

# City of Cleveland Justin M. Bibb, Mayor

Department of Public Safety

Dornat (Wayne) A. Drummond, Chief FBI NA #230 Division of Police 1300 Ontario Street, Suite 929 Cleveland, Ohio 44113 216/623-5005 • 216/623-5584 Fax www.clevelandohio.gov

Disposition Letter

December 1, 2022

Patrol Officer John Kraynik #1517 C/o Fourth District Headquarters 9333 Kinsman Road Cleveland, Ohio 44104

Re: DBI2022-0053, DBI2022-0020, OPS2022-0070

Patrol Officer Kraynik #1517:

This letter is to advise you, Patrol Officer John Kraynik #1517, of the result of the administrative pre-disciplinary hearing you attended on November 14, 2022, to address an internal and external investigation wherein you were alleged to have engaged in improper procedure and/or conduct.

## 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:** (DBI2022-0053) On or about February 7, 2022, you, Patrol Officer John Kraynik #1517, failed to continually monitor an arrestee's actions that was secured in the rear of your zone car, resulting in the prisoner escaping, in violation of General Police Order 3.01.01. (*Group II violation*)

**Specification #2:** (DBI2022-0053) On or about February 7, 2022, you, Patrol Officer John Kraynik #1517, failed to fasten an arrestee's seatbelt while transporting the arrestee in your zone car, in violation of General Police Order 3.01.01. (*Group I violation*)

**Specification** #3: (DBI2022-0020) On or about February 28, 2022, you, Patrol Officer John Kraynik #1517, failed to properly conduct a prisoner inventory upon taking custody from Solon Police Department, in violation of Manual of Rules 8.02. (*Group I violation*)

Patrol Officer John Kraynik #1517 December 1, 2022 Page 2 of 4

**Specification #4:** (DBI2022-0020) On or about February 28, 2022, you, Patrol Officer John Kraynik #1517, failed to properly secure prisoner property upon taking custody from Solon Police Department, in violation of Manual of Rules 4.03. (*Group I violation*)

**Specification #5:** (OPS2022-0070) The Civilian Police Review Board is recommending to the Chief of Police that the allegation of *Damaged/Missing Property* be sustained against you, Patrol Officer John Kraynik #1517, that on or about February 28, 2022, you violated Manual of Rules 4.01 and 4.03 when you failed to secure the complainant's property inside the patrol car during prisoner transport, causing the complainant's property to be lost or damaged. *(Group I violation)* 

These specifications violate the rules and procedures of the Division of Police, Department of Public Safety.

# **RULES, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

General Police Order 3.01.01: Arrestee Restraint, Transport, and Supervision (effective: 11/30/20)

Manual of Rules for the Conduct and Discipline of Employees of the Cleveland Division of Police 2.02, 2.03, 2.04, 4.01, 4.03 and 8.02.

### PREDISCIPLINARY HEARING

In attendance at the administrative pre-disciplinary hearing were you, First Vice President David Medina, Second Vice President Andrew Gasiewski and Attorney Joseph Delguyd of the Cleveland Police Patrolmen's Association, First Vice President Luther Roddy of the Black Shield Police Association, Vice President Erik Melendez of the Hispanic Police Officers' Association, Patrol Officer Paul Benedictis of the Fourth District, Sergeant Scott Navratil of the First District, Arthur Bowker of the Officer of Professional Standards, Lieutenant Charles DePenti of the Case Preparation Unit and Deputy Chief Dorothy Todd of the Chief's Office, who presided over the hearing.

During the hearing, you acknowledged receipt of the charge letter; you and your representatives waived the reading of your charge letter and were then afforded the opportunity to be heard. You entered a plea of "Not Guilty" to Specifications #2 and #3 and "No Contest" to Specifications #1, #4 and Specification #5 of the administrative charges as set forth in the charge letter. Upon carefully reviewing the evidence presented, the memorialized record, as well as the arguments of you and your representatives, the Hearing Officer recommended that Specifications #2, #3 and #4 be dismissed and you be found "Guilty" of Specifications #1 and #5.

# FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

I have carefully reviewed the evidence incorporated into the record by reference, the memorialized record, including statements made at your hearing, and the applicable Rules, Policies, and Procedures, and I accept and adopt the recommendation of the Hearing Officer. You initially were not intending to, nor had you begun to transport the detained male, so a seatbelt was not required (Specification #2); additionally, Specifications #3 and #4 are duplicative of Specification #5, and as such, I "Dismiss" Specifications #2, #3 and #4.

Patrol Officer John Kraynik #1517 December 1, 2022 Page 3 of 4

You violated General Police Order 3.01.01 when you failed to continually monitor the arrested male that you had secured in the rear of your patrol car, resulting in the male being able to slip off one of his handcuffs, reach through the bars covering the open rear window, open the rear door and flee (Specification #1). Since the arrestee was handcuffed, secured in the rear of the patrol car while you were in the front seat with a limited view of the suspect, I find this more closely comports with a Group I violation, "conduct that has a negative impact on the operations or professional image of the Division or that negatively impacts relationships with other officers, agencies or the public." Based on the foregoing, I am amending Specification #1 from a Group II violation to a Group I violation. I find you "Guilty" of Specification #1, and I am issuing you a one (1) workday suspension without pay for Specification #1. This corrective action is within the First Group I violation range of the discipline matrix when aggravating factors (active discipline) outweigh mitigating factors (none).

The above-imposed suspension shall commence and be effective the next working day after you are served with this notice. You shall surrender your badge, police identification card, unloaded departmentally issued firearm and three (3) loaded magazines plus one (1) live round to your Commanding Officer or designee at the end of your shift. Upon completion of the suspension days, you shall retrieve the aforementioned property from your Commanding Officer or designee upon reporting for duty.

You violated Manual of Rules 4.01 and 4.03 when you failed to secure a prisoner's property during transport by accidentally leaving the property on the roof of the patrol car (Specification #4). You and your partner retraced your route and found the prisoner's property bag, but it was damaged. I believe reinstruction is appropriate; therefore, I am issuing you a **Non-disciplinary Letter of Reinstruction for Specification #5**. Please review the Manual of Rules 4.01 and 4.03 and ensure that you follow them verbatim.

Additionally, you shall, within five (5) workdays of returning from suspension, read General Police Order 3.01.01, Manual of Rules 4.01, and 4.03, and expect to be reinstructed by a superior officer on that Order and those Rules. Upon completion of the reinstruction, you will email a Form-1 (as an attachment) indicating reinstruction, and endorsed by the same superior officer, to:

The Case Preparation Unit (caseprep@clevelandohio.gov) Lieutenant Charles DePenti (cdepenti@clevelandohio.gov)

It is the Division's earnest desire that this letter will serve as a deterrent against future acts of this nature. Any prospective acts of the same or similar conduct may lead to progressive discipline. Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the collective bargaining agreement between the City of Cleveland and the Cleveland Police Patrolmen's Association, verbal disciplinary warnings and disciplinary written reprimands shall not be used for progressive discipline purposes after one (1) year from the date the discipline was administered, and disciplinary suspensions shall not be used for progressive discipline purposes after three (3) years from the date the discipline was administered.

Patrol Officer John Kraynik #1517 December 1, 2022 Page 4 of 4

Respectfully,

Dornat A. Drummond

ach Aring Chief

Chief of Police

#### DAD:bpc:cld:kfs

cc: Karrie D. Howard, Chief Director, Department of Public Safety

Dorothy Todd, Deputy Chief, Chief of Staff

Sammy Morris, Acting Deputy Chief, Field Operations

Harold Pretel, Deputy Chief, Homeland Special Operations

Daniel Fay, Deputy Chief, Administrative Operations

Brian Carney, Commander, Bureau of Compliance

Brandon Kutz, Commander, Fourth District

Robert Simon, Captain, Office of Compliance

Christopher Viland, Superintendent, Internal Affairs Unit

Kenneth Ryan, Lieutenant, Personnel Section (cc: Jill Pedersen)

William Mokshefsky, Sergeant, Personnel Unit

Melissa Dawson, Sergeant, Officer-in-Charge, Employee Assistance Unit

Jeffrey Follmer, President, Cleveland Police Patrolmen's Association

William Menzalora, Chief Assistant Director of Law

Delante Thomas, Chief Ethics Officer

Mary L. Bradley, Executive Director, Civil Service Commission

Richard Rosenthal, Member, Monitoring Team

Michael Evanovich, Investigator, Department of Justice

Ayesha Bell Hardaway, Interim Monitor, Monitoring Team

Michael Hess, Chairperson, Civilian Police Review Board

David Gatian, Vice Chairman, Civilian Police Review Board

Sylvia Grimes, Private Secretary, Civilian Police Review Board

Thomas Fisher, Interim Administrator, Office of Professional Standards

Eric Richardson, Acting Senior Investigator, Office of Professional Standards

Jason Goodrick, Executive Director, Cleveland Community Police Commission

Dr. Leigh Anderson, Executive Director of the Police Accountability Team