

Phoenix Police Department Administrative Inquiry (INQ) Report

PUBLIC RECORDS
Released pursuant to
A.R.S. 39-121, Et. Seq.

Incident Details

Date Received 01/31/2022

Entered By [IAPro entry -
Sergeant Hector
Gamez]

Date/Time of Occurrence 11/11/2021 11:38

Date/Time Entered 01/31/2022 08:36

Record ID Number 385217

15 Digit IR# 202100001758439

IA No INQ22-0073

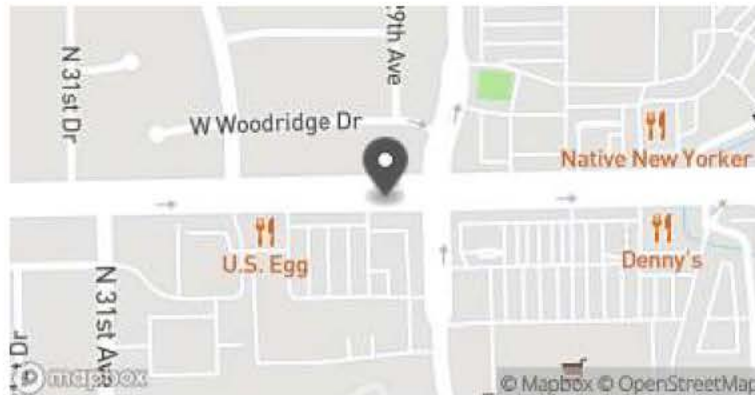
Phoenix PD Lieutenant Mark
BlueTeam 6 Schweikert -
Assigned 06790
Investigator

IAPro Assigned Sergeant Hector
Investigator Gamez

Incident Location

Location of Occurrence 931 Beat

2900 West Bell Road
Phoenix, AZ, 85308
-112.12197, 33.63972



Precinct:

Incident Summary

On 01/27/2022, Mr. Jermaine Doss called the Professional Standards Bureau (PSB) to file a complaint against the officers who arrested him. Mr. Doss told PSB investigators he was arrested on 11/11/2021 for a traffic violation. Mr. Doss claims he was racially profiled because he was told he fit the description of a subject who assaulted two juveniles. Mr. Doss said he family has ties to law enforcement in Texas and he is going to go to the media and tell them the Phoenix Police Department arrested a veteran on Veteran's Day. PSB investigators identified the arresting officers as Sergeant Michael Meelhuysen #7090 and Officer Ryan Cornelius #8143. Witness officers were identified as Officer Santino Scelzo #6960, Officer Kent Barnes #8434, and Sergeant Patrick Garcia #5413.

Other than being racially profiled, Mr. Doss is also alleging the following:

2. As a result of the arrest, he lost his [REDACTED] dog
3. He was falsely arrested for jay walking

4. Officers intimidated him by placing his driver's license in the visor as he was transported to the precinct
5. He was not permitted to use the restroom
6. He is missing jewelry removed from his person after his arrest to include jewelry and 4-5 cell phones
7. The precinct holding facility only had one restroom and due to his medical issues, this is cruel and unusual punishment
8. He was denied due process after arriving at the jail
9. He did not see a judge and the charges were dismissed
10. He was not read his Miranda Rights
11. At the jail, he was not given toilet paper and was placed in an isolation cell

PSB investigators found Mr. Doss was arrested on 11/11/2021 at 2900 W. Bell Rd. under IR 2021-1758439. PSB investigators also reviewed Body Worn Camera (BWC) footage from officers who were involved and/or assisted with the arrest and booking of Mr. Doss. Based on the RMS reports and BWC, Mr. Doss was arrested for obstructing a thoroughfare. The incident was witnessed/observed by Sergeant Meelhuysen. The incident was not captured on BWC. Mr. Doss may suffer from mental illness and throughout the contact/incident, Mr. Doss was confrontational, argumentative, and uncooperative with the officers. Mr. Doss also cursed at the officers the entire time he was in custody.

PSB investigators addressed complaints 7-11 with Mr. Doss and told him if he wished to address these items any further, he need to contact the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office (MCSO).

Based on the available information, this incident does not rise to the level of a PSB investigation. Concerning complaints 1-6, further fact finding and disposition will rest with the officers' chain of command. This inquiry was forwarded to Lieutenant Mark Schweikert #6790 via Blue Team. Please contact the complainant to gather any additional facts you may need to complete this Blue Team or potential investigation. Please verify the arrest was valid and/or if Mr. Doss was racially profiled. Please determine if Mr. Doss had a dog with him at the time of his arrest. The IR lists prisoner property that was impounded at 100 E. Elwood. Those items include a cash, a watch, and partial cigarettes. The booking lists cash, an ID, and a citation as prisoner property handed over to ITR personnel. Neither include the jewelry and cell phones Mr. Doss says he is missing. BWC shows Mr. Doss at one time urinating and/or defecating in the holding cell. Please determine if he was denied the use of the restroom at the station. Once you have completed the Blue Team/investigation, please re-contact the complainant and advise them of the final disposition. When completed, please forward through your chain of command for review and

approval.

Gamez 6308^^01/31/2021

Investigation by Sgt. Meelhuysen:

I received the inquiry and reviewed Incident Report 202100001758439 which documents the circumstances of the arrest of Mr. Doss by Sergeant Meelhuysen #7090 and Officer Cornelius #8143. After reviewing the reports, I watched the body worn camera footage of all the involved Officers and Sergeants.

Mr. Doss is initially contacted by Sergeant Meelhuysen after he is observed crossing the street mid-block and impeding the flow of southbound traffic on Holmes Boulevard (the West 2900 Block of Bell Road). Though the violation is not captured on BWC footage, once Sergeant Meelhuysen exits his patrol vehicle and contacts Mr. Doss southbound vehicle traffic is visible resuming travel once Mr. Doss is out of the roadway. Sergeant Meelhuysen explains to Mr. Doss during the initial stage of the contact that Mr. Doss is being contacted for obstructing a thoroughfare and also because Mr. Doss resembles a person featured on a crime bulletin. Mr. Doss acknowledges crossing mid-block and explains he was obstructing traffic because of an injury which precludes him from moving at a faster pace.

During a fact-finding interview with Sergeant Meelhuysen, he confirmed his attention was initially drawn to Mr. Doss because of the traffic hazard being created by Mr. Doss' obstruction of the busy roadway and his intention was to ensure Mr. Doss' welfare as much as it was to allow the lawful movement of vehicle traffic along the road. Sergeant Meelhuysen stated he recognized Mr. Doss' resemblance to an unidentified aggravated assault suspect featured in Transit Unit bulletin #21-0901. A review of the bulletin confirms the suspect featured in the bulletin matches Mr. Doss with regards to complexion, height, build, and gender. Based on the acknowledgement of the violation by Mr. Doss and Sergeant Meelhuysen's explanation of the stop, the purpose of the contact is lawful and related to enforcement of Arizona Revised Statute 13-2906- a criminal offense, as well as investigation of the aggravated assault depicted in the attached Transit Unit bulletin.

Mr. Doss expressed a second concern which was that he 'lost' his [REDACTED] dog because of his arrest. During review of the BWC footage, Mr. Doss is not near or in possession of any animal when contacted by the police. Mr. Doss does mention being bitten by a police dog while complaining to officers at the Central

City Precinct. Due to the fact no dogs, police or otherwise, were in proximity to Mr. Doss at any time during his contact, arrest, and detention the officers interacting with Mr. Doss believed his statements to be a recollection of some other interaction with the police or a delusional speech related to his contact with the officers he was speaking to. Fact-finding interviews with the involved officers confirmed there were no dogs or other animals present during their contact with Mr. Doss and therefore the involved officers could not have caused Mr. Doss to lose a service animal.

Mr. Doss' third concern was that his arrest was improper, however during the investigation of the first allegation, it was discovered Mr. Doss was arrested for a valid violation of obstructing a thoroughfare, ARS 13-2906.

Mr. Doss expressed his concern that Officer Cornelius placed Doss' identification card in the visor of the police vehicle and Doss felt this was intended to intimidate him. Review of the BWC footage does not show Mr. Doss' identification card being placed with the sun visor inside the patrol car. A card appearing to possibly be an identification card is visible in the reflection of items on the dash of the patrol when watching the BWC footage of Officer Cornelius. During an interview with Officer Cornelius he did not recall if the identification card was placed on the dash of the vehicle or clipped to the visor when transporting Mr. Doss. Officer Cornelius confirmed the placement of an arrestee's identification card onto the visor of the patrol car would be done only to serve as an easily accessible location to store the identification card because of the need to frequently review and enter information from the identification during the process of booking or citing a person.

Mr. Doss stated he was refused access to the restroom. While Officer Cornelius completed the booking entry for Mr. Doss, Officer Barnes was the only officer in the booking area and was responsible for managing his prisoner as well as Mr. Doss. While Officer Barnes' prisoner was utilizing the restroom in the booking area, Mr. Doss made statements which Officer Barnes was unable to discern. After a short period, Officer Barnes understood Mr. Doss was requesting to use the restroom. When Officer Barnes approached the holding cell where Mr. Doss was located, he noted Mr. Doss was preparing to defecate on the floor of the cell and Officer Barnes opened the cell and encouraged Mr. Doss to use the restroom. Officer Barnes also observed fluid on the ground in the cell and believed Mr. Doss had already urinated on the floor in the holding cell.

When being interviewed during fact-finding for this inquiry, Officer Barnes confirmed he did not delay providing Mr. Doss with access to the restroom once he understood the request. Upon reviewing the BWC footage related to the contact with Mr. Doss, his manner of speech was difficult to understand by all of

the officers. Based on the interviews with the involved officers and the supporting BWC footage, Mr. Doss appears to have been given access to the restroom without delay once his request was made and understood by the custodial officers.

Mr. Doss also stated he was missing jewelry removed from his person during his arrest as well as 4-5 cellular telephones. A review of the BWC footage of the involved officers revealed all of the items taken from Mr. Doss when he was arrested were properly impounded. Specifically, only one cellular telephone was found in Mr. Doss' possession when he was arrested and that cellular phone was impounded and Mr. Doss received it along with his gold chain necklace, two ear rings, and wrist watch. Mr. Doss signed a receipt for these items when he retrieved them from the Property Management Bureau on 11-12-21. Review of the BWC footage confirms no additional items were taken from Mr. Doss during his arrest.

The fact-finding interviews with the involved employees, documentation contained within the related Incident Report, and review of the BWC footage of the involved personnel confirms there is no merit to Mr. Doss' allegations. The actions of the involved personnel appear within policy guidelines related to arrest, prisoner property, and care of prisoners.

PSB administrative note:

Per Lt. Schweikert on 2/09/2022 via BlueTeam routing notes -

"Inquiry is completed. There is no policy violation. The accusations Mr. Doss had made were false."

Per Commander Carlson on 2/11/2022 via BlueTeam routing notes -

"Fact finding showed that no policy violations occurred."

KC8929 2/14/2022

Reporting/Involved Citizen

Jermaine D Doss

Date of Birth



1974

Gender

Male

Race

Black

Ethnicity

Non-Hispanic

Role	Suspect		
Address	[REDACTED]	Phone Numbers	[REDACTED]
	Eight Mile, AL, 36613		
Email			

Involved Employees

Sergeant Michael Meelhuysen - 07090

Assignment at time of incident	Sgt Strategic and Tactical Services Division/Transit Unit/X14/X41/
Video Footage	Activated - Supv Reviewed
Role	Scene Supervisor
Height	—
Weight	—

Officer Ryan Cornelius - 08143

Assignment at time of incident	Strategic and Tactical Services Division/Transit Unit/X14/X41/
Video Footage	Activated - Supv Reviewed
Role	—
Height	—
Weight	—

Employee Witnesses

Officer Kent Barnes - 08434

Assignment at time of incident	Strategic and Tactical Services Division/Transit Unit/X14/X51/
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Video Footage	Activated - Supv Reviewed
Role	—

Officer Santino Scelzo - 06960

Assignment at time of incident	Strategic and Tactical Services Division/Transit Unit/X14/X51/
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Video Footage	Activated - Supv Reviewed
Role	—

Sergeant Patrick Garcia - 05413

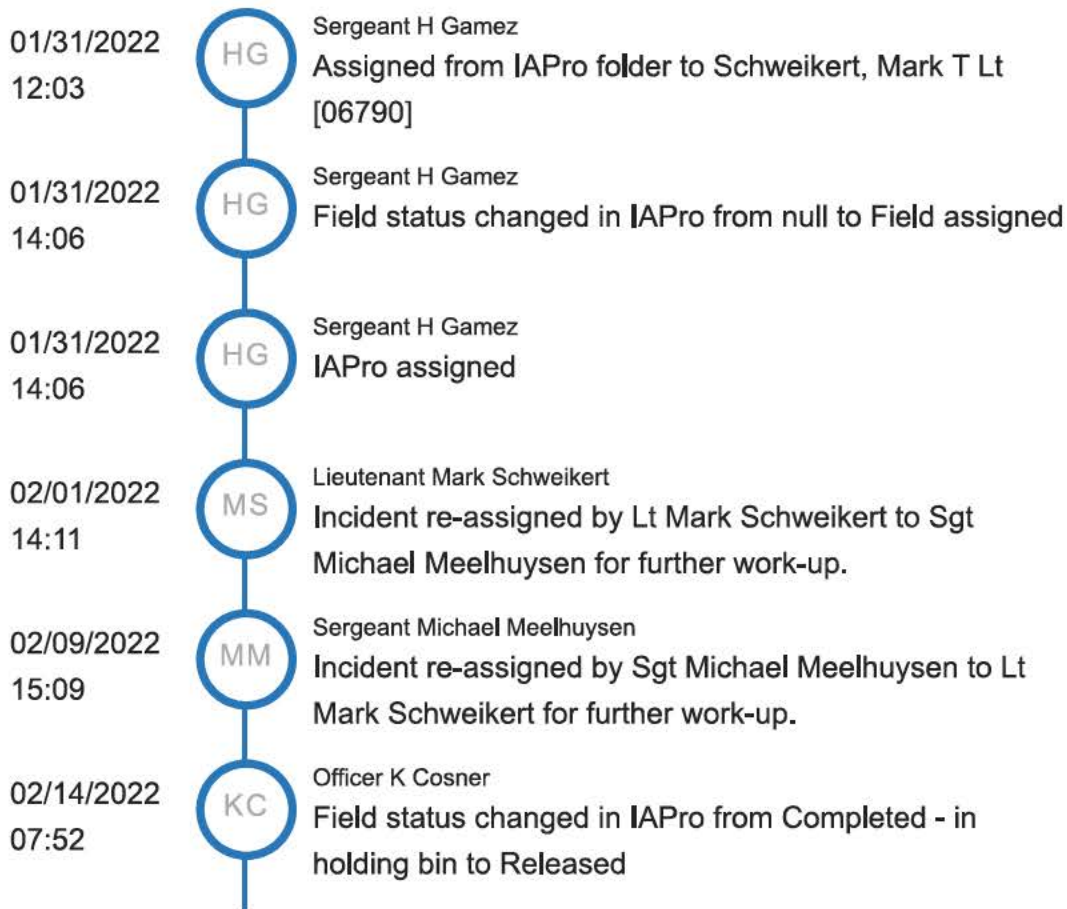
Assignment at time of incident	Sgt Strategic and Tactical Services Division/Transit Unit/X14/X51/
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Video Footage	Activated - Supv Reviewed
Role	—

Attachments

Date Attached	Attachment Description	Attachment Type
01/31/2022	BWC for Sergeant Meelhuysen #7090	—
01/31/2022	BWC for Sergeant Garcia #5413	—
01/31/2022	BWC for Officer Barnes #8434	—
02/03/2022	Transit Bulletin 21-0901	pdf
01/31/2022	BWC for Officer Scelzo #6960	—
01/31/2022	BWC #2 for Officer Cornelius	—
01/31/2022	BWC #1 for Officer Cornelius	—
02/02/2022	IR 2021-1758439	pdf

Assignment History



Chain of Command History

01/31/2022
14:06

HG

[Snapshot Title Unavailable] Hector Gamez Jr » [Snapshot Title Unavailable] Mark Schweikert ([Snapshot Title Unavailable] Graden Carlson Lois Weiss)

Concerning complaints 1-6, further fact finding and disposition will rest with the officers' chain of command. This inquiry was forwarded to Lieutenant Mark Schweikert #9790 via Blue Team. Please contact the complainant to gather any additional facts you may need to complete this Blue Team or potential investigation. Please verify the arrest was valid and/or if Mr. Doss was racially profiled. Please determine if Mr. Doss had a dog with him at the time of his arrest. The IR lists prisoner property that was impounded at 100 E. Elwood. Those items include a cash, a watch, and partial cigarettes. The booking lists cash, an ID, and a citation as prisoner property handed over to ITR personnel. Neither include the jewelry and cell phones Mr. Doss says he is missing. BWC shows Mr. Doss at one time urinating and/or defecating in the holding cell. Please determine if he was denied the use of the restroom at the station. Once you have completed the Blue Team/investigation, please re-contact the complainant and advise them of the final disposition. When completed, please forward through your chain of command for review and approval.

02/01/2022
14:11

MS

[Snapshot Title Unavailable] Mark Schweikert
[Lt Mark Schweikert has re-assigned the incident to Lt Mark Schweikert]

Signature line _____

02/01/2022
14:11

MS

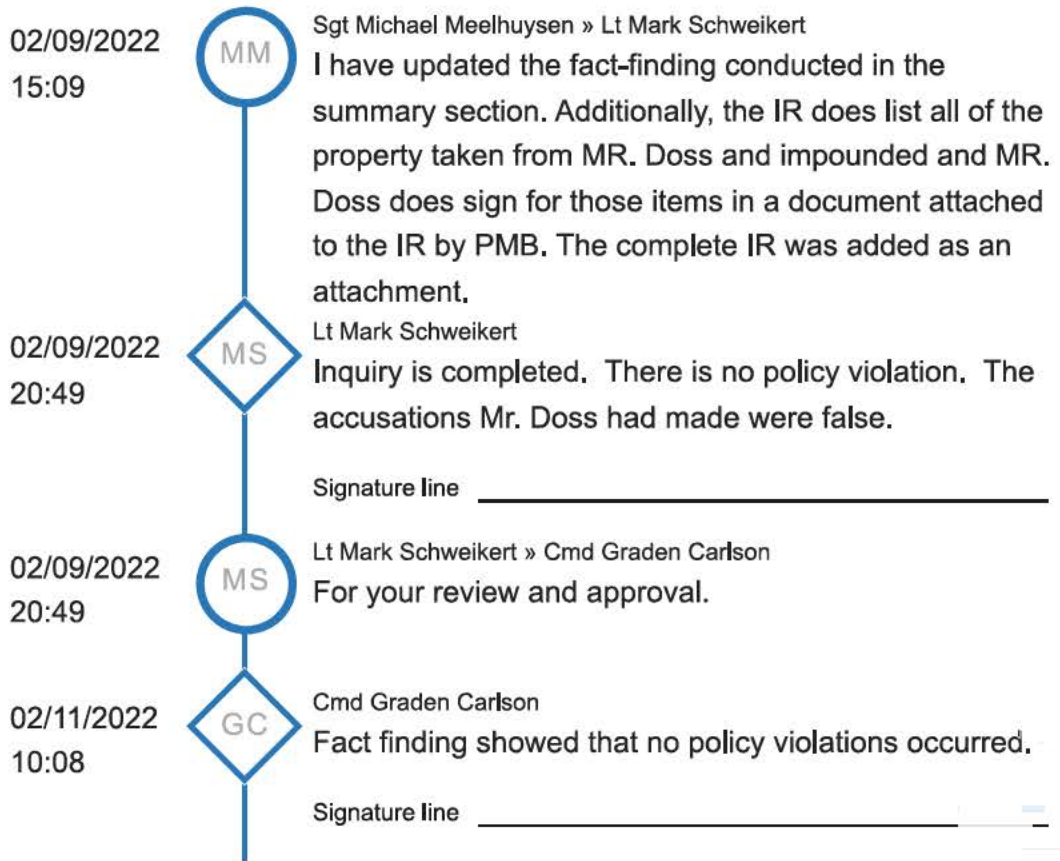
Lt Mark Schweikert » Sgt Michael Meelhuysen
As discussed.

02/09/2022
15:09

MM

Sgt Michael Meelhuysen
[Sgt Michael Meelhuysen has re-assigned the incident to Sgt Michael Meelhuysen]

Signature line _____



Assigned Investigator Signature Line

Lieutenant Mark Schweikert - 06790