Thanks to the NYC Open Data Initiative, there are many datasets available allowing more transparency into the data of New York City. Recently, I downloaded a dataset containing all payroll data for NYC employees spanning fiscal year 2015-2018.

Recently I wanted to check back in on whatever happened with the Eric Garner case. In case, you are unaware or perhaps need a brief refresher. On July 17, 2014 – Daniel Pantaleo, a plain clothes NYPD officer placed Eric Garner in a chokehold resulting in his death for allegedly illegally selling cigarettes in front of a beauty store in Tompkinsville, Staten Island.

There are many articles to read online, some aspects of the story remain disputable, some not.

Fast-forward four and a half years, what has happened?

* Pantaleo has remained on desk duty since the incident. Taxpayers have funded his salary in full, including thousands of dollars in overtime during several fiscal years.
* A State Island Grand Jury declined to indict Pantaleo.
* The Department of Justice declined to bring forth charges after an independent investigation.
* On July 16, 2018, the NYPD notified the Justice Department they would pursue disciplinary actions against the officers involved. (FOUR years after the fact!)