

City of Boston, Massachusetts

Office of Police Accountability and Transparency
Stephanie Everett, Executive Director

CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD- COMPLAINT #59

DATE OF INCIDENT: March 10, 2022

DATE OF FILING: March 28, 2022

ALLEGATION OF MISCONDUCT: Negligence

PRECINCT: D-14, Allston/Brighton

INVESTIGATOR: Tastery Reed Jr

OPAT FILE NUMBER: 59

CRB MEETING DATE: August 9, 2022

DISPOSITION: Not Sustained

SUMMARY OF FACTS

On March 28, 2022, the Office of Police Accountability and Transparency (OPAT)received a complaint to investigate alleged police misconduct by the Boston Police Department. The Complainant stated they reported to the Boston Police Department that cars were parked illegally at the Jackson Mann School located at 40 Armington Street, Allston, MA 02134. The Complainant stated that they wanted the officer who arrived to issue tickets for all of the vehicles parked in the parking lot of the school. The complainant alleges he received a call from the responding officer notifying him that they issued tickets for the parked vehicles inside the parking lot of Jackson Mann. However, the complainant alleges that when they went to check to see if the vehicles were ticketed, they noticed there were no tickets issued for any of the vehicles as the officer had stated. Instead, the complainant noticed that the officer along with people inside the school went to their vehicles and then drove off. The complainant reached out to the duty officer, who told him "nothing is in black and white". The complainant noted that he had before and after pictures of the illegally parked vehicles that he had asked the



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officer to write tickets for. The complainant is upset that he was lied to by a Boston Police officer.

INVESTIGATION

On May 11, 2022 at 12:24pm, Investigator Reed contacted the complainant by email to ask questions regarding the identity of the Boston Police Officer who was dispatched at Jackson Mann school. The complainant could not provide any identifying information to Investigator Reed about the officer including badge information. The complainant stated that they contacted Brighton/Allston police precinct, and spoke with the duty supervisor on the phone who the complainant also could not identify the name of.

On May 13, 2022 at 7:50am, the complainant emailed Investigator Reed stating that the duty supervisor was on the day shift. The complainant stated that they asked to see a carbon copy of the officer's tickets to verify if the unidentified officer wrote the ticket, which the Lieutenant refused to release. The complainant also alleges that the officer personally called him on their cell phone and told the complainant that he ticketed the illegally parked cars that were parked at Jackson Mann school.

On June 9, 2022 at 10:22am, the complainant emailed Investigator Reed stating that a similar situation happened at the Jackson Mann school regarding vehicles being illegally parked, this time on the sidewalk. The complainant stated that they were informed by Community Officer DeJesus that it is an accommodation to the school that officers do not ticket. Per order of the principle that "vehicles that have signs that read do not ticket should not be ticketed."

Also on this date at 4:10pm, Investigator Reed emailed Carla Tankle, Constituent Relations at the Boston Transportation Department (BTD) to verify if the department is the appropriate agency to handle illegal parking issues. Ms. Tankle replied back that they were. Investigator Reed spoke with the complainant by phone and explained to them that BTD's Parking Enforcement division would be the appropriate agency to handle this complaint instead of the Boston Police Department.



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RECOMMENDATION:

OPAT staff recommends to the Civilian Review Board that this case be considered **Not Sustained.** Given the accommodation provided to cars parked at the Jackson Mann School, this case should be referred to the Boston Transportation Department (BTD). The Ordinance establishing the Office of Police Accountability and Transparency states one of OPAT's investigatory roles is to review complaints and make findings where such complaints present matters appropriate for investigation regarding allegations of police misconduct of Boston Police Department's (BPD) sworn and civilian personnel (12-16.7(b).