

## City of Boston, Massachusetts

## Office of Police Accountability and Transparency Evandro C. Carvalho, Executive Director

## CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD (CRB) -COMPLAINT #318

**Date of Incident:** April 9, 2024 **Time of Incident:** 7:55 AM

Location of Incident: Blue Hills Avenue / Washington Street, Dorchester, MA 02121

**Date of filing**: April 9, 2024 **Investigator:** Diana Vergara

Date of CRB Decision: March 27, 2025

## **INVOLVED OFFICER:**

Officer's Name	District	Badge/ Employee #	Sex	Race/ Ethnicity
Officer Samantha Thompson	B2	ID #132602	F	Black

#### CASE PROCEDURAL HISTORY:

This is the first time this case has been brought before the CRB.

#### **SUMMARY OF ALLEGATIONS:**

On April 9, 2024, Complainant filed a complaint with the Office of Police Accountability and Transparency (OPAT) regarding Officer Samantha Thompson ID #132602. Complainant alleged that on April 9, 2024, s/he was the passenger in a car accident. Officer Thompson was there to assist with the accident. During the interaction with the officer, the officer displayed disrespectful, passive-aggressive, and violent behavior, including putting her hand in Complainant's face.

### APPLICABLE RULES & LAWS:

- 1. **BPD Rule 102, §3: Conduct:** Employees shall conduct themselves at all times, both on and off duty, in such a manner as to reflect most favorably on the Department. Conduct unbecoming an employee shall include that which tends to indicate that the employee is unable or unfit to continue as a member of the Department, or tends to impair the operation of the Department or its employees.
  - a. Allegations of Misconduct: Complainant stated that during the interaction with the officer, the officer displayed disrespectful, passive-aggressive, and violent behavior,

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including putting her hand in Complainant's face.

- 2. BPD Rule 102 § 4 (Neglect of Duty/Unreasonable Judgment): This includes any conduct or omission that is not in accordance with established and ordinary duties or procedures as to such employees or which constitutes the use of unreasonable judgment in the exercising of any discretion granted
  - a. Allegations of Misconduct: Complainant stated that during Complainant's interaction with the officer, the officer displayed disrespectful, passive-aggressive, and violent behavior, including putting her hand in Complainant's face

## SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION:

- 1. On April 10, 2024, Investigator Vergara spoke to Complainant, who reiterated the information provided on the intake form.
- 2. On April 26, 2024, May 1, 2024, and May 3, 2024, Investigator Vergara attempted to speak to Complainant to obtain the information regarding the witness. However, Complainant stated that the witness did want to be part of the investigation.
- 3. On May 6, 2024, Investigator Vergara reviewed the City cameras located at the intersection of Washington Street, Dorchester, MA 02121. The video depicted the narrative within the police report.
- 4. On June 6, 2024, Investigator Vergara reviewed the CAD sheet, 911 call, and turret tape.
- 5. On June 6, 2024, Investigator Vergara spoke with Complainant's stepfather, who was the driver of the vehicle in which Complainant was a passenger. He stated that he had not witnessed any misconduct from Officer Thompson and was unaware that Complainant intended to file a complaint with OPAT. He further mentioned that he did not observe Officer Thompson touching Complainant, being rude, or yelling at anyone.
- 6. On June 10, 2024, Investigator Vergara spoke with the driver of the other vehicle involved in the accident. He stated that the officer was polite and did not yell or make any threatening remarks. He confirmed that Officer Thompson was not physical with him or any of the other parties involved. Additionally, he noted that Complainant was loud and hostile when speaking to Officer Thompson.
- 7. On June 10, 2024, Investigator Vergara received and reviewed Officer Thompson's body-worn camera (BWC).

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## **EVIDENCE REQUESTED/REVIEWED:**

Evidence	Description	Availability status	File Name
Complainant's Interview	Phone call 4/10/2024	Available	N/A
OPAT Complainant Form/Intake Forms	Complainant's statements on OPAT Intake form	Available	N/A
Witness Interview	Phone Call attempts on 4/26/2024, 5/1/2024 & 5/3/2024	Unavailable/ did not want to participate	N/A
Interview of Driver of other vehicle involved in accident	Phone call on 6/10/2024	Available	N/A
Complainant's stepfather's interview	Phone call on 6/10/2024	Available	N/A
CAD sheet	Summary of 911 call and dispatchers' conversations P240174404	Available	N/A
911 call	Oral statements from the 1st and 2nd driver to the dispatcher.	Available	4/9/24 BHA / Washington. CC 242 028 373 Opat # 04/12/24 Case
Turret tape	Officer Thompson's radio communication to the dispatcher	Available	4/9/24 BHA / Washington. CC 242 028 373 Opat # 04/12/24 Case



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Body Worn Camera	Officers Thompson's BWC footage	Available	BWC Video Officer Samantha
Interview letters to Officer Rafael Ruiz Soto ID # 167714	Emails requesting an interview with Officer Ruiz sent on June 10, 24, and August 2, 2024.	Unavailable/ No response from Officer Ruiz	N/A
Interview letters to Officer Thompson, Samantha ID # 132602	Emails requesting an interview with Officer Ruiz sent on June 10, 24, and August 2, 2024.	Unavailable/ No response from Officer Thompson	N/A

### **OPAT RECOMMENDED FINDINGS:**

Investigator Vergara recommended that Rule 102, §3 (Conduct) AND Rule 102 § 4 (Neglect of Duty/Unreasonable Judgment) be Not Sustained. The Investigator reviewed all the evidence provided and examined the circumstances surrounding Complainant's allegations, and none of the evidence substantiated Complainant's allegations. The body-worn camera and city camera footage was in direct contrast to Complainant's allegations, and two witnesses, including Complainant's stepfather, attested that the officer was polite, which was also supported by the videos.

Officer's Name	Applicable Rule	Recommended Finding
Officer Samantha Thompson	Rule 102 §3 (Conduct)	Not Sustained
Officer Samantha Thompson	Rule 102 § 4 (Neglect of Duty/Unreasonable Judgment)	Not Sustained



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## **CRB DECISION:**

The Civilian Review Board reached a unanimous decision (6-0), Unfounded regarding allegations against Officer Thompson's violation of Rule 102, §3 (Conduct) AND Rule 102 § 4 (Neglect of Duty/Unreasonable Judgment).

Officer's Name	Applicable Rule	CRB Ruling
Officer Samantha Thompson	Rule 102 §3 (Conduct)	Unfounded
Officer Samantha Thompson	Rule 102 § 4 (Neglect of Duty/Unreasonable Judgment)	Unfounded