



Police Department – Brian O’Hara, Chief of Police

350 S. Fifth St. - Room 130

Minneapolis, MN 55415

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TO: Jordan Brenny, Badge #0767
CC: Office of Police Conduct Review
DATE: December 8, 2022
RE: Administrative Investigation Case #21-03803

CHIEF’S DECISION: **Written Reprimand**

This memo summarizes my approach and reasoning for my decision as Chief of Police that the listed policy violations by Officer Brenny are sustained. The memo accompanies the enclosed Notice of Discipline Form.

Summary of the Basis for Decision:

Allegation #1:

It is alleged that Officer Brenny violated **MPD P/P 7-401(B)(1) Normal & Emergency Vehicle Operation**, when he turned the wrong way onto a one-way street.

- Officer Brenny was driving to a low-priority music call, with his partner Officer Arriola riding as the passenger. Officer Brenny turned onto 17th Av. S., a one-way street, and continued against the flow of traffic.
- MPD P/P 7-401(B)(1) states, “Under normal conditions, personnel will operate police vehicles in the same manner as required for the public.”
- Officer Brenny admitted to knowing that 17th Av. S. was a one-way street for several blocks and that he was driving against the flow of traffic without activating his overhead emergency lights or siren.
- The Police Conduct Review Panel provided a unanimous recommendation of **Merit** to this allegation.
- I concur with the recommendation of the panel. Based on the admission of Officer Brenny, there is a preponderance of the evidence to support the allegation that Officer Brenny violated MPD P/P 7-401(B)(1) and this allegation is **Sustained**.

Allegation #2:

It is alleged that Officer Brenny violated **MPD P/P 7-106 Assigned Calls**, when he observed a property damage accident that was comparatively more urgent than the music call to which he had been dispatched. He then failed to address the accident and to provide assistance to the involved parties.

- Officer Brenny was driving to a low-priority music call to which he had been dispatched, when he observed a property damage accident occur in front of him.
 - This accident was caused in part due to Officer Brenny driving the wrong way on a one-way street, causing a vehicle to move over to make room for the squad, when the vehicle collided with a parked motor vehicle.
- Officer Brenny saw and heard the impact of the accident, discussed this with his partner, and did not stop to address the property damage accident. The vehicle involved in the accident then left the scene, resulting in a property damage hit and run accident.
- Officer Brenny continued to the low-priority music call, and after the music call, responded to handle the property damage accident after the victim called 911 to report a hit and run.

- The Police Conduct Review Panel issued a unanimous recommendation of Merit to this allegation.
- I concur with the recommendation of the Police Conduct Review Panel. There is a preponderance of the evidence to support the allegation that Officer Brenny observed the accident, admitted that he did not stop to handle the call, and continued to a low priority call instead. This allegation is **Sustained**.

The facts noted in the case investigation support the conclusion that Officer Brenny violated Minneapolis Police Department Policies 7-401(B)(1) Normal and Emergency Vehicle Operation, and 7-106 Assigned Calls. I concur with the recommendation from the Police Conduct Review Panel that both allegations be Sustained.

As Chief of Police, I am responsible for providing clear expectations about behavior and conduct in all situations, not just when it is convenient. These expectations extend from myself to the command staff and all levels of the Minneapolis Police Department. My predecessors have also borne responsibility for setting expectations, and it is incumbent on every Chief to hold officers accountable for breeches of those expectations. Legitimacy and reputation are of critical importance to police officers. Officers carry a badge and gun and are called upon to make some of the hardest decisions possible. It takes countless actions to build a reservoir of trust, and only one action to completely drain. We cannot afford to lose legitimacy with the people we serve.

I hold officers of the Minneapolis Police Department to a high standard. I expect them to live up to our oath of office, our professional code of ethics and our departments core values of trust, accountability, and professional service. Furthermore, I expect them to demonstrate procedural justice in their work. With this conduct, Officer Brenny failed to meet our standards when he was responding to a routine call for service but choose to drive the wrong way on a one-way street, without the use of his emergency overhead lights or siren. This action then contributed to a property damage accident, that he failed to stop and address, resulting in a low-level accident becoming a hit and run accident. The violations in this matter undermine both public safety and public trust.

As Chief of Police with authority to discipline for violations of policy under Minn. Stat 626.89 Subd. 17, I am issuing the following discipline to Officer Brenny for the listed policy violations:

Allegation #1: MPD P/P 7-401(B)(1) Normal and Emergency Vehicle Operation. **Sustained – Letter of Reprimand.**

Allegation #2: MPD P/P 7-106 Assigned Calls. **Sustained – Letter of Reprimand.**

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Brian O'Hara
Chief of Police

Enclosure: Discipline Form
CC: OPCR Case File
Inspector Gomez