

*The Desk of  
Commander Bruce Folkens*

**Minneapolis Police Department  
Special Crimes Investigations  
Division  
Office 673-3410  
Cell 290-3730**

Commitment, Integrity, Transparency

---

To: Chief Janeé Harteau  
Date: September 18, 2014  
Re: IAD Case # 13-23559

The Discipline Panel in this case consisted of Commander Bruce Folkens, Inspector Todd Loining and Lt. Brian Anderson.

The following recommendation is forwarded to you for consideration:

**MPD Policy #5-105.15 – Professional Code of Conduct, Category B**

“Employees shall be decorous in their language and conduct. They shall refrain from actions or words that bring discredit to the Department. They shall also not use words or terms which hold any person, group or organization up to contempt. The use of such unacceptable terms is strictly forbidden.”

On October 05, 2013 at 2156 hours Officer Schnickel was travelling off duty to his cabin located in Webster Wisconsin. Officer Schnickel was stopped for speeding by an on-duty uniformed Webster Wisconsin Police Officer. At the time of the traffic stop, Off. Schnickel was driving MN lic/ 131HTL, a vehicle registered to the Minneapolis Public Schools. Officer Schnickel identified himself at the time as a Minneapolis Police officer, and was with his wife at the time who is an employee with the Minneapolis Public Schools Transportation.

During this traffic stop, the Webster Police Officer reported that Off. Schnickel was rude and argumentative about the reason for the traffic stop. The Webster Police Officer states that upon citing Off. Schnickel for speeding, that when he gave Off. Schnickel the citation and was explaining how to take care of the citation that Off. Schnickel made a comment similar to “don’t come to Minneapolis”. This interaction was witnessed by a Law Enforcement Student doing a ride-a-long with the Webster Police Officer.

The panel finds that Officer Schnickel acted and made comments in an inappropriate manner which brought discredit to the Minneapolis Police Department. The panel finds that the violation of 5-105.15 is **sustained**.

**MPD Policy # 5-102 – Code of Ethics, Category D**

“All sworn and civilian members of the department shall conduct themselves in a professional and ethical manner at all times and not engage in any on or off-duty conduct that would tarnish or offend the ethical standards of the department. Employees shall abide by the City’s Ethics in Government Policy, Chapter 15.”

The panel finds that Off. Schnickel was knowingly driving a Minneapolis Public Schools vehicle in violation of school vehicle usage policy. The panel finds the violation of MPD Policy 5-102 also is **sustained**.

The panel reviewed Off. Schnickel’s IAU blue card which shows that on July 05, 2010 that Officer Schnickel has a previous sustained Category C – Violation (IAU Case # 10-133). The panel concludes that the current case (IAU Case # 13-23559) falls within the 5 year reckoning period of the previous case listed and therefore justifies the Category D violation for the violation of **MPD Policy # 5-102 - Code of Ethics**.

Officer. Schnickel has taken no responsibility for his actions on the night of October 05, 2013– **Aggravating Factor**

In Off. Schnickel’s statement to this panel, Off. Schnickel repeatedly impugned the complainant’s integrity and credibility as a police officer even though Sgt. Schnickel pled guilty to the traffic offense he was stopped for, thereby continuing the Violation of Policy & Procedure 5-105.15 – **Aggravating Factor**

Category Level Enhancement is due to current sustained complaint within the active reckoning period from a prior sustained Category C complaint.

- A review of Off. Schnickel’s IAU blue card shows that on July 05, 2010 that Officer Schnickel has a previous sustained Category C – Violation (IAU Case # 10-133). The panel concludes that the current case (IAU Case # 13-23559) falls within the 5 year reckoning period of the previous case listed and therefore justifies the Category D violation for the violation of **MPD Policy # 5-102 - Code of Ethics**.

Based on the above facts and circumstances, the Panel respectfully recommends that Officer Schnickel by suspended for 120 hours without pay.

# The Office of Police Conduct Review Review Panel Session

---

## *Sign-in Sheet*

**Date** August 12, 2014  
**Time** 5:45 p.m.  
**Location** City Hall Room 239, Director's Room

### **PANELISTS**

### **SIGNATURE**

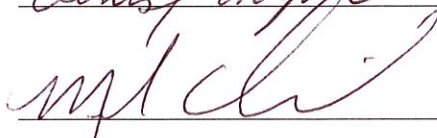
**Civilian 1** Sarah McCann



**Civilian 2** Dennis Wagner



**Sworn 1** Melissa Chiodo



**Sworn 2** Timothy Mattsson



Chair is: **CIVILIAN**



7505 Main Street West  
PO Box 25  
Webster, WI 54893  
Phone: 715-866-4211  
Fax: 715-866-4863  
websterwipd@gmail.com

FAX 612 673 - 5510

*Fax Transmittal Form*

To: RYAN PATRICK

From: Donnie Holmes

Date sent: 10-27-13

Number of pages including cover page: (2)

Urgent  
For Review  
Please Comment  
Please Reply

Message: STATEMENT FROM OFFICER  
MISCONDUCT 13-23559

**CONFIDENTIAL NOTICE:**

The documents accompanying this fax transmission may contain confidential information belonging to the sender which is legally privileged. This information is intended only for the use of the individual or entity named. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that disclosure, copying, distribution, or the taking of any action in reliance on or regarding the contents of the faxed information is strictly prohibited. If you have received this fax in error, please immediately notify us by telephone. Thank you for your cooperation.



On 10/5 /13 I was riding along with Officer Holmes of the Webster Police Department. We were parked running radar in the old Webster school parking lot right behind the "Speed Limit 25" sign. The squad was alongside West Alder Street facing east with the squad logo easily visible from anyone who would turn onto the road. Around 10pm we witnessed a silver car turn onto the West Alder Street from HWY 35/Lakeland Ave S, the car then sped up and using the radar in the squad Officer Holmes locked in the vehicle at a high rate of speed. Officer Holmes turned the squad around and without breaking visual contact Officer Holmes sped up to behind the vehicle, and turned on the squad's emergency lights. After the vehicle pulled over Officer Holmes got out of the squad and approached the vehicle. I got out of the car and stood by the front right fender of the squad. Officer Holmes went up to the car and I heard him introduce himself and talk to the driver. Officer Holmes then came back to the squad and contacted dispatch for the driver's information. While Officer Holmes was on the radio with dispatch the driver of the silver car got out of his vehicle and started to walk back towards the squad, we got out and the driver gave us registration papers for his vehicle. After the driver returned to his vehicle, Officer Holmes finished up with dispatch. We both got back out of the vehicle and I stood by the front of the squad while Officer Holmes went up to the vehicle to give the ticket. Almost right after Officer Holmes got back to the vehicle I could hear the driver start yelling at Officer Holmes. From what I could hear back by the front of the squad car, the man was upset for getting a ticket and didn't mind letting Officer Holmes know how he felt. After Officer Holmes returned to the car the vehicle drove off and we resumed normal patrol duties.



Austin Reed

**WEBSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**CASE COVERSHEET**

Event #  
M20130000550

Case #  
W13-0574

Officer Initials:

<input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Info	<input type="checkbox"/> Protected Info	<input type="checkbox"/> Gang Related						
<b>REPORTED:</b>	Date: 10/5/2013	Time: 21:56	<b>OCCURRED:</b>	Date: 10/5/2013	Time: 21:56	<b>OCCURRED:</b>	Date: 10/5/2013	Time: 22:11
<b>RESPONSE:</b>	Disp'd: 21:56	Arr'd: 21:56	Cl'd: 22:11	Response: 0	Total: 0	Officers Assigned: 582		
<b>EVENT:</b>	Type: Traffic					Status: Municipal Citation		
<b>LOCATION:</b>	Address: Alder Street West / Pike Avenue South			Location A/k/a:		Patrol Area: Webster		
	Location Type: Street - Intersection			Apartment #:		Distance From: 0		
								<input type="checkbox"/> Business Open

**REPORTED OFFENSES**

Felony Misd Offense

- 346.57(4)(d) - Speeding in excess of fixed limits: 11-15 MPH above limit

**CONTACT RECORDS**

- ARR - Arrested
- CO - Complainer
- TC - Traffic Contact
- VIC - Victim
- OW - Owner
- J - Jailed
- SR - Subject of Report
- JR - Juvenile Referral
- CR - Crash Involved
- KY - Alarm Keyholder
- SUS - Suspect
- SC - Suspect - Cleared

<b>CONTACT</b>									
Protected	Juvenile	Involvement:	Last Name / Business Name:			First Name:		Middle Name:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	TC	SCHNICKEL			ROBERT		GREGORY	
Sex:	Race:	DOB:	Age:	Hispanic:	Hair Color:	Eye Color:	Height:	Weight:	Alias Used:

**ENFORCEMENT RECORDS**

<b>ENFORCEMENT</b>						
Defendant Name:			Age:	Arrest Date:	Arrest Time:	Ticket #:
SCHNICKEL, ROBERT GREGORY				10/5/2013	21:56	V2110850
Charge / Offense:						Warning:
TRAF 346.57(4)(D) SPEEDING IN EXCESS OF FIXED LIMITS: 11-15 MPH ABOVE LIMIT						<input type="checkbox"/>
Arrested By:		Forfeiture / Penalty:	Felony:	Misd:	Disposition:	
2 - DONALD HOLMES		\$88.80	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PENDING	

**VEHICLE RECORDS**

**VEHICLE**

WEBSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Event#  
M20130000550

CASE COVERSHEET

Case#  
W13-0574

Officer Initials:

Plate / Tag #: 131HTL		State: MN	Type: AUT	VIN:		
Year: 2012	Make: CHEVROLET	Model:		Body Style:	Color 1: WHI	Color 2:
Owner: SCHNICKEL, ROBERT GREGORY M/W 05/10/1951			Operator: SCHNICKEL, ROBERT GREGORY M/W 05/10/1951			
Additional Description / Info:						

DOCUMENT RECORDS

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Date	Title
10/6/2013	INITIAL INVESTIGATION BY 582 - DONALD HOLMES

Contains Info:  
 Juvenile  Protected

CASE COMMENTS

SEE REPORT

Signature of Officer	Date
----------------------	------

Signature of Supervisor	Date
-------------------------	------



On Saturday October 5, 2013 while working in a marked squad for the village of Webster I was operating stationary radar. My vehicle was facing east. My position was about 100 feet west of Lakeland Avenue South on Alder Street West.

At about 9:50pm a vehicle turned right off of Lakeland Avenue South onto Alder Street West. The vehicle passed me and continued west. Rear stationary radar speed was 39mph. The vehicle was around the Pike Avenue South intersection when it reached that speed. At about that intersection is a 25mph speed limit sign that is posted. There were no other vehicles on Alder Street West.

I turned around and caught up with the vehicle. I stopped it about 100 yards west of Old 35 on Fairgrounds road at 9:56pm. I radioed in my location and the license plate of the vehicle.

I approached the vehicle and seen a male driver and female passenger. The driver gave me his driver's license and told me the insurance for the vehicle was through a public school and that it belonged to that school.

He opened his wallet and attempted to show me a police ID card for the City of Minneapolis. I told him the reason I stopped him was for his speed. I told him to wait in the vehicle until I returned.

While in the squad car the driver exited his vehicle and walked towards me. I asked him what he wanted and he gave me his new driver's license and I told him to stay in the vehicle. I issued him a citation for his speed (V211085-0) and walked back to his vehicle. When I told him the citation was for speed he became upset and began to argue the speed limits in the village. I calmly told him the speed didn't change until he left village limits which were after the school.

He still was angry and yelled at me about the speed other things. I remained calm and ended the contact with him. He yelled out the window that he would see me in court and that I should never come down to Minneapolis.

During the interaction I had a ride along who was standing outside of the squad car right next to it. He said that he could even hear the yelling coming from the driver.

No charges for disorderly conduct have been filed.

The entire traffic stop was recorded with audio and video.

This it all the information I have at this time.

Donald Holmes, Webster Police Department



On 10/5 /13 I was riding along with Officer Holmes of the Webster Police Department. We were parked running radar in the old Webster school parking lot right behind the "Speed Limit 25" sign. The squad was alongside West Alder Street facing east with the squad logo easily visible from anyone who would turn onto the road. Around 10pm we witnessed a silver car turn onto the West Alder Street from HWY 35/Lakeland Ave S, the car then sped up and using the radar in the squad Officer Holmes locked in the vehicle at a high rate of speed. Officer Holmes turned the squad around and without breaking visual contact Officer Holmes sped up to behind the vehicle, and turned on the squad's emergency lights. After the vehicle pulled over Officer Holmes got out of the squad and approached the vehicle. I got out of the car and stood by the front right fender of the squad. Officer Holmes went up to the car and I heard him introduce himself and talk to the driver. Officer Holmes then came back to the squad and contacted dispatch for the driver's information. While Officer Holmes was on the radio with dispatch the driver of the silver car got out of his vehicle and started to walk back towards the squad, we got out and the driver gave us registration papers for his vehicle. After the driver returned to his vehicle, Officer Holmes finished up with dispatch. We both got back out of the vehicle and I stood by the front of the squad while Officer Holmes went up to the vehicle to give the ticket. Almost right after Officer Holmes got back to the vehicle I could hear the driver start yelling at Officer Holmes. From what I could hear back by the front of the squad car, the man was upset for getting a ticket and didn't mind letting Officer Holmes know how he felt. After Officer Holmes returned to the car the vehicle drove off and we resumed normal patrol duties.



Austin Reed