement pg. 4, lines 9-12)
- Sgt. Stichter has never witnessed Officer Reuben load his gun at work (Sgt. Stichter Statement pg. 4, lines 22-24)
- The Minneapolis Police Department Range Instructor's train officers at the range that whenever an officer hands a weapon to another person, including a professional range master with specialized training in weapons, that they always hand an empty gun with the slide locked back to the other person for visual & physical inspection of the chamber to verify the gun is unloaded. As part of his annual firearms training, Officer Reuben would have done this multiple times.
- It does not appear that Officer Reuben presented an empty weapon to anyone on March 23, 2011 to verify if his gun was unloaded before he handed it to someone. As such, there is no way to confirm his weapon was safe when he handed it to a 17-year-old minor foreign exchange student from Russia who has never handled a gun in her life.
- Officer Reuben handed an unchecked gun to a minor in a room full of people, including other officers.
- Officer Reuben cannot name one officer that has ever witnessed him unload his weapon each night after work and then re-load it in the squad car at the beginning of his shift in the last year and a half (Reuben Statement 2, pg. 3, lines 31-41)

- Officer Reuben used vacation time **13.43 - Personnel Data** after the gun incident until approximately 2300 hours. **13.43 - Personnel Data** Officer Reuben returned to the remainder of his regular shift and received a phone call and a text message from Linda Cushing, he then notified Sgt. Stichter about the gun incident that occurred at 1800 hours.

Respectfully Submitted,


Sgt. Melissa Chiodo

Internal Affairs Unit