



City of Cleveland  
Justin M. Bibb, Mayor

Department of Public Safety  
Dornat (Wayne) A. Drummond, Chief  
FBI NA #230  
Division of Police  
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Cleveland, Ohio 44113  
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## Pre-Disciplinary Hearing Letter

September 23, 2022

**Patrol Officer Deonte White #437**  
**C/o Fourth District Headquarters**  
**9333 Kinsman Avenue**  
**Cleveland, Ohio 44104**

**Re: DBI2022-0089**

Patrol Officer White #437:

Please be advised, in accordance with Article 28 of the collective bargaining agreement between the City of Cleveland and the Cleveland Police Patrolmen's Association, a pre-disciplinary hearing has been scheduled to determine whether you violated the following provisions of the Manual of Rules, Department of Public Safety and the Rules of the Civil Service Commission of the City of Cleveland.

### **STATEMENT OF POLICY**

**In part:** The Manual of Rules sets forth the conduct and behavior to be followed by officers and employees. Any violation of these rules shall be a basis for disciplinary action. Disciplinary action includes, but is not limited to, verbal and written reprimands and the preferring of Divisional charges which can result in suspension, loss of pay, demotion or termination. The rules and standards contained in this manual shall apply whether the officer or employee is on or off duty. Where a conflict exists between a Rule and a General Police Order, the Rule provision shall be adhered to.

### **SPECIFICATIONS**

**Specification #1:** (DBI2022-0089) On or about July 23, 2022 through July 24, 2022, you, Patrol Officer Deonte White #437, failed to complete four OH-1 accident reports, two Field Based Reporting (FBR) hit-skip reports, and one Form-10, in violation of Manual of Rules 9.05 and 9.08. (*Group I Violation*)

**Specification #2:** (DBI2022-0089) On or about July 24, 2022, you, Patrol Officer Deonte White #437, failed to notified your supervisor that a hit-skip accident caused serious injuries. You failed to tow and/or process tow the suspect vehicle, and instead released the suspect vehicle to the owner on scene, in violation of General Police Order 8.1.04. (*Group I Violation*)

These specifications are in violation of the rules and procedures of the Division of Police, Department of Public Safety.

## **RULES, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

### **General Police Order 8.1.04 Hit Skip Investigations** (revised: 5/14/14)

**POLICY:** The Cleveland Division of Police shall thoroughly investigate and document hit skip crashes. Officers investigating a hit skip shall adhere to the following protocol in completing an OH-1 and Hit Skip Card as part of the investigation. Members of the Division shall follow the guidelines of Ohio Senate Bill 77 and shall not present a “single photograph” of an “unknown” suspect when attempting to identify a hit skip driver.

### **PROCEDURES:**

- I.** Based on Division needs, members shall conduct thorough field investigations of hit skips until there are no further leads to follow-up on, or the available leads have provided as much information as possible.
- II.** The Hit Skip Card is used to track and follow up on hit skip crashes and shall be completed in addition to an OH-1 report for all hit skips (solved or unsolved) reported to the Division of Police.
- V.** Hit Skip Tow Procedures
  - C.** Hit skips involving serious injuries (i.e. broken bones, internal injuries etc) may rise to the level of felony hit skip. A supervisor shall be consulted to either have the Accident Investigation Unit (AIU) respond to the scene or process tow the suspect auto to Lot 2 for physical evidence (fingerprints, blood samples, hair etc). Members shall fax a copy of the OH-1 and Hit Skip Card for potential felony hit skips to the Hit Skip Unit prior to reporting off.

### **Manual of Rules for the Conduct and Discipline of Employees of the Cleveland Division of Police**

#### **IX. REPORTING/CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**

- 9.05 When an investigation substantiates the need for an official report, the investigating officer shall promptly complete and forward the report in accordance with current Divisional procedures.
- 9.08 Personnel, before reporting off duty, shall complete all written reports as may be required on all matters that come to their attention or are assigned to them for investigation during their tour of duty.

### **HEARING INFORMATION**

The pre-disciplinary hearing is scheduled for **Monday, October 10, 2022, at 1000 hours** in the **Cleveland Division of Police Headquarters, Room 924**. Should you desire union representation, it is your responsibility to notify your union of this hearing. All officers shall have an opportunity to testify. All testimony provided during the hearing shall be given the same weight as sworn testimony; therefore, your statements can and may be used against you at the hearing or at a later date. **Any documentation that could explain any of the above allegations shall be forwarded to the Case Preparation Unit a minimum of 48 hours prior to the scheduled hearing. Any new or additional evidence brought to the hearing will result in the hearing to be suspended and the matter shall be returned to the Internal Affairs Unit or the Police Review Board for consideration, as appropriate. In addition, it is also your responsibility to bring the documentation to this scheduled hearing.**

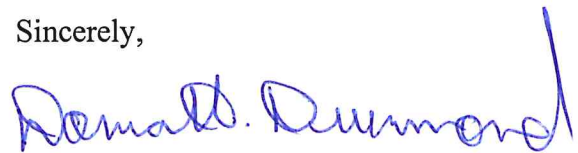
**If you are to have witnesses appear on your behalf, a Form-1 listing their names must be provided to the Case Preparation Unit via email (CasePrep@clevelandohio.gov) a minimum of 48 hours prior to the scheduled hearing.** It is your responsibility to notify said witnesses of the date and time of the hearing. In addition, it is your sole responsibility to ensure the attendance of any witnesses appearing on your behalf. Prior permission for any Division member's attendance **MUST** be obtained from the Case Preparation Unit. Any witnesses that will appear are to be in full uniform of the day. No overtime shall accrue as a result of their attendance.

In accordance with General Police Order 1.1.12: Uniform and Clothing Regulations, you are to appear in **"CLASS A" UNIFORM** and have your badge, city issued service weapon, and identification card with you. Failure to attend as ordered may subject you to additional disciplinary charges. You shall **PERSONALLY** contact the Case Preparation Unit (216-623-5022) **IMMEDIATELY** if there are any conflicts that would cause your lack of attendance to the scheduled hearing.

**THIS WILL BE YOUR TOUR OF DUTY**

**THESE CHARGES MAY BE AMENDED AT A LATER DATE**

Sincerely,



Dornat A. Drummond  
Chief of Police

DAD:bpc:cld:la

cc: Sammy Morris, Acting Deputy Chief, Field Operations  
Dorothy Todd, Deputy Chief, Chief of Staff  
Brian Carney, Commander, Bureau of Compliance  
Brandon Kutz, Commander, Fourth District  
Christopher Viland, Superintendent, Internal Affairs Unit  
Melissa Dawson, Sergeant, Employee Assistance Unit  
Jeffrey Follmer, President, Cleveland Police Patrolmen's Association  
Hassan Aden, Federal Monitoring Team