



WACO POLICE DEPARTMENT

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PUBLIC INFORMATION RELEASE

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Subject: Officer Involved Investigation

Contact: Sgt. Patrick Swanton

Overview/Timeline of the Waco Police Department Investigation Involving Waco Officers

The following is a timeline of the incident involving the internal and criminal investigations we are conducting:

On Wednesday, May 4, 2016 at 10:40 p.m., Officers Kevin Spicer and Adam Beseda with the Street Crimes Unit attempted to stop a 2002 Cadillac for a traffic violation (Failure to Stop at Designated Point) that occurred at the intersection of J.J. Flewellen and Herring Avenue. The driver is now known to be 35-year-old, Qualon Deshan Weaver.

The vehicle eventually stopped, and the two officers approached the driver. An additional Street Crimes Unit occupied by two officers came to the scene to assist, one of those officers being Officer George Neville. Mr. Weaver was handcuffed, and during his arrest, Officer Neville grabbed Mr. Weaver around his neck.

Mr. Weaver was transported to the County Jail and booked for Evading in a Motor Vehicle and Possession of Marijuana in a Drug Free Zone. The arrest was made approximately 550 feet away from the Rapoport Academy Elementary School. Contraband was found in Mr. Weaver's vehicle in a search following the arrest. Mr. Weaver also received citations for Driving While License Invalid and for Failure to Identify.

On 6-9-2016 the McLennan County District Attorney's office previewed the in-car video and discovered that Officer Neville had grabbed Mr. Weaver by the neck during the arrest. The DA's Office contacted the Police Department, and the Police Department immediately initiated an internal investigation to begin with our Professional Standards and Conduct Unit (P.S. & C.). The P.S. & C. Supervisor reviewed the in-car video and determined that a separate criminal investigation should

also be conducted. A supervisor from the Detective Division was assigned to determine if criminal charges against any of the involved officers were applicable.

Officer Neville and Officer Beseda were placed on administrative leave on 6-9-16 pending the outcome of the two separate investigations. On 6-16-16 Officer Spicer was put on administrative leave based on information discovered as the internal investigation progressed.

After multiple attempts to contact and interview Mr. Weaver, the P.S. & C. Supervisor was able to interview him on 6-20-16.

The names of those officers involved and placed on administrative leave are as follows:

Officer George Neville. Eleven years of service and currently assigned to the Street Crimes Unit. Officer Neville was placed on administrative leave on 6-9-16.

Officer Adam Beseda. Seven years of service and currently assigned to the Street Crimes Unit. Officer Beseda was placed on administrative leave on 6-9-16.

Officer Kevin Spicer. Five years of service and currently assigned to the Street Crimes Unit. Officer Spicer was placed on administrative leave on 6-16-16.

Both the internal and criminal investigations are currently ongoing.

The City has received several requests for the in-car video. The City has sought an opinion from the Texas Attorney General on whether the video is to be withheld pending the criminal and internal investigations.

Chief Stroman stated, "We take any incident of potential misconduct very seriously. We are committed to constitutional policing at every level. Although there is a sense of urgency in these matters, the Police Department needs to perform thorough investigations."

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