

Q. Right.

A. And the drugs that they're talking about was a bottle of narcotics that was found tucked up under the wheel well of the vehicle that they were trying to hide from us.

5 Q. Okay.

A. Which I happened to find which has led to, "Whose drugs are these?"

Q. Right.

A. The prescription bottle was not in any of their names.

10

Q. So, when you're asking these questions to try to determine what's going on, are they resisting?

A. Yes.

Q. Are they being uncooperative?

15

A. Correct.

Q. Okay.

A. That started within the whole realm of we're racists, I was a fucking bitch...

20

Q. Okay. I'm just looking through some of my notes. Okay this is the same person that...oh, excuse me, it's the second person that complained. This is that email that was sent.

A. Okay.

25

Q. It says, ah, On 7 p.m., my wife and I are walking our dog at Gold Medal Park. We noticed there were a group of youths between 4 and 8 young African American men. Ah, they were being rambunctious and loud. About 27 minutes later we saw four police cars rush to the park, one actually drove through the grass into the park. They stopped 3 or 4 of the young men and held them while they searched their car. During the search, two of the police officers were, in my opinion, disrespectful and provocative. They said statements such as, "You don't belong here. This is a nice neighborhood. You can't bring your shit here. You could be Al-Qaida. Is that your piece of shit friend? Do you think this is funny you piece of shit?" and constantly using the word, "fuck" when interacting with these black youths.

30

Did you hear any of that or something similar to it?

A. I don't remember anything about Al-Qaida.

35

Q. Ah-huh. I understand.

A. Um, and like I said, earlier, we were trying to get questions and ans...questions answered from us on why they were there and they were not talking to us, um, I don't remember anybody on the grass driving through the park. We had all parked. We weren't blocking 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, um, you know, we had just parked basically pretty much on the same side as what their vehicle, where they were parked.

40

Q. Just so I've got a picture in my mind, you've got the park officer dealing with this one kid who had a warrant who eventually took...

A. Yeah, after, yeah, that's, we were able to figure that out 'cause we had to get everybody ID'd and in the course of getting people ID'd, that's where we were getting resistance.

45

Q. Okay.

A. And the questions were asked, "Why are you here?"

50

Q. Right.

A. You know, "You're from Saint Paul. You're not enjoying the park, you're here fighting." And one of the people that they happened to be fighting with, happened to be across the street walking back and the group engaged them which at some point, you know, we had to deal with that and tell 'em to knock it off.

55

Q. Engage meaning some type of, ah...

A. Yeah, they started their verbal...they started again on...

Q. Okay.

A. Well, actually there was two of 'em that actually had, were on the other side of the street that they started to engage again.

Q. Okay. So, I want to make sure I've got this clear. So, the park officer's dealing with...that's Officer Archer, dealing with this kid with the warrant?

A. Correct.

Q. You're there obviously...

A. Yep.

Q. Interacting with the youths. Um, Officer Guelcher. Correct?

A. Correct.

Q. And then Sergeant Christensen?

A. She was in the squad car call, calling with...

Q. She remained pretty much in the squad car dealing with the rental car thing.

A. From what I remember, yeah.

Q. So, it was pretty much you and Officer Guelcher that were dealing with the kids?

A. Correct.

Q. And how many were there approximately?

A. About five of 'em.

Q. Okay. Um, I'm gonna review and see if I have missed anything but add anything you'd like, ask me any question you'd like 'cause I'm just kind of wrapping things up here. You know, elaborate as much as you'd like about this situation if there's something that I've missed.

A. Well, I just find it interesting that, you know, you have third party complainants on something that they don't know what's going on and they're only reporting one half of a conversation when another group that we're dealing with, were, were also yelling, you know...

Q. Right. You're right. They talked about the shouting but they only talked about hearing one side.

A. Exactly. You know, I, I find it interesting how they leave out, you know that, the words that were said to me...

Q. Mmhm.

A. And the derogatory statements that were made toward me.

Q. Yeah, there's a 9-1-1 phone number here and when I called it I don't get an answer. It's a long distance area code and...

A. Might have been a passerby or I, I'm not sure. I don't, I don't remember. I don't even know what the remarks...

Q. I'm gonna see what it says...

A. Six to eight of 'em involved in a physical fight...

Q. No weapons seen, right?

A. Right, 'cause the caller...

Q. Somali males, okay, all right. I see that.

A. So, and that's all there is further than that so I don't...

Q. Okay. If there's nothing else, I'm gonna close this out. Are there any facts considering this incident you have knowledge of that have not disclosed?

A. No.

Q. Is there anything else you would like to add to this statement I have not asked you concerning this incident?

A. No. I'm fine.

Q. Is this a true and accurate statement?

A. Yes.

Q. Per MPD Policy and Procedure Sections 5-107.8, you are not to discuss this interview or case investigation with anyone other than your Federation Union Representative or an attorney. Do you understand this?

A. Yes.

Q. Statement concluded at 3:25 p.m.

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

jmc

**STATEMENT OF**

**Officer Sherry Appledorn**

**PLACE:**

Minneapolis Department of Civil Rights, Office of Police Conduct Review – Room 239

**DATE:**

January 27, 2015

**TIME:**

3:00 p.m.

**CASE NO:**

14-20461

**INVESTIGATOR:**

Michael Grostyan

Q. This is a recorded statement of Officer Sherry Appledorn on January 27<sup>th</sup> at approximately 3 p.m. We're in the Minneapolis Civil Rights Office, Room 239. The interview is being conducted by Investigator Michael Grostyan. This is regarding OPCR Case Number 14-20461.

Um, your full name please?

A. Sherry Renee Appledorn.

Q. How are you spelling Sherry?

A. S-H-E-R-R-Y. Renee is R-E-N-E-E. Appledorn A-P-P-L-E-D as in David O-R-N.

Q. Okay and your present rank and work assignment?

A. I'm an Officer out of the 1<sup>st</sup> Precinct, **13.43**

Q. Okay. Your employee number?

A. 30214.

Q. Your date of appointment?

A. March of '93.

Q. Okay. You are being ordered to give a complete and truthful statement regarding matters pertaining to the scope of your employment or fitness for duty. It is a compelled statement pursuant to MPD Policy and Procedure. Under the Garrity Decision, any statement provided in this investigation cannot be used in a criminal proceeding against you except in cases of alleged perjury. However, these statements may be used against you in relation to employment allegations. Do you understand this warning?

A. Yes.

Q. I am advising you that if you refuse to answer, give a false or intentionally incomplete statement or attempt to omit information that is pertinent to this investigation, you will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including suspension or discharge. Do you understand this?

A. Yes.

Q. Okay. And then I have the Tennesen Warning here that I would like you to read and sign and then I'll witness it.

A. Is it the 27<sup>th</sup>?

Q. 27<sup>th</sup>, yes.

A. I know.

Q. Get them out of the way. Is it correct that you have read, understood and signed the Data Practices Advisory, otherwise known as the Tennesen Warning?

A. Yes.

Q. Have I informed you that the purpose of this statement relates to an OPCR investigation and specifically an administrative review that's being conducted?

A. Yes.

Q. You're not being accused of anything. You're a witness officer specifically. Um, so I will try to explain the circumstances of an event. I'm gonna read the complaint to you to see if it jogs your memory. I don't know if you've done any reviewing or anything prior to getting here. Have you?



Q. All right. When you got there, were there, were there, was there a fight taking place or had...?

A. No, they had just finished up.

5 Q. Okay. Okay. Um, but to go back to my question and I'm not trying to be picky, did you get the 9-1-1 call yourself. I mean, do you remember specifically? It was a 9-1-1 call...

A. I don't. I don't remember if park got it because it's considered park property—Gold Medal.

Q. Okay.

10 A. So, I don't know if they got dispatched to it first or if we got the call first.

Q. All right. Well, that's fine.

A. Um...

15 Q. Did you...did all the officers actively interact with the youths? Did some of the officers stay by their car or remain in the car? Do you recall?

A. Ah, they...I talked to 'em. Officer Guelcher was there. We were just standin' by 'em.

Q. Mmhmm. How about Sergeant Christensen?

20 A. I don't even re...I, I think she was busy, um, she was on the phone with the rental company tryin' to figure out their rental agreement because they didn't have the proper rental paper. It was a rental car. So, they didn't have the proper...

Q. That was an issue. I remember that.

25 A. Yep. That's why it took so long. They didn't have the proper rental paper with them so we had to verify with the rental company if the one person, guy who claimed yes he could drive it but he wasn't on it so we had to call to make sure.

Q. Okay.

30 A. And then the park officer was dealing with one of 'em who actually had a warrant.

Q. Okay. And I remember that person was arrested.

A. Yes.

35 Q. You said earlier that Sergeant Christensen arrived later on. How much time do you think after you arrived did she arrive?

A. I'd have to go back and...

Q. I don't need an exact time I'm just trying to get some time reference.

40 A. Well, let's see. Squad 850, which would be the park officer...

Q. Okay.

A. He got it at 2017.

45 Q. Mmhmm.

A. I got it at the same time so it must, I must have just, ah, um, told him I was going with just to back 'em up.

Q. Mmhmm.

50 A. Um, let's see...Sergeant Christensen I believe she was 104. She didn't show up until about...she didn't get it assigned until 2021.

Q. Okay.

A. Um, she didn't show up until 23, 2023. Oh, I guess we all showed up about the same time varying seconds.

55 Q. And how about Guelcher? Does it state?

window. "I saw two policeman standing outside their cars some African Americans in the grass and a lot of shouting was going on. Um, the officers were approximately six feet away. I went out on the balcony to see what's happening. I heard a lot shouting." Um, let's see what she says specifically regarding verbiage.

5 "I cannot testify to every word that was said but one thing I heard and it was shouted by the police officers was, 'We didn't find any drugs on you this time. I don't care. How was I supposed to know you don't work for Al fuckin' Al-Qaida. I don't care if you're green, blue, purple, whatever color, if you're acting up, I'm going to stop you.' Those are the main things I remember the officers saying." Did anybody say anything like that?

A. So, she doesn't remember the groups or anything?

10

Q. She's talking about the officers.

A. Mmhmm. I guess so.

15

Q. She doesn't talk about the groups. She says there's shouting going on and there's interaction going on but she doesn't specifically say what's being said by the...

A. Of course not.

20

Q. Okay. But do you remem...my question is do you remember any of the officers making comments that she's...

A. Nothing about Al-Qaida.

Q. Okay.

A. Ah, the green what was it?

25

Q. I don't care what color you are green, purple or blue, if you're acting up, I'm gonna stop you...

A. Nobody said that I'm act...the I'm acting up. I said the green, purple and blue.

Q. Okay.

A. And the reason behind that was...would you like to know, or...?

30

Q. Well, of course I'd like to know.

A. Because...

35

Q. Well, you see, you're being, you're being kind of defensive.

A. Well, I am because you only got a little bit and I find it interesting how a third or fourth party complainant who sits up on a balcony only wants to hear what an officer says but doesn't want to hear what the group and initially what the call was for.

40

Q. Well, maybe she didn't hear it and it wasn't...

A. It's interesting because they all started in on me being a racist bitch.

Q. Okay.

A. Callin' me a fucking racist bitch.

45

Q. Well, that's why you're here, okay?

A. And that's when I said, "How dare you." And this is right after Ferguson, so everybody assumed that because some white cops show up, we're gonna have problems.

Q. Okay.

50

A. And that's where the group started going in...the males.

Q. Okay.

55

A. Which they started in on that I was a bitch, I was a fucking bitch, I was racist and that's where I said I don't care if you're blue, green or red, your race has nothing to do with it. I went on to say I find it interesting how you personally attack me on being racist when I have a nephew and a niece who are black.

Q. Right.

A. And the drugs that they're talking about was a bottle of narcotics that was found tucked up under the wheel well of the vehicle that they were trying to hide from us.

5 Q. Okay.

A. Which I happened to find which has led to, "Whose drugs are these?"

Q. Right.

A. The prescription bottle was not in any of their names.

10

Q. So, when you're asking these questions to try to determine what's going on, are they resisting?

A. Yes.

Q. Are they being uncooperative?

15

A. Correct.

Q. Okay.

A. That started within the whole realm of we're racists, I was a fucking bitch...

20

Q. Okay. I'm just looking through some of my notes. Okay this is the same person that...oh, excuse me, it's the second person that complained. This is that email that was sent.

A. Okay.

25

Q. It says, ah, On 7 p.m., my wife and I are walking our dog at Gold Medal Park. We noticed there were a group of youths between 4 and 8 young African American men. Ah, they were being rambunctious and loud. About 27 minutes later we saw four police cars rush to the park, one actually drove through the grass into the park. They stopped 3 or 4 of the young men and held them while they searched their car. During the search, two of the police officers were, in my opinion, disrespectful and provocative. They said statements such as, "You don't belong here. This is a nice neighborhood. You can't bring your shit here. You could be Al-Qaida. Is that your piece of shit friend? Do you think this is funny you piece of shit?" and constantly using the word, "fuck" when interacting with these black youths.

30

Did you hear any of that or something similar to it?

A. I don't remember anything about Al-Qaida.

35

Q. Ah-huh. I understand.

A. Um, and like I said, earlier, we were trying to get questions and ans...questions answered from us on why they were there and they were not talking to us, um, I don't remember anybody on the grass driving through the park. We had all parked. We weren't blocking 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, um, you know, we had just parked basically pretty much on the same side as what their vehicle, where they were parked.

40

Q. Just so I've got a picture in my mind, you've got the park officer dealing with this one kid who had a warrant who eventually took...

A. Yeah, after, yeah, that's, we were able to figure that out 'cause we had to get everybody ID'd and in the course of getting people ID'd, that's where we were getting resistance.

45

Q. Okay.

A. And the questions were asked, "Why are you here?"

50

Q. Right.

A. You know, "You're from Saint Paul. You're not enjoying the park, you're here fighting." And one of the people that they happened to be fighting with, happened to be across the street walking back and the group engaged them which at some point, you know, we had to deal with that and tell 'em to knock it off.

55

Q. Engage meaning some type of, ah...

Q. Okay. If there's nothing else, I'm gonna close this out. Are there any facts considering this incident you have knowledge of that have not disclosed?

A. No.

Q. Is there anything else you would like to add to this statement I have not asked you concerning this incident?

A. No. I'm fine.

Q. Is this a true and accurate statement?

A. Yes.

Q. Per MPD Policy and Procedure Sections 5-107.8, you are not to discuss this interview or case investigation with anyone other than your Federation Union Representative or an attorney. Do you understand this?

A. Yes.

Q. Statement concluded at 3:25 p.m.

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

jmc



A. Yeah, they started their verbal...they started again on...

Q. Okay.

A. Well, actually there were two of 'em that actually had, were on the other side of the street that they started to engage again.

Q. Okay. So, I want to make sure I've got this clear. So, the park officer's dealing with...that's Officer Archer, dealing with this kid with the warrant?

A. Correct.

Q. You're there obviously...

A. Yep.

Q. Interacting with the youths. Um, Officer Guelcher. Correct?

A. Correct.

Q. And then Sergeant Christensen?

A. She was in the squad car call, calling with...

Q. She remained pretty much in the squad car dealing with the rental car thing.

A. From what I remember, yeah.

Q. So, it was pretty much you and Officer Guelcher that were dealing with the kids?

A. Correct.

Q. And how many were there approximately?

A. About five of 'em.

Q. Okay. Um, I'm gonna review and see if I have missed anything but add anything you'd like, ask me any question you'd like 'cause I'm just kind of wrapping things up here. You know, elaborate as much as you'd like about this situation if there's something that I've missed.

A. Well, I just find it interesting that, you know, you have third party complainants on something that they don't know what's going on and they're only reporting one half of a conversation when another group that we're dealing with, were, were also yelling, you know...

Q. Right. You're right. They talked about the shouting but they only talked about hearing one side.

A. Exactly. You know, I, I find it interesting how they leave out, you know that, the words that were said to me...

Q. Mmhmm.

A. And the derogatory statements that were made toward me.

Q. Yeah, there's a 9-1-1 phone number here and when I called it I don't get an answer. It's a long distance area code and...

A. Might have been a passerby or I, I'm not sure. I don't, I don't remember. I don't even know what the remarks...

Q. I'm gonna see what it says...

A. Six to eight of 'em involved in a physical fight...

Q. No weapons seen, right?

A. Right, 'cause the caller...

Q. Somali males, okay, all right. I see that.

A. So, and that's all there is further than that so I don't...



Q. Mmhmm.

A. And that's where it ended.

5 Q. All right. Let's see what else it says here. But, you don't recall a comment pertaining to Al-Qaida, correct?  
A. No.

Q. Okay. Just let me go to...this is another witness whose name came up in interviewing the first witness who actually was the one who generated the complaint.

10 A. Okay.

Q. So, it's another resident that was nearby that was out walking.

A. Okay.

15 Q. Ah, let's see what he says. "So, we're out walking and we see police cars gathered again. Like you say, we came in after the fact. Um, the officers were being provocative. It seemed like they were trying to get a reaction out of the young men. They were using the word fuck constantly. Um, some of the statements I remember hearing were, "You don't belong here. This is a nice neighborhood. You can't bring your shit here. You're a piece of shit."

20

That's what one witness claims he heard one of the officers say. He can't identify the officer. Um, did you hear anything like that?

A. We asked them what they were doing at Gold Medal Park.

25 Q. Mmhmm.

A. Coming out of Saint Paul.

Q. Mmhmm.

A. And then we asked them why they were fighting.

30

Q. Okay. But as far as the derogatory terms, "You're a piece of shit." That kind of thing...

A. I don't re...no, I don't remember any of that.

35 Q. Okay. Um, and this fellow says that he got closer and one of the officers got in one of the black youth's face because they were smiling or something and he said, "So, you think this is funny?" and then repeated the phrase multiple times, "You're a piece of shit."

40 Um, at one point, one of the officers, a young man who had not been interacting with the young men, came and asked us, "Have you seen anything?" In other words, an officer approached these two people, a man and a wife, there was a claim about a fight and we called them, we've been here at the park but we didn't see a fight.

45 Um, I mean the complaint is all about verbiage, quite frankly. Okay. That's that. There's one more I believe. There it is. This was a ride-along with a park officer. That was John Archer like you said. Um, she said, "I got out of the car. I heard some of the officers say, "You don't belong here. If you don't like it here, go back home. Don't bring your shit here. You're probably part of Al-Qaida." Um, she says, "I'm 8 or 10, 10 or 15 feet away when I'm hearing these remarks from the officers." No other specifics other than that. Did you hear anything like that from any of the officers?

A. Well, there was questions being asked...why we're there.

50

Q. Mmhmm.

A. Okay. What's taking place? And so we asked them. They're from Saint Paul, they have no, nobody at the park that they're going to see, no residence that they're going to see, they're parked in a no parking, they don't have the proper paperwork for a rental vehicle...

55



A. What was he workin'? Ah, he, he got it assigned later at 2024 and he showed up about the same time.

Q. Yeah, I've got Guelcher as 8163 here.

A. Yep.

Q. Okay. So he's 2024 also. Um...

A. Did you talk to his...to... did you talk to the off-duty officer 6180? Officer Abdulahi and Officer Ali? They were also assigned to the call.

Q. No, I haven't.

A. Okay.

Q. I've, I've spoken to, um, Sergeant Christensen.

A. Mmhmm.

Q. Determined Herron wasn't there.

A. Mmhmm.

Q. Um, you today obviously.

A. Mmhmm.

Q. I see that two other officers. They were working off-duty as security for the building nearby or what was that about?

A. No, they were workin' on another site. We just, um, got a hold of 'em because they were, you know our Somali officers and our deal that we were dealing with was Somali males and, um, the group was out of Saint Paul and we've been having problems with gang members out of Saint Paul comin' into Minneapolis...

Q. Okay.

A. And fighting with Minneapolis Somali males which was the deal that was going on.

Q. So, did these two officers that were nearby respond to the scene and interact just like you?

A. I don't think they did. I think, um, I, I don't know if I might have talked to him on the phone or just had him look at the call. I don't remember 'em showin' up.

Q. Can you remember if they were present?

A. I don't think so, no.

Q. So, I mean, the accusation obviously is the language used by...

A. I'm coming at a, I'm not sure what. Nobody swore.

Q. Well, we'll get to that.

A. Nobody called 'em racial...

Q. But the, ah, the two Somali officers, even though you communicated with them, they did not come to the scene so they, if there was something said they would not be able to address it 'cause they weren't there.

A. Yeah.

Q. Okay. I wanted to clarify that. Okay. So, I interviewed the witness who called in.

A. Mmhmm. Was that the 9-1-1 caller?

Q. No. I'm working on trying to identify the 9-1-1 caller...um, she says she's out walking her dog...

A. Yes.

Q. And her husband says you better look out and she convinces and her husband says you better look out the

A. Yes, sir. I have.

Q. Okay. Good. So, the complaint was generated initially states the following. And this is from just from a private citizen.

Complainant states that four police cars stopped a group of black youths in front of the Gold Medal Park sign. The complainant states one officer was yelling at them like, "I don't care what your name is, I have no way of knowing if you're a member of Al-Qaida or not. I am not prejudice because you are black. I don't care if you're green. If you break the law, I'm going to get in your face. Ok so you don't have any drugs on you."

Complainant states after the youths were detained by the officers for about 45 minutes, they were released.

And then there's a supplementary complaint. Let's see if that has more specifics. I don't believe it does but let me scan it here. It does have a few more specifics. This is generated by the same person.

"In front of the Gold Medal Park sign, were four police cars. One up on the grass, all of them with the lights blinking and one of the cars was blocking 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. Seated on the ground in front of the sign were three black youths. The police were going back and forth to their cars while two stood a few feet away from kids. One police officer was yelling things at them like..." Pardon. This is redundant. I've already covered that. Um, "After about 45 minutes, the kids were let go and the police left."

Do you remember this situation?

A. Yes, I do.

Q. Okay. Ah, were you working a one-person car or did you have a partner at that time, do you remember?

A. No, I was Able. 160 Able.

Q. Okay. Who else was there that you remember?

A. Well, there was a park cop there. Officer Guelcher was there. I don't remember what his squad number was and, um, Sergeant Christensen showed up later.

Q. Okay. A Steven Herron is mentioned as one of the officers but actually when some, ah, request was sent to him, it was a mistake. He was not there.

A. No, he was not.

Q. Okay. Now, John Archer?

A. He was probably the park officer.

Q. Okay. And his number is different I think. So, what do you remember about this situation? Did you get the initial call or do you remember the initial call?

A. Yeah, it was a 9-1-1 call.

Q. Okay.

A. On a fight.

Q. Okay.

A. So, I find it interesting that your complainant wasn't even there for the beginning of the fight between the groups.

Q. Well, that's right...

A. It was a group of Somali males that were fighting and it was a resident that called.

Q. Okay. You're right. The complainant just talks about the presence of the police...

A. Exactly, so they weren't there from the beginning.



November 20, 2014

**Office of  
Police Conduct Review**

**Velma J. Korbel**  
*Director*  
Department of Civil Rights

**Civilian Unit**  
350 S. 5th Street - Room 239  
Minneapolis MN 55415  
Office 612-673-5500

**Janeé L. Harteau**  
*Chief*  
Minneapolis Police Department

**Internal Affairs Unit**  
350 S. 5th Street - Room 112  
Minneapolis MN 55415  
Office 612-673-3074

[policereview@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:policereview@minneapolismn.gov)

**Officer Erika Christiansen**  
**Bomb/ arson**  
Minneapolis Police Department

**RE: OPCR Case Number # 14 - 20461**

**Officer Christiansen,**

You are being called as a **witness** in the above complaint. The specific policy(s) alleged to have been violated are:

List Policy Number – OPCR Ord.172.20(2) –Inappropriate attitude, and  
OPCR Ord. 172.20(3) - Discrimination

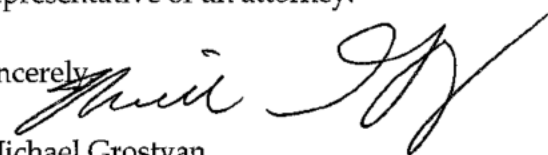
*Summary of allegations: It is alleged that on August 15, 2014 Officer Guelcher used profanity and discriminated against a group of citizens.*

According to Workforce Director you are scheduled to work:  
**Monday, December 1, 2014.**

Your appointment to provide a statement to the Office of Police Conduct Review has been scheduled for **December 1, 2014 at 1100 hours at the Office of Civil Rights, Room 239 in City Hall.** It is your responsibility to arrange for a Federation and legal representative if you wish to have one accompany you to the interview. If you have a conflict you must contact me by December 1, 2014, to discuss an alternate date. I can be contacted by e-mail at [michael.grostyan@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:michael.grostyan@minneapolismn.gov), or phone at **612-673-5503** between the hours of 9:00 am and 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday.

This is an ongoing investigation and you are not to discuss this case or interview with anyone other than your union/federation representative. You are entitled to be represented at this interview by a union/federation representative or an attorney.

Sincerely,

  
Michael Grostyan  
Investigator  
Office of Police Conduct Review

13.43 - Personnel Data

**STATEMENT OF**      **Sergeant Erika Christensen**  
**PLACE:**            Office of Police Conduct Review, Civilian Unit – Room 239  
**DATE:**             December 1, 2014  
**TIME:**             10:55 a.m.  
5    **CASE NO:**        14-20461  
**INVESTIGATOR:**   Michael Grostyan

10    Q. This is a recorded statement of Officer Erika Christensen on December 1<sup>st</sup> at approximately 10:55 a.m. We're in the Minneapolis Civil Rights Department Room 239. The interview is being conducted by Investigator Michael Grostyan. This is regarding OPCR Case Number 14-20461.

Um, your full name Officer?

A. Sergeant Erika Elaine Christensen.

15    Q. I'm sorry. I called you officer.

A. Mmhmm.

Q. So, you're...I'm gonna ask you. Your present rank is sergeant. Is that correct?

A. Yes.

20    Q. And your work assignment presently?

A. I'm presently in the Arson Unit.

Q. Okay. What is your employee number?

25    A. Ah, 1097.

Q. And your date of appointment?

A. Ah, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1992.

30    Q. Okay. You are being ordered to give a complete and truthful statement regarding matters pertaining to the scope of your employment or fitness for duty. It is a compelled statement pursuant to MPD Policy and Procedure. Under the Garrity Decision, any statement you provide in this investigation cannot be used in a criminal proceeding against you except in cases of alleged perjury. However, these statements may be used against you in relation to employment allegations. Do you understanding this warning?

35    A. Yes, I do.

Q. I am advising you that if you refuse to answer, give a false or intentionally incomplete statement or intentionally omit information that is pertinent to this investigation, you will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including...(cough) excuse me, suspension or discharge. Do you understand this?

40    A. Yes.

Q. Okay. Now, we'll have to do the Tennessen Warning. I'll have you read that, sign off on it and then I'll witness it as well.

A. [no audible dialogue]

45    Q. All right. Thank you.  
A. Mmhmm.

50    Q. And have I informed you that the purpose of this statement, excuse me. Let me go back. Is it correct you've read, understood and signed the Data Practices Advisory, otherwise known as the Tennessen Warning?

A. It is.

55    Q. Okay. Have I informed you the purpose of this statement relates to an OPCR investigation specifically an administrative review that's being conducted on a situation that occurred on August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014 in the vicinity of looks like First Street and Tenth Avenue? Um...and you're being called to explain the circumstances regarding this event? Oh, I noticed you pulled some reports there. Is that, is that to refresh your memory I assume?

A. Yes.

Q. Okay.

A. I also have the 9-1-1 intel and VisiNet.

Q. Okay. Why don't you just go ahead and tell me about that particular situation.

A. I was, ah, working as a supervisor. I was on a temporary assignment downtown for the summer. Ah, away from my normal assignment in Arsons and, ah, so I was working as a supervisor that evening on 13.43 - [REDACTED], ah, Squad 104 and, ah, there was a call for, ah, um, several, several black males fighting, ah, near the Gold Medal Park that's right next to the Guthrie Theatre.

Q. Mmhmm.

A. And, ah, I wasn't too far away and neither were some other squads so we went over, on...?

Q. You were working alone I assume?

A. Yes. Supervisors ride alone.

Q. Okay.

A. Um, I came around from the backside from the River Boulevard side.

Q. Mmhmm.

A. Ah, and as I was coming up I heard one of the squads say they had a group of black males on Second. Ah, right at... I don't remember if it was Tenth or Eleventh. I think it was Tenth.

Q. Okay.

A. Um, so I went over there and by the time I got there, ah, there was a couple other squads there and they had, everybody was secured and/or just standing there and the officers were talking to 'em.

Q. Okay. Let me tell you about the complaint. Um, the complaint came by a private citizen who lives nearby and it states that four police cars stopped a group of black youths in front of the Gold Medal Park sign. The complainant states one officer was yelling at them, "I don't care what your name is. I don't have, I have no way of knowing if you're a member of Al-Qaida or not. I am not prejudice because you're black. I don't care if you're green, if you break the law, I'm gonna get in your face. Okay, so you don't have any drugs on you." The complainant states that after the youths were detained by officers about forty-five minutes, they were released.

So the complaint pertains to the language of one of the officers, a male officer...

A. Okay. So, I. Just so I understand. So, none of the individuals that we actually stopped is making this complaint? So, this is a third-party offended?

Q. That's correct.

A. Wow.

Q. Yep.

A. I think I'll try that next one.

Q. There were a number of black youths. Oh, I mean, I think one was arrested for a warrant...

A. He had a warrant. Someone had a warrant. Yeah.

Q. Yeah. None of them complained.

A. Mmhmm.

Q. It was a private citizen. In fact, there was several private citizens. Do you recall any language used by a male officer there?

A. No, I do not.

Q. Okay. Um, I'm trying to think...the other...there's a John Archer who was a park officer I remember.

A. I remember a park officer there.

5 Q. Okay.

A. Couldn't tell you his name.

Q. And then Steven Herron was referenced.

A. Steve was there. I don't know how long he stayed.

10

Q. And then Christopher Guelcher. I'm not sure I'm pronouncing that correctly.

A. Guelcher. That's correct.

15 Q. Okay. And the impression I get in reviewing photographs and talking to witnesses is it was Guelcher who was physically described as the one who was interacting and allegedly making these comments.

A. I have no idea.

Q. Okay. Can you say specifically whether it was Herron or Guelcher who was interacting with them or was it kind of a group effort?

20 A. Everybody was sort of taking different people.

Q. Okay.

A. Um, the one that had the warrant I think was initially put into the park squad. I don't know if he was put in later, put into Guelcher's squad but I think initially as we were...

25

Q. Yep. I remember that.

A. Um, trying to figure out if these were the people that were being called on or not.

Q. Okay. But the language I've described, you didn't hear anything from either of the male officers similar to that?

30

A. I did not.

Q. Okay. Let me go over the complaint that's kind of a little bit of an elaboration, not too much. It's by the same witness.

35

In front of the Gold Medal Park sign, were four police cars, one up on the grass all done with the lights blinking. One of the cars was blocking Second Street. Seated on the ground in front of the sign were three black male youths. The police were going back and forth to their cars while two stood a few feet from the kids. One police officer was yelling things at them like (I'm being redundant.) I don't care what your name is, I had no way of knowing if you're a member of Al-Qaida or not. I don't, I'm not prejudice because you're black. Um, I don't care if you're green, if you break the law, I'm gonna get in your face. Okay, so you don't have any drugs on you. And then in about forty-five minutes, the kids were let go and the police left.

40

Well, actually one was arrested from a warrant.

45

A. Mmhmm.

Q. Um, the woman who initially complained was on her balcony; lives nearby.

A. Mmhmm.

50

Q. Was on her balcony. Then there was a husband and wife walking their dog that overheard it as well. And then coincidentally the park officer had the Superintendent of Parks and Recreation riding with him.

A. I remember someone with him. I didn't know who it was. I had no idea who it was.

Q. And she filed a complaint also.

55

A. Okay.



Q. About the language. And I've interviewed all three of them. Um, do you remember this person that we just talked about that was riding with the park officer? Was she out and about or did she remain in the squad? Do you recall?

5 A. I remember seeing her out at one point. I don't know if she walked around or what.

Q. Yeah. Was she in physical proximity such that she would have heard something or what?

A. I can't tell you that. I don't know.

10 Q. Okay.

A. Yeah.

Q. But she was out rather than sitting in the squad.

A. I did see her out at one point.

15

Q. Okay. Um, did you notice any other citizens nearby? I mean was it kind of secluded or quiet or how would you describe it?

A. No, there were other people around.

20 Q. Okay. Okay. All right. Let's see what the VisiNet report says.

A. Have you spoken with the 9-1-1 caller?

Q. Um, I have not.

A. We wouldn't have been there without that 9-1-1 caller.

25

Q. Well, I recognize that.

A. Okay.

30

Q. Um, no, the VisiNet just tells [INAUDIBLE 9:18] and none of the reports obviously are good. [INAUDIBLE 9:24]. Um, all right. Anything else about the situation you probably think might be important?

A. No. But if someone has a concern about how long it took, I do recall one of them had a rental car. It was a rental car. It was...and I don't remember if he said his mother's name or his sister's name. I called the rental company to check and that's a pretty common procedure if you have a rental...

35

Q. Sure.

A. Car to see if the person driving is really the one that is supposed to be driving it and he was. But that took a lot to deal with.

Q. Were they all juveniles? Do you recall?

40

A. I couldn't even tell you.

Q. The rental cars issue with someone being under seventeen and signing for a rental car.

A. I...

45

Q. But it all checked out?

A. It all checked out. It's not under seventeen. It's whether you rent the car and have other car...drivers listed.

Q. Right.

A. I can rent a car at my age but if someone else drives it and I don't have 'em listed as a driver...

50

Q. You're right.

A. Most car comp...car rental places are gonna want you to tow that car.

Q. Yeah, and usually when you rent they ask whether there's gonna be any other drivers.

55

A. Yes. And so when we...someone realized it was a rental car so I sat there and called the rental company. It



took a bit.

Q. Okay. Let me wrap things up here. Um, are there any facts concerning this incident you have knowledge of but have not disclosed?

5 A. Not that I can think of.

Q. Anything else you'd like to add to this statement I have not asked you concerning this incident?

A. No.

10 Q. Everything you've told me is true and accurate?

A. Yep.

Q. Per MPD Policy and Procedure, you are not to discuss this interview or case investigation with anyone other than your Federation Union Representative or attorney. Do you understand this?

15 A. Yes.

Q. This statement concluded at 11:05 a.m.

20 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

jmc



**Office of  
Police Conduct Review**

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[policereview@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:policereview@minneapolismn.gov)

November 5, 2014

Claudia Kittock  
215 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue South  
Unit 613  
Minneapolis, MN 55415

**RE: OPCR File #14-20461**

Dear Ms. Kittock:

Enclosed are two copies of your statement given on November 3, 2014. Please review and initial any corrections you wish to make on your statement. Sign and return one copy of the statement to our office.

Thank you for your cooperation and feel free to contact me at 612-673-5500 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Grostyan  
Case Investigator

MAG:jmc

Enclosures

**STATEMENT OF** Claudia Kittock  
**PLACE:** Minneapolis Department of Civil Rights, Office of Police Conduct Review - Room 239  
**DATE:** November 3, 2014  
**TIME:** 9:00 a.m.  
5 **CASE NO:** 14-20461  
**INVESTIGATOR:** Michael Grostyan

Q. This is a tape recorded statement of Claudia Kittock. Did I pronounce that correctly?

A. Yes.

10 Q. Okay. Um, and today's date is November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014. It's approximately 9 a.m. We're in the Minneapolis Civil Rights Office Room 239. Claudia's being interviewed by Investigator Michael Grostyan. This is regarding OPCR Case Number 14-20461.

15 Your full name please?

A. Um, my full name is Dr. Claudia Kittock.

Q. All right. And your present address and phone number?

A. 215 Tenth Avenue South, Unit 613, Minneapolis. Ah, 612-353-5250.

20 Q. Okay and your age and date of birth?

A. My age is 62. My date of birth is 5-3-52.

25 Q. All right. You're being questioned as part of an official investigation into a complaint of police misconduct. The information you provide will be used in a fact-finding process as part of the total evidence to determine if such misconduct occurred and for assessing whether disciplinary action should be taken. The information you supply may also be used in grievance hearings, arbitration or other appeal procedure. Other parties outside the Minneapolis Civil Rights Department, OPCR Office, may have access to the information you provide as part of the internal investigation. At this time, I'd like to ask you some questions concerning an incident that occurred on August 15, 2014 and the location I have is Second Street and Eleventh Street Gold Medal Park. Is that...?

30 A. Second Avenue and Tenth.

Q. Second Avenue and Tenth?

35 A. Yep, and Tenth. Mmhmm.

Q. Tenth Street right?

A. Correct.

40 Q. Okay. Ah, and it's Gold Medal Park?

A. That's correct.

Q. Um, you know, I've driven...is that down by the river down here or where? Give me a reference.

A. It is, it's right next door to the Guthrie.

45 Q. I'm sorry?

A. Right on the river. Yep.

Q. Okay. Well, that's what I was thinking. Um, all right, so I need you to just tell me your story as to what you observed, what you heard, what brought your attention and obviously why you're here today.

50 A. Sure. Um, we live in a unit that faces both Tenth, the corner unit faces Tenth and Second. And we have a dog and my husband was out walking the dog in Gold Medal Park. He came in and said there were some teenagers in the park roughhousing and, you know, acting like teenagers. He said, "I bet somebody's gonna complain."

55 Q. Mmhmm.

A. So, about 35 minutes later, he said, "You better look out the window." And I looked out the window and

there were four squad cars, um, and I can't tell you how many police but I saw at least two policemen standing outside of their cars, three young African American men on the grass and a lot of shouting going on. So...

5 Q. What's the distance between the officers standing and the youths standing?

A. Well, not very far, um, maybe six feet.

Q. Oh, very close?

A. Very close. They were standing right there.

10

Q. Okay. I understand.

A. Yeah. So, I went out on the balcony, um, to see what was happening and heard a lot of shouting from the police officers going on.

15 Q. Mmhmm.

A. Um, and it was one of those incidents that I really wanted to walk away from but I was afraid. I didn't know what was gonna happen so I thought I better witness this. So I stayed out on the balcony and, um, witnessed it until the boys...it was about 45 minutes and then the boys left and the police officers left.

20 Q. Okay. So, tell me what you heard or what you observed that, you know, was kind of a generation of the genesis of the complaint.

A. Sure. Sure. Um, you know and again being on the sixth floor I cannot testify to every word that was said but the thing that I heard being shouted were, um, by the police officers was, "Fine. We didn't find drugs on you *this time*." Um, "I don't care. How was I supposed to know you didn't work for Al fuckin' Qaida." Um, "I don't care if you're green, blue, purple or whatever color you are, um, if you're acting up, I'm gonna stop you." Um, those were the main things. The Al-Qaida comments and the, um, the comment about drugs *this time*.

25

Q. Mmhmm. And you said how many squads again? Were they squad cars?

A. Four. Four. And, you know, I'm, I'm a psychologist so I don't know about police work other than what I do as a child psychologist but I don't know if they were all squad cars. One at least was Park Police.

30

Q. Okay.

A. Um, one of the cars was up on the grass in the park and the other one was blocking Second Avenue.

35 Q. Okay. There were only two officers who were actually physically out of their vehicles?

A. That I saw. There were officers getting in and out of the car but there were only two that were doing the yelling when I was...

Q. That were interacting with the youths?

40 A. That I saw. I certainly didn't see the whole thing.

Q. Okay. Um, do you believe you saw the, the beginning of it or did you kind of enter mid-stream?

A. I think mid-stream. I think mid-stream.

45 Q. Okay.

A. And it was clear that the young men were not free to leave and that, you know, they, they, they were there for at least 45 minutes.

Q. Did you hear anything verbally from the, the young men in terms of responding to what the officers were saying?

50

A. I did not. There were clearly some responses.

Q. Okay.

A. Um, but I didn't hear them.

55

Q. Okay. Okay. So, I'm going to read your complaint here, the real brief complaint.

A. Please.

Q. That you initially made. Complainant (that being you obviously) states four police cars were stopping a group of black youths in front of the Gold Medal Park sign. Complainant states one officer was yelling at them like, "I don't care what your name is. I have no way of knowing if you're a member of Al-Qaida or not." And they used profanity in front of them, correct?

A. Correct.

Q. I am not prejudiced because you are black. I don't care if you are green. If you break the law, we're going to get up in your face. Okay. So you don't have any drugs on you this time. Okay. Complainant states after the youths were detained by the officers for about 45 minutes they were released.

Did you hear what the officers said as they were leaving or as the youths were released or how it ended verbally?

A. I didn't. I didn't. I just saw them. I just saw, you know, one kid go and then another kid go and then the third one go, so I have absolutely no idea.

Q. Did the officers ever have any physical contact with the youths?

A. Not when I was watching them.

Q. Did they ever kind of get in the youth's face at all? Or were they at a reasonable distance?

A. They were at a reasonable distance but they had the kids down on the ground.

Q. Oh.

A. One was sitting and two were laying on the ground.

Q. Face down or on their back?

A. I can't tell you that with certainty.

Q. Did you see them go to the ground?

A. No. They were there when I saw it. I'm sorry. All three were on ground, laying on the ground when I saw them and then one sat up.

Q. One sat up. Okay. [INAUDIBLE 6:42] I'm not trying to be picky but...

A. No, please.

Q. In terms of them being on the ground, did you view that as unusual?

A. I viewed that as certainly an intimidation and, and a, and a power fight but no, I didn't know if it was unusual.

Q. Yeah. I mean many times when officers confront someone for safety or other reasons they tell 'em to get on the ground.

A. Absolutely.

Q. And usually it's face down.

A. Absolutely.

Q. So they can handcuff 'em or whatever. But you never...you don't know if that was the case?

A. I do not.

Q. Okay. Let me look further here. This is a little bit more detail on your complaint. I know I'm repeating but I'll see if there's anything else here. I think I'm going to read this again because there's a few other things in here.



In the front of the Gold Medal Park sign were four police cars, one up on the grass all of them with lights blinking. One of the cars was blocking Second Street.

A. [no audible dialogue]

5 Q. So, they had their red lights on?

A. They did.

Q. I forgot to ask you. What time of the day is this?

A. Oh boy. It was certainly late afternoon, early evening. It still wasn't...dark. It's light out.

10

Q. It's light out?

A. Yeah. Definitely light out.

Q. The police were going back and forth to their cars while two stood a few feet away from the kids. One police officer was yelling things at them like, "I don't care what your name is..." I won't repeat all that.

15

A. Yes.

Q. Um, after about 45 minutes, the kids were let go and the police left. Okay. There is a police report here and let's see what it says.

20

Officers were dispatched to the above location with a report of physical fighting involving several black males.

Have you ever seen a fight? Okay.

25

A. I should...I'm a...I'm a child psychologist and my specialty is adolescence.

Q. Mmhmm.

A. So, when I see a group of adolescent males doing can certainly be interpreted differently than someone else.

30

Q. Yeah, certainly.

A. But, roughhousing, you know, acting like teenagers.

Q. Yeah, it can be playful or whatever.

35

A. Acting like it is. (laugh) That goes with teenagers.

Q. But, a fight per se you did not?

A. I did not.

40

Q. Okay.

A. Nor did my husband when he was out there, no.

Q. Okay. Upon arrival, officers detained males believed to be fighting. One of the males was identified blah, blah, blah. Um, he informs that a warrant was transported with a warrant. So, they took one of the kids away.

45

A. I understand. That must have happened before.

Q. Okay.

A. We did have some other neighbors that did file complaints too who were, who were on the ground and saw it much different...well, not differently...

50

A. Okay.

B. More intensely than I did.

55

Q. Here's another oral report I'll read. This is an individual officer 'cause most of the officers that were there

that had any interaction write some type of report.

A. Sure.

Q. I was dispatched along with other officers to 1100 Second Street South with a report of a physical fight involving six to eight individuals between the age 17 and 20 who were black males. You only saw three?

A. I did.

Q. Okay.

Upon arrival, assistant squads stopped a group of six Somali males at the corner of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and Tenth Avenue. I observed two of the males walking with the other group. I stopped two males who appeared to be grabbing onto each other.

Now, we're talking about on a corner as opposed to on the grassy area in the park.

A. Yeah, they were like...the kids that were lying down were lying directly in front of the sign, the Gold Medal Park sign.

Q. How far is that from the intersection of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue?

A. That is the intersection.

Q. It's right there?

A. Yeah. Here's the park and 10<sup>th</sup> comes this way.

Q. Mmhmm.

A. So, it's right there.

Q. Okay. Okay. All right. This is just records or something they ran in with people's IDs and so forth.

A. Sure. Sure.

Q. They've got the time as about, um, 8:30 at night, 8:25?

A. I wouldn't disagree with that.

Q. Okay.

A. It was a, it was August. It was still light outside. (laugh)

Q. Oh, sure. Is any other verbiage here? The call went out about 8:15 or 8:20, somewhere in there.

A. Okay.

Q. And then one squad went and others backed him up or responded. And it's all labeled Gold Medal Park.

A. [no audible dialogue]

Q. What is your husband's name? I'm sorry.

A. Richard Kittcock.

Q. Was he watching with you?

A. No.

Q. Okay. Did he go back inside?

A. He did.

Q. Okay. But he saw the beginning of it or he saw...?

A. He was out in the park and observed the boys, just saw a group of boys.

Q. Oh, there was no police there yet?

A. No. No-no-no. They were just, you know, they were, they were being loud.



Q. Okay. And he made a comment?

A. He did.

5 Q. Somebody might call about it?

A. He did. Which they did and of course it is very, it's a very white upper class neighborhood.

Q. Then there were some other people that were nearby that you...?

A. There were.

10

Q. That you could contact?

A. Yep. But they were standing by the signs so they'll have much, much better information.

Q. Oh, you noticed some other citizens standing by the sign?

15

A. Yes, Raymond Vigil.

Q. [INAUDIBLE 12:42]

A. Yep, yep, yep and is better, yep.

20

Q. Okay. They're neighbors of yours?

A. They live in the building. We're, we're in a high rise.

Q. Okay.

A. Condominium.

25

Q. Well, if I needed to reach your husband, what number would I use?

A. Mine. 612-

Q. Same number?

30

A. Yep.

Q. Okay. All right. Ah, anything else you'd like to add to the statement that we haven't talked about?

A. I don't think so. Basically, my concern is that, I mean, obviously, my concern is that black kids in the park are not suspicious.

35

Q. Yes.

A. And cause for police.

Q. Your complaint has two components obviously. The discrimination factor which you mentioned and also the inappropriate attitude and language that you overheard.

40

A. Right. Right. Especially the Somali kids from City, you know, I'm assuming they're from Cedar/Riverside. Mmhmm.

Q. All right. Well, I'm gonna close this out then. Everything you've told me is true and accurate?

45

A. It is.

Q. All right and this concludes the interview. The time is 9:15 a.m.

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

50

jmc

Q. Okay. And he made a comment?

A. He did.

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A. It is.

Q. All right and this concludes the interview. The time is 9:15 a.m.

Signature: Dr. Claudia Kittock Date: 11-8-14

50

jmc

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A. [no audible dialogue]

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Q. But, a fight per se you did not?

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Q. Okay.

A. Nor did my husband when he was out there, no.

Q. Okay. Upon arrival, officers detained males believed to be fighting. One of the males was identified blah, blah, blah. Um, he informs that a warrant was transported with a warrant. So, they took one of the kids away.

45

A. I understand. That must have happened before.

Q. Okay.

A. We did have some other neighbors that did file complaints too who were, who were on the ground and saw it much different...well, not differently...

50

A. Okay.

B. More intensely than I did.

55

Q. Here's another oral report I'll read. This is an individual officer 'cause most of the officers that were there

there were four squad cars, um, and I can't tell you how many police but I saw at least two policemen standing outside of their cars, three young African American men on the grass and a lot of shouting going on. So...

5 Q. What's the distance between the officers standing and the youths standing?

A. Well, not very far, um, maybe six feet.

Q. Oh, very close?

A. Very close. They were standing right there.

10

Q. Okay. I understand.

A. Yeah. So, I went out on the balcony, um, to see what was happening and heard a lot of shouting from the police officers going on.

15 Q. Mmhmm.

A. Um, and it was one of those incidents that I really wanted to walk away from but I was afraid. I didn't know what was gonna happen so I thought I better witness this. So I stayed out on the balcony and, um, witnessed it until the boys... it was about 45 minutes and then the boys left and the police officers left.

20 Q. Okay. So, tell me what you heard or what you observed that, you know, was kind of a generation of the genesis of the complaint.

A. Sure. Sure. Um, you know and again being on the sixth floor I cannot testify to every word that was said but the thing that I heard being shouted were, um, by the police officers was, "Fine. We didn't find drugs on you *this time*." Um, "I don't care. How was I supposed to know you didn't work for Al fuckin' Qaida." Um, "I don't care if you're green, blue, purple or whatever color you are, um, if you're acting up, I'm gonna stop you." Um, those were the main things. The Al-Qaida comments and the, um, the comment about drugs *this time*.

25

Q. Mmhmm. And you said how many squads again? Were they squad cars?

A. Four. Four. And, you know, I'm, I'm a psychologist so I don't know about police work other than what I do as a child psychologist but I don't know if they were all squad cars. One at least was Park Police.

30

Q. Okay.

A. Um, one of the cars was up on the grass in the park and the other one was blocking Second Avenue.

35 Q. Okay. There were only two officers who were actually physically out of their vehicles?

A. That I saw. There were officers getting in and out of the car but there were only two that were doing the yelling when I was...

Q. That were interacting with the youths?

40 A. That I saw. I certainly didn't see the whole thing.

Q. Okay. Um, do you believe you saw the, the beginning of it or did you kind of enter mid-stream?

A. I think mid-stream. I think mid-stream.

45 Q. Okay.

A. And it was clear that the young men were not free to leave and that, you know, they, they, they were there for at least 45 minutes.

50 Q. Did you hear anything verbally from the, the young men in terms of responding to what the officers were saying?

A. I did not. There were clearly some responses.

Q. Okay.

A. Um, but I didn't hear them.

55

**STATEMENT OF PLACE:** Claudia Kittock  
Minneapolis Department of Civil Rights, Office of Police Conduct Review - Room 239  
**DATE:** November 3, 2014  
**TIME:** 9:00 a.m.  
**CASE NO:** 14-20461  
**INVESTIGATOR:** Michael Grostyan

Q. This is a tape recorded statement of Claudia Kittock. Did I pronounce that correctly?

A. Yes.

Q. Okay. Um, and today's date is November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014. It's approximately 9 a.m. We're in the Minneapolis Civil Rights Office Room 239. Claudia's being interviewed by Investigator Michael Grostyan. This is regarding OPCR Case Number 14-20461.

Q. Your full name please?

A. Um, my full name is Dr. Claudia Kittock.

Q. All right. And your present address and phone number?

A. 215 Tenth Avenue South, Unit 613, Minneapolis. Ah, 612-353-5250.

Q. Okay and your age and date of birth?

A. My age is 62. My date of birth is 5-3-52.

Q. All right. You're being questioned as part of an official investigation into a complaint of police misconduct. The information you provide will be used in a fact-finding process as part of the total evidence to determine if such misconduct occurred and for assessing whether disciplinary action should be taken. The information you supply may also be used in grievance hearings, arbitration or other appeal procedure. Other parties outside the Minneapolis Civil Rights Department, OPCR Office, may have access to the information you provide as part of the internal investigation. At this time, I'd like to ask you some questions concerning an incident that occurred on August 15, 2014 and the location I have is Second Street and Eleventh Street Gold Medal Park. Is that...?

A. Second Avenue and Tenth.

Q. Second Avenue and Tenth?

A. Yep, and Tenth. Mmhmm.

Q. Tenth Street right?

A. Correct.

Q. Okay. Ah, and it's Gold Medal Park?

A. That's correct.

Q. Um, you know, I've driven...is that down by the river down here or where? Give me a reference.

A. It is, it's right next door to the Guthrie.

Q. I'm sorry?

A. Right on the river. Yep.

Q. Okay. Well, that's what I was thinking. Um, all right, so I need you to just tell me your story as to what you observed, what you heard, what brought your attention and obviously why you're here today.

A. Sure. Um, we live in a unit that faces both Tenth, the corner unit faces Tenth and Second. And we have a dog and my husband was out walking the dog in Gold Medal Park. He came in and said there were some teenagers in the park roughhousing and, you know, acting like teenagers. He said, "I bet somebody's gonna complain."

Q. Mmhmm.

A. So, about 35 minutes later, he said, "You better look out the window." And I looked out the window and

Q. Okay. Okay. So, I'm going to read your complaint here, the real brief complaint.

A. Please.

Q. That you initially made. Complainant (that being you obviously) states four police cars were stopping a group of black youths in front of the Gold Medal Park sign. Complainant states one officer was yelling at them like, "I don't care what your name is. I have no way of knowing if you're a member of Al-Qaida or not." And they used profanity in front of them, correct?

A. Correct.

Q. I am not prejudiced because you are black. I don't care if you are green. If you break the law, we're going to get up in your face. Okay. So you don't have any drugs on you this time. Okay. Complainant states after the youths were detained by the officers for about 45 minutes they were released.

Did you hear what the officers said as they were leaving or as the youths were released or how it ended verbally?

A. I didn't. I didn't. I just saw them. I just saw, you know, one kid go and then another kid go and then the third one go, so I have absolutely no idea.

Q. Did the officers ever have any physical contact with the youths?

A. Not when I was watching them.

Q. Did they ever kind of get in the youth's face at all? Or were they at a reasonable distance?

A. They were at a reasonable distance but they had the kids down on the ground.

Q. Oh.

A. One was sitting and two were laying on the ground.

Q. Face down or on their back?

A. I can't tell you that with certainty.

Q. Did you see them go to the ground?

A. No. They were there when I saw it. I'm sorry. All three were on ground, laying on the ground when I saw them and then one sat up.

Q. One sat up. Okay. [INAUDIBLE 6:42] I'm not trying to be picky but...

A. No, please.

Q. In terms of them being on the ground, did you view that as unusual?

A. I viewed that as certainly an intimidation and, and a, and a power fight but no, I didn't know if it was unusual.

Q. Yeah. I mean many times when officers confront someone for safety or other reasons they tell 'em to get on the ground.

A. Absolutely.

Q. And usually it's face down.

A. Absolutely.

Q. So they can handcuff 'em or whatever. But you never...you don't know if that was the case?

A. I do not.

Q. Okay. Let me look further here. This is a little bit more detail on your complaint. I know I'm repeating but I'll see if there's anything else here. I think I'm going to read this again because there's a few other things in here.

that had any interaction write some type of report.

A. Sure.

Q. I was dispatched along with other officers to 1100 Second Street South with a report of a physical fight involving six to eight individuals between the age 17 and 20 who were black males. You only saw three?

A. I did.

Q. Okay.

Upon arrival, assistant squads stopped a group of six Somali males at the corner of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and Tenth Avenue. I observed two of the males walking with the other group. I stopped two males who appeared to be grabbing onto each other.

Now, we're talking about on a corner as opposed to on the grassy area in the park.

A. Yeah, they were like...the kids that were lying down were lying directly in front of the sign, the Gold Medal Park sign.

Q. How far is that from the intersection of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue?

A. That is the intersection.

Q. It's right there?

A. Yeah. Here's the park and 10<sup>th</sup> comes this way.

Q. Mmhmm.

A. So, it's right there.

Q. Okay. Okay. All right. This is just records or something they ran in with people's IDs and so forth.

A. Sure. Sure.

Q. They've got the time as about, um, 8:30 at night, 8:25?

A. I wouldn't disagree with that.

Q. Okay.

A. It was a, it was August. It was still light outside. (laugh)

Q. Oh, sure. Is any other verbiage here? The call went out about 8:15 or 8:20, somewhere in there.

A. Okay.

Q. And then one squad went and others backed him up or responded. And it's all labeled Gold Medal Park.

A. [no audible dialogue]

Q. What is your husband's name? I'm sorry.

A. Richard Kittock.

Q. Was he watching with you?

A. No.

Q. Okay. Did he go back inside?

A. He did.

Q. Okay. But he saw the beginning of it or he saw...?

A. He was out in the park and observed the boys, just saw a group of boys.

Q. Oh, there was no police there yet?

A. No. No-no-no. They were just, you know, they were, they were being loud.



**STATEMENT OF**      **Raymond Vigil**  
**PLACE:**            Minneapolis Department of Civil Rights, Office of Police Conduct Review - Room 239  
**DATE:**            November 6, 2014  
**TIME:**            7:30 a.m.  
5 **CASE NO:**        14-20461  
**INVESTIGATOR:**   Michael Grostyan

Q. This is a tape recorded statement of Raymond. And, Raymond, will you pronounce your last name for me?  
A. Veegeel.

10 Q. And it's spelled V-I-G-I-L?  
A. Yes, sir.

15 Q. Okay. Today's date is November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014. It's approximately 7:30 a.m. We're in the Minneapolis Civil Rights Office Room 239. Raymond is being interviewed by Investigator Michael Grostyan. This is regarding OPCR Case Number 14-20461.

Please give me your full name, Raymond.  
A. Raymond Paul Vigil.

20 Q. Your present address and phone number?  
A. 215 10th Avenue South, Number 214, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415.

25 Q. Okay and what is your present age?  
A. And my phone number is. That was my zip code.

Q. Oh, I'm sorry.  
A. That's okay. 612-236-6311. Ah, 54.

30 Q. Your date of birth?  
A. September 27<sup>th</sup>, 1960.

35 Q. Okay, so you're being questioned as part of an official investigation into a complaint of police misconduct. The information you provide will be used in a fact-finding process as part of the total evidence to determine if such misconduct occurred and for assessing whether disciplinary action should be taken. The information you supply may also be used in a grievance hearing, arbitration or other appeal procedure. Other parties outside the Minneapolis Civil Rights Department, OPCR Office may have access to the information you provide as part of the internal investigation.

40 At this time, I would like to ask you some questions concerning an incident that occurred on August 15th, 2014 at the location that I have as 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and 11<sup>th</sup> Street or 10<sup>th</sup> Street. Does that sound right?  
A. That would be Gold Medal Park.

45 Q. Gold Medal Park. Okay. Um, are you willing to tell me what you know about this matter?  
A. Yes, sir.

50 Q. Okay. I'm going to read you the complaint first of all then have you tell your story. Um, um, well, this isn't your complaint so I'm not gonna read it. Another neighbor filed a complaint so, I'll just have you tell your story and we'll go into this later.  
A. Um, on August 15<sup>th</sup>, it was late afternoon. I'd say around 7 o'clock, 7 p.m.

55 Q. Mmhmm.  
A. I was walking our dog, ah, around Gold Medal Park. When we, ah, when I started...I was walking with my wife. When we started our walk, we noticed that there was a group of young men, um, African American.

Q. Mmhmm.  
A. And they were being loud and rambunctious. You know, ah, not fighting or anything just horsing around.

Q. Where specifically were they?

A. We crossed the street on 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

5 Q. Mmhmm.

A. So, I would say they were at the park and they were probably at the intersection of...what is that? 2<sup>nd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> but I'm in the park.

Q. All right.

10 A. And again, ah, I noticed them, ah, they were being loud. My, my wife made a comment about 'em like they're, they're being kids. You know, that, I would say that they were...they looked like teenagers, probably in their late teens. They were all male.

Q. How many were there approximately?

15 A. I would say at quick count somewhere between four and six.

Q. Okay.

A. So, we walked around the park. We were there the whole time. Ah, I'd say the walk probably takes 15 or 20 minutes, something like that.

20

Q. Mmhmm.

A. And when we came around, ah, we heard, ah, police cars.

Q. Sirens?

25 A. Sirens.

Q. Okay.

A. Ah, they were approaching from several directions. We thought it was something dramatic because we saw one on the grass.

30

Q. Okay.

A. And when we came around, we noticed that they had detained a group of the young men. I'd say about four of 'em.

35 Q. Not all of them?

A. Not all of them. Some had left.

Q. Okay.

40 A. And they had 'em sitting. They were talking to 'em. One of the, one of the police cars had, ah, parked on the street.

Q. Okay.

A. Um, when we...they had 'em about the same spot because that's where we crossed the street.

45 Q. Mmhmm.

A. And when we approached to go home, we heard...well basically the police being at best inappropriate.

Q. Okay.

50 A. Um, in my opinion, they were being provocative. They were trying to get some reaction out of the young men.

Q. Okay.

55 A. Um, they were, in general, they were constantly using the word "fuck." Some of the statements that I recall them saying is, "You don't belong here. This is a nice neighborhood. You can't bring your shit here. You're a piece of shit." There was a young man that was walking. He probably was part of the group.

Q. Mmhhh.

A. He was walking on the opposite side of the street. Police saw him, yelled out to him. Didn't chase him down returned to the young men...

Q. What did they yell at him? Do you remember?

A. I do not remember. I do remember that she; it was a female officer, came back and told the young man, "Is that your piece of shit friend?" They were, ah, they searched the car. The young men were sitting there and...

Q. Oh, there was a car involved. I didn't realize this.

A. Yes. The young men were, were in the car.

Q. Okay.

A. And the police were searching the car. Um, the young man was sitting there very relaxed kind of smiling. At one point, police got in their face, yelled at 'em, "You think this is funny?" Again, they repeated the piece of shit multiple times so I can't...

Q. All right.

A. Ah, at one point, they found some, ah, what looked like a bottle of medication from the car and they brought it to the young man and again, "I bet you don't think this is funny now, do you, you piece of shit."

Q. Okay.

A. Um, yeah, not very imaginative. Um, and at one point...my wife and I stood there far enough to not interfere but to make our presence known.

Q. That was gonna be my next question. Did the police recognize that you were present?

A. The police did recognize and one officer...I was...I clearly saw three officers. There was another officer that was in the squad car on the street.

Q. Was there just one female?

A. I only saw one female.

Q. Okay.

A. And one male... [INAUDIBLE 7:12] I'm sorry. At a certain point, one of the officers, a young man who had not been interacting with, ah, the young men came and asked us, "Have you seen anything? There was a complaint about a fight." And we told him, "Yes, we've been here at the park the whole time. We didn't see any fight whatsoever."

Q. Okay.

A. Um, soon after that, ah, the poh, well, at the end, the police, what I saw, released most of the young men. I believe three of 'em, they got in the car and they drove away.

Q. Okay.

A. I know that at one point, um, another passerby went to the police and mockingly said, "When are you gonna bring the helicopter in?" It was an older woman and she came back and said, "Wow. They didn't, they didn't think that was funny."

Q. Mmhhh.

A. Um and that is basically what I saw. Um, for what it's worth, my impression was that in the interaction, the police were trying to provoke some sort of reaction from the young men who were basically just sitting there. I don't recall them being handcuffed. They were just sitting there waiting for the police to, ah, do their job.

Q. Where they all sitting there at any time were they lying down or did you ever get the impression or did you

see the police force them to lie down or were they always sitting when you observed them?

A. To the best of my memory they were all sitting. I never saw the police lay a hand on 'em.

Q. Okay.

5 A. Ah, force 'em down or anything.

Q. Okay. And none of 'em were handcuffed at any time?

A. I don't recall any of 'em being handcuffed.

10 Q. Okay. All right. Um, what's your wife's name? May I ask?

A. Miriam.

Q. Okay. And if I wanted to reach her by phone, how would I do that?

A. Um, 612-250-1528.

15

Q. Okay.

A. I do recall, sorry, one more young man came to our side of the street...

Q. Mmhmm.

20 A. Police either didn't notice him or ignored him and, ah, he basically...he left.

Q. Did you perceive him as being part of that group?

A. Yes.

25 Q. Okay. All right. Let me read the complaint from one of your neighbors, Claudia. Do you know Claudia Kittock? She's a child psychologist.

A. Yes, sir.

30 Q. Okay. So, she filed a complaint. Her complaint basically reads as follows: Four police cars stopped a group of black youths in front of the Gold Medal Park sign. One officer was yelling at them, "I don't care what your name is I have no way of knowing if you're a member of Al-Qaida or not." Did you ever hear anything like that?

A. Yes, I did.

35 Q. Okay. Then she goes on to say, I'm not prej...one of the officers said, "I'm not prejudiced because you're black. I don't care if you're green, if you break the law I'm gonna get in your face."

A. Yes, I heard that.

Q. Okay. And then another quote from an officer, "Okay, so you don't have any drugs on you."

40 A. I'm thinking.

Q. That's fine.

A. Yes, I heard that.

45 Q. Okay. The complainant, Claudia, states after the youths were detained for approximately 45 minutes, they were released from police supervision. And then there's a more detailed complaint. Let's see if there's anything else.

50 In front of the Gold Medal Park sign there were four police cars. One was up on the grass, all of them with the lights blinking.

The red lights were on. Is that correct?

A. Yes.

55 Q. One of the cars was blocking 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. Seated on the ground in front of the sign were three black male

youths. The police were going back and forth to their cars while two stood a few feet away from the kids. One police officer was yelling things at them like...

5 Well, I won't be redundant because I already told you that. Um...Okay let's see...there is a police report here so I'm going to read that to you. This is one officer who responded says:

Officers were dispatched at the above location for a report of a physical fight involving several black males. Upon arrival, officers detained males believed to be fighting and when they mentioned some names...

10 Here's another report.

Ah, at 20:17 hours (in other words 8:15) I was working marked squad 850. I was dispatched along with other officers to Gold Medal Park regarding a physical fight involving six to eight individuals between the ages of 17 and 20. They were black males. Upon arriving, I assisted squads who stopped a group of six  
15 Somali males at the corner of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue. I observed two of the males walking away from the group. I stopped the two males who appeared to be grabbing onto each other. Um, the two males were identified.

20 That's the extent of the police reports. Then there's an activity log regarding where the officers were. Let's see what it says here. Yeah, they've actually got six officers who theoretically could have been there two of whom were females but like you said some of them remained in their cars. Is that correct?

A. They may...I saw three officers that were right there in front of the Gold Medal sign.

Q. Okay.

25 A. And one of 'em was female.

Q. Okay. And this just reflects the fact that they did record checks on the kids. You never saw any fighting as you indicated earlier.

30 A. I never saw any fighting. They were, they were loud, they were, they were horsing around, they were playing around.

Q. Mmhmm. All right. Um, anything else you'd like to add to this statement that I haven't asked you about or that I forgot or you think is important?

A. Of the three officers, I only saw two that were, in my opinion, inappropriate.

35 Q. Mmhmm.

A. Ah, one of 'em was a female officer and the other one was an older officer and by older I mean he had white hair or very, you know, grayish white hair.

40 Q. Okay. The female officer. Were you close enough to describe her? Was there anything unique about her appearance?

A. She was, for lack of a better word, very Manish looking.

Q. Okay.

45 A. Short, short hair, also, ah, whitish.

Q. Oh, okay. That helps. Anything else then you think of that you think is important? And if you forget something you're welcome to call me afterwards.

A. Yeah. I think that's about it.

50 Q. Okay. So, everything you've told me is true and accurate?

A. To the...yes, sir.

Q. Okay. That concludes the interview. The time is 7:42 a.m.

5 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

jmc





**Office of  
Police Conduct Review**

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[policereview@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:policereview@minneapolismn.gov)

November 12, 2014

Raymond Vigil  
215 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue South  
#214  
Minneapolis, MN 55415

**RE: OPCR File #14-20461**

Dear Mr. Vigil:

Enclosed are two copies of your statement given on November 6, 2014. Please review and initial any corrections you wish to make on your statement. Sign and return one copy of the statement to our office.

Thank you for your cooperation and feel free to contact me at 612-673-5500 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael A. Grostyan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michael" and last name "Grostyan" being the most prominent parts.

Michael A. Grostyan  
Case Investigator

MAG:jmc

Enclosures



**Office of  
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November 12, 2014

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**215 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue South**  
**#214**  
**Minneapolis, MN 55415**

**RE: OPCR File #14-20461**

Dear Mr. Vigil:

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Thank you for your cooperation and feel free to contact me at 612-673-5500 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Grostyan  
Case Investigator

MAG:jmc

Enclosures

**STATEMENT OF**

**Raymond Vigil**

**PLACE:**

Minneapolis Department of Civil Rights, Office of Police Conduct Review - Room 239

**DATE:**

November 6, 2014

**TIME:**

7:30 a.m.

**CASE NO:**

14-20461

**INVESTIGATOR:**

Michael Grostyan

Q. This is a tape recorded statement of Raymond. And, Raymond, will you pronounce your last name for me?

A. Veegeel.

Q. And it's spelled V-I-G-I-L?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Okay. Today's date is November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014. It's approximately 7:30 a.m. We're in the Minneapolis Civil Rights Office Room 239. Raymond is being interviewed by Investigator Michael Grostyan. This is regarding OPCR Case Number 14-20461.

Please give me your full name, Raymond.

A. Raymond Paul Vigil.

Q. Your present address and phone number?

A. 215 10th Avenue South, Number 214, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415.

Q. Okay and what is your present age?

A. And my phone number is. That was my zip code.

Q. Oh, I'm sorry.

A. That's okay. 612-236-6311. Ah, 54.

Q. Your date of birth?

A. September 27<sup>th</sup>, 1960.

Q. Okay, so you're being questioned as part of an official investigation into a complaint of police misconduct. The information you provide will be used in a fact-finding process as part of the total evidence to determine if such misconduct occurred and for assessing whether disciplinary action should be taken. The information you supply may also be used in a grievance hearing, arbitration or other appeal procedure. Other parties outside the Minneapolis Civil Rights Department, OPCR Office may have access to the information you provide as part of the internal investigation.

At this time, I would like to ask you some questions concerning an incident that occurred on August 15th, 2014 at the location that I have as 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and 11<sup>th</sup> Street or 10<sup>th</sup> Street. Does that sound right?

A. That would be Gold Medal Park.

Q. Gold Medal Park. Okay. Um, are you willing to tell me what you know about this matter?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Okay. I'm going to read you the complaint first of all then have you tell your story. Um, um, well, this isn't your complaint so I'm not gonna read it. Another neighbor filed a complaint so, I'll just have you tell your story and we'll go into this later.

A. Um, on August 15<sup>th</sup>, it was late afternoon. I'd say around 7 o'clock, 7 p.m.

Q. Mmhmm.

A. I was walking our dog, ah, around Gold Medal Park. When we, ah, when I started...I was walking with my wife. When we started our walk, we noticed that there was a group of young men, um, African American.

Q. Mmhmm.

A. And they were being loud and rambunctious. You know, ah, not fighting or anything just horsing around.

Q. Where specifically were they?

A. We crossed the street on 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

5 Q. Mmhmm.

A. So, I would say they were at the park and they were probably at the intersection of...what is that? 2<sup>nd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> but I'm in the park.

Q. All right.

10 A. And again, ah, I noticed them, ah, they were being loud. My, my wife made a comment about 'em like they're, they're being kids. You know, that, I would say that they were...they looked like teenagers, probably in their late teens. They were all male.

Q. How many were there approximately?

15 A. I would say at quick count somewhere between four and six.

Q. Okay.

A. So, we walked around the park. We were there the whole time. Ah, I'd say the walk probably takes 15 or 20 minutes, something like that.

20

Q. Mmhmm.

A. And when we came around, ah, we heard, ah, police cars.

Q. Sirens?

25 A. Sirens.

Q. Okay.

A. Ah, they were approaching from several directions. We thought it was something dramatic because we saw one on the grass.

30

Q. Okay.

A. And when we came around, we noticed that they had detained a group of the young men. I'd say about four of 'em.

35 Q. Not all of them?

A. Not all of them. Some had left.

Q. Okay.

40 A. And they had 'em sitting. They were talking to 'em. One of the, one of the police cars had, ah, parked on the street.

Q. Okay.

A. Um, when we...they had 'em about the same spot because that's where we crossed the street.

45 Q. Mmhmm.

A. And when we approached to go home, we heard...well basically the police being at best inappropriate.

Q. Okay.

50 A. Um, in my opinion, they were being provocative. They were trying to get some reaction out of the young men.

Q. Okay.

55 A. Um, they were, in general, they were constantly using the word "fuck." Some of the statements that I recall them saying is, "You don't belong here. This is a nice neighborhood. You can't bring your shit here. You're a piece of shit." There was a young man that was walking. He probably was part of the group.

Q. Mmhmm.

A. He was walking on the opposite side of the street. Police saw him, yelled out to him. Didn't chase him down returned to the young men...

Q. What did they yell at him? Do you remember?

A. I do not remember. I do remember that she; it was a female officer, came back and told the young man, "Is that your piece of shit friend?" They were, ah, they searched the car. The young men were sitting there and...

Q. Oh, there was a car involved. I didn't realize this.

A. Yes. The young men were, were in the car.

Q. Okay.

A. And the police were searching the car. Um, the young man was sitting there very relaxed kind of smiling. At one point, police got in their face, yelled at 'em, "You think this is funny?" Again, they repeated the piece of shit multiple times so I can't...

Q. All right.

A. Ah, at one point, they found some, ah, what looked like a bottle of medication from the car and they brought it to the young man and again, "I bet you don't think this is funny now, do you, you piece of shit."

Q. Okay.

A. Um, yeah, not very imaginative. Um, and at one point... my wife and I stood there far enough to not interfere but to make our presence known.

Q. That was gonna be my next question. Did the police recognize that you were present?

A. The police did recognize and one officer... I was... I clearly saw three officers. There was another officer that was in the squad car on the street.

Q. Was there just one female?

A. I only saw one female.

Q. Okay.

A. And one male... [INAUDIBLE 7:12] I'm sorry. At a certain point, one of the officers, a young man who had not been interacting with, ah, the young men came and asked us, "Have you seen anything? There was a complaint about a fight." And we told him, "Yes, we've been here at the park the whole time. We didn't see any fight whatsoever."

Q. Okay.

A. Um, soon after that, ah, the poh, well, at the end, the police, what I saw, released most of the young men. I believe three of 'em, they got in the car and they drove away.

Q. Okay.

A. I know that at one point, um, another passerby went to the police and mockingly said, "When are you gonna bring the helicopter in?" It was an older woman and she came back and said, "Wow. They didn't, they didn't think that was funny."

Q. Mmhmm.

A. Um and that is basically what I saw. Um, for what it's worth, my impression was that in the interaction, the police were trying to provoke some sort of reaction from the young men who were basically just sitting there. I don't recall them being handcuffed. They were just sitting there waiting for the police to, ah, do their job.

Q. Where they all sitting there at any time were they lying down or did you ever get the impression or did you

see the police force them to lie down or were they always sitting when you observed them?

A. To the best of my memory they were all sitting. I never saw the police lay a hand on 'em.

Q. Okay.

5 A. Ah, force 'em down or anything.

Q. Okay. And none of 'em were handcuffed at any time?

A. I don't recall any of 'em being handcuffed.

10 Q. Okay. All right. Um, what's your wife's name? May I ask?

A. Miriam.

Q. Okay. And if I wanted to reach her by phone, how would I do that?

A. Um, 612-250-1528.

15

Q. Okay.

A. I do recall, sorry, one more young man came to our side of the street...

Q. Mmhmm.

20 A. Police either didn't notice him or ignored him and, ah, he basically...he left.

Q. Did you perceive him as being part of that group?

A. Yes.

25 Q. Okay. All right. Let me read the complaint from one of your neighbors, Claudia. Do you know Claudia Kittock? She's a child psychologist.

A. Yes, sir.

30 Q. Okay. So, she filed a complaint. Her complaint basically reads as follows: Four police cars stopped a group of black youths in front of the Gold Medal Park sign. One officer was yelling at them, "I don't care what your name is I have no way of knowing if you're a member of Al-Qaida or not." Did you ever hear anything like that?

A. Yes, I did.

35 Q. Okay. Then she goes on to say, I'm not prej...one of the officers said, "I'm not prejudiced because you're black. I don't care if you're green, if you break the law I'm gonna get in your face."

A. Yes, I heard that.

Q. Okay. And then another quote from an officer, "Okay, so you don't have any drugs on you."

40 A. I'm thinking.

Q. That's fine.

A. Yes, I heard that.

45 Q. Okay. The complainant, Claudia, states after the youths were detained for approximately 45 minutes, they were released from police supervision. And then there's a more detailed complaint. Let's see if there's anything else.

50 In front of the Gold Medal Park sign there were four police cars. One was up on the grass, all of them with the lights blinking.

The red lights were on. Is that correct?

A. Yes.

55 Q. One of the cars was blocking 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. Seated on the ground in front of the sign were three black male



youths. The police were going back and forth to their cars while two stood a few feet away from the kids. One police officer was yelling things at them like...

5 Well, I won't be redundant because I already told you that. Um...Okay let's see...there is a police report here so I'm going to read that to you. This is one officer who responded says:

Officers were dispatched at the above location for a report of a physical fight involving several black males. Upon arrival, officers detained males believed to be fighting and when they mentioned some names...

10 Here's another report.

Ah, at 20:17 hours (in other words 8:15) I was working marked squad 850. I was dispatched along with other officers to Gold Medal Park regarding a physical fight involving six to eight individuals between the ages of 17 and 20. They were black males. Upon arriving, I assisted squads who stopped a group of six  
15 Somali males at the corner of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue. I observed two of the males walking away from the group. I stopped the two males who appeared to be grabbing onto each other. Um, the two males were identified.

20 That's the extent of the police reports. Then there's an activity log regarding where the officers were. Let's see what it says here. Yeah, they've actually got six officers who theoretically could have been there two of whom were females but like you said some of them remained in their cars. Is that correct?

A. They may...I saw three officers that were right there in front of the Gold Medal sign.

Q. Okay.

25 A. And one of 'em was female.

Q. Okay. And this just reflects the fact that they did record checks on the kids. You never saw any fighting as you indicated earlier.

30 A. I never saw any fighting. They were, they were loud, they were, they were horsing around, they were playing around.

Q. Mmhmm. All right. Um, anything else you'd like to add to this statement that I haven't asked you about or that I forgot or you think is important?

35 A. Of the three officers, I only saw two that were, in my opinion, inappropriate.

Q. Mmhmm.

A. Ah, one of 'em was a female officer and the other one was an older officer and by older I mean he had white hair or very, you know, grayish white hair.

40 Q. Okay. The female officer. Were you close enough to describe her? Was there anything unique about her appearance?

A. She was, for lack of a better word, very Manish looking.

Q. Okay.

45 A. Short, short hair, also, ah, whitish.

Q. Oh, okay. That helps. Anything else then you think of that you think is important? And if you forget something you're welcome to call me afterwards.

A. Yeah. I think that's about it.

50 Q. Okay. So, everything you've told me is true and accurate?

A. To the...yes, sir.

Q. Okay. That concludes the interview. The time is 7:42 a.m.

5 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

jmc

**Minneapolis Police Department**  
**Discipline Matrix**  
Rev: August 2012

<b>Code of Ethics</b>		<b>Range</b>	<b>Mitigating</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Aggravating</b>
5-102	Criminal activity: Any felony crime, domestic assault, sex crimes, narcotics, steroids, interfere with 911 call, theft, discharge weapon or repeat DWI.	D		Termination	
5-102	Criminal activity: Gross misdemeanor or misdemeanor (other than those listed in other categories)	C	10 hours	30 hours	Termination
5-102	Identify self as officer with intent to gain special consideration	C-D	10 hours	40 hours	Termination
5-102	Misuse of police powers: search warrants, administrative subpoenas, credit checks, etc	D		Termination	
5-102, 3-800	Working off-duty while still on city time	D		Termination	
4-501	Access confidential records (DVS, NCIC, etc.) not related to assigned job duties/no official law enforcement purpose-no known personal gain	C	WR	10	20
4-501	Access confidential records (DVS, NCIC, etc.) not related to assigned job duties/no official law enforcement purpose-for personal gain	D	10	40	Termination
<b>Code of Conduct/Professional Code of Conduct</b>		<b>Range</b>	<b>Mitigating</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Aggravating</b>
5-105.10	Unprofessional conduct, indecorous language (not protected class)	B	WR	10 hours	20 hours
5-106, 3-302	Remain on duty until relieved; put self on detail without supervisor permission	B	WR	10 hours	20 hours
5-105.18	Association with known criminals	C	20 hours	40 hours	50 hours
5-105.2, 5-106.1	Failure to take appropriate police action	B-D	WR	40 hours	Termination
5-105.15	Language: biased based on protected class	D	30 hours	40 hours	Termination
5-105.20	Possession of duty weapon or other firearm while consuming alcohol, no criminal action	D	20 hours	40 hours	50 hours
5-105, 5-102	Referral to outside business with personal benefit to employee	D		Termination	
5-101.02	Failure to meet minimum job qualifications (some discretion on OFP with Lautenberg Amendment)	D		Termination	
<b>Reports</b>		<b>Range</b>	<b>Mitigating</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Aggravating</b>
5-307	Failure of supervisors to complete force review report in compliance with policy when the subject of forces incurs any injury at the level of substantial bodily injury or greater.	B-C	WR	10 hours	20 hours
5-306	Failure to report use of force in CAPRS	B-D	WR	40 hours	Termination
5-306	Failure to notify supervisor of use of force resulting in injury	B-C	WR	20 Hours	40 Hours
<b>News Media</b>		<b>Range</b>	<b>Mitigating</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Aggravating</b>
6-202	Responsibility of MPD employees regarding news media	B-D	10 hours	20 hours	Termination

## Internal Affairs Blue Card Report

***This profile card contains PRIVATE DATA and any review, disclosure, copying, distribution or use of this information is governed by the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act.***

### Officer Christopher Guelcher, Badge 2513

Incident Date	PM MATTER #	WFD Complaint #	Last Name	First Name	Allegation Type	Allegation Subsection	Allegation Complaint Severity	Allegation Outcome	Discipline	Status
6/18/03	13-29528	13.43 - Personnel Data								
9/30/04	13-28115									Closed
5/17/09	13-29048									Closed
7/24/09	13-29403									Closed
11/19/09	13-29737									Closed
2/21/10	13-29825									Closed
4/13/10	13-29996									Closed
	13-30052									Closed
6/27/10	13-30136									Closed
9/13/10	13-30324									Closed
1/6/11	15-23963	IA	Guelcher	Christopher	Open					
10/16/11	13-30989	13.43 - Personnel Data								Closed
11/23/11	13-31246									Closed
3/15/12	13-31190									Closed
5/5/12	13-31252									Closed
5/17/12	13-31253									Closed
7/29/13	13-18691									Closed
11/14/13	13-23065									Closed
8/15/14	14-20461									OPCR
10/30/14	14-22369									Closed
12/10/14	14-25893									Closed

Jan 28, 2016

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8:11:33 AM

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