

2018-00061
PB

ALLEGATION/INQUIRY/COMMENDATION-REPORT FORM

I. Information Source:

Name: Rodney Grill Race: _____ Sex: _____ Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____
Address: 304 Chadwick Place City: Helenna, AL Zip: _____
Home Phone: _____ Cell: [REDACTED] Business Phone: _____

II. Deputy/Civilian Employee Information:

Name: Sullivan Rank: Deputy I.D.#: _____
Division: K-9 Unit Number: _____
Name: Cody Jones Rank: Corporal I.D.#: _____
Division: UPD Unit Number: C-7

III. Location of Incident:

Wade Green Rd @ Hwy 92

Date: 08/08/2018 Time: 09:00 AM Case Number: 18-86860

IV. Description of Incident: ☒ Allegation ☐ Inquiry ☐ Commendation

Mr. Grill was calling on behalf of his daughter Kathleen Skinner. Ms. Skinner was involved in an automobile accident and Deputy Sullivan and Cpl. C. Jones responded. Mr. Grill said he spoke to Deputy Sullivan on the telephone and was told he could call a private wrecker to tow his daughter's vehicle. He said he told Deputy Sullivan AAA would be there within 30 minutes to remove the vehicle from the roadway. Mr. Grill said he then spoke to Cpl. Jones who told him his daughters vehicle was blocking the intersection and needed to be removed at once. Mr. Grill said he has seen photographs and it does not appear to be blocking the intersection. He also stated he told his daughter to jump into her vehicle and just drive it onto the parking lot of the Shell gas station, but she was not allowed to do that either, even though Mr. Grill felt the vehicle could have been driven 10-15 feet to get it into the parking lot. Ace wrecker arrived on scene and towed the vehicle at the request of the Sheriff's Office.

Mr. Grill feels the Sheriff's Office had our wrecker service tow his daughters vehicle for monetary profit. Now he has to pay hundreds of dollars to have the vehicle removed from Ace's lot. Mr. Grill also said Cpl. Jones was rude.

V. Witness Information:

Name: Daughter: Kathleen Skinner Address: _____ City: _____

Home Phone: Cell: [REDACTED] Business Phone: _____

Name: _____ Address: _____ City: _____

Home Phone: _____ Business Phone: _____

VI. Person Taking Report:

Name: David Barone Rank Lieutenant

Division: OPS Shift: Days Badge Number: 276

VII. Supervisor's Comments/Recommendations:

Refer to Precinct Commander

VIII. Allegation/Inquiry/Commendation Information:

How A/I/C Received: ☒ Telephone ☐ Written Form ☐ Personal Contact

A/I/C Referred to: Precinct Commander: Lt. M. Anderson

☐ A/I/C Resolved on Initial Contact ☐ Allegation/Inquiry Withdrawn

IX. Documentation Attached: ☐ Incident Report ☐ Written Statement ☒ Other

X. Division Commanders Review:

(Signature) [Signature]

(Date) 8-24-18

☒ No further Action Required.

☐ Refer to _____ for further investigation.

☐ Recommend Formal Commendation.

Additional Comments:

NOTIFIED COMPLAINT OF FINDINGS 8-24-18 16:00 HRS

- ☐ Sustained: The evidence is sufficient to prove the allegations.
- ☐ Not Sustained: The evidence is insufficient to either prove or disprove the allegations.
- ☒ Exonerated: The evidence shows that the incident occurred and was lawful or proper.
- ☒ Unfounded: The evidence shows that the allegation is false or not factual.
- ☐ Policy Failure: The evidence is sufficient to show that the incident occurred, but was a result of flawed policy or procedures.

XI. Service of Employee

I hereby certify that the allegations have been discussed and described to me. I have received a copy of the Employee Rights Form and acknowledge that I understand these rights.


Employee Signature
Sgt. P. Deane #402
Witness Signature

8/14/18
Date
08/14/18
Date

SHIELDS OF SHAME

XII. Notification of Findings

I understand that the investigating officer has the duty to inform me of the outcome of this investigation (sustained, not sustained, exonerated, unfounded, or policy failure) and I hereby certify and affirm that he / she has done so. I further understand that the investigating officer is merely a finder of fact and will not determine if adverse disciplinary action will be taken.

Employee Signature

Date

Witness Signature

Date

Distribution: Division Commander
 Internal Affairs

SHIELDS OF SHAME

Cherokee County Sheriff's Office

MEMORANDUM

To: Lt. M. Anderson

From: Sgt. P. Downey

Date: 14 August, 2018

Ref: AIC (Cpl. C. Jones and D/S J. Sullivan)

I have reviewed the video and audio from Cpl. Cody Jones patrol vehicle (#847) in reference to the AIC filed by the complainant Rodney Grill. Mr. Grill is the father of Kathleen Skinner, the at fault driver of the accident in question.

Mr. Grill stated D/S Joseph Sullivan told him he could have Triple A come to the scene and remove his daughters vehicle. D/S J. Sullivan explained to Mr. Grill, due to this being a state highway and the roadway being obstructed, we could not wait on a wrecker from Triple A and one had been called to the scene to remove both vehicles.

Mr. Grill spoke with Cpl. C. Jones as well just before Cpl. C. Jones was finishing his accident investigation. Cpl. C. Jones was described as being rude to Mr. Grill during the phone call. After review of the video, Cpl. C. Jones introduces himself, explains the situation and why wreckers were called the scene. Cpl. C. Jones then hands the phone back to Mr. Grill's daughter and explains he is not going to be yelled at.

Mr. Grill stated the roadway was not block based off photos taken and the vehicle could have been moved. After review of the video, the accident was blocking traffic on Highway 92 and the intersecting roadway of Wade Green Road. The vehicle sustained debilitating damage where it could not be removed from the scene.

Mr. Grill claims the reason a wrecker was called was for the monetary gain of the Sheriff's Office. Both Deputy's were following agency policy and acted within state law removing the vehicle from the obstructed roadway.

Based off the information listed above, the review of the video/audio, my recommendation is both Deputy's be exonerated in regards to these allegations.

It should also be noted, Kathleen Skinner was explained the situation as well and she stated she understood.