



## CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER  
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May 6, 2021

Stacey Mann



RE: Conclusion of independent investigation into citizen complaint regarding South Pasadena Police investigations of an incident on November 1, 2020

In response to a citizen complaint alleging discourteous, disrespectful or discriminatory treatment of the public by members of the South Pasadena Police Department in response to a call for service on November 1, 2020, the City hired independent investigator, Garron Wyatt Investigative Services, to investigate the complaint, as required by Penal Code Section 832.5 and South Pasadena Police Department Police No. 1013.

The investigation's scope was to determine the facts and circumstances surrounding allegations that Officer Sandoval was discourteous, disrespectful, or discriminatory when interacting with a member of the public on November 1, 2020. The investigation's scope included determining whether Officer Sandoval refused or failed to document statements from witnesses and whether Corporal Andrew DuBois improperly handled a complaint reported by Stacey Mann. The resulting investigative report is a confidential personnel record pursuant to Penal Code Section 832.7 and is not disclosable.

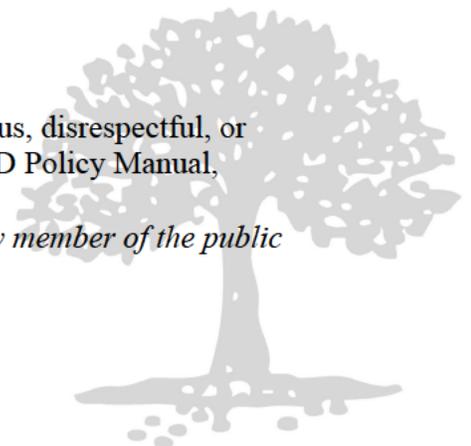
This letter summarizes the allegations regarding each officer regarding the November 1, 2020 incident and the findings and conclusions of the investigator.

### **Allegations regarding Officer Fernando Sandoval**

#### **ALLEGATION #1:**

It is alleged that on November 1, 2020, Officer Sandoval was discourteous, disrespectful, or discriminatory in his interactions with Amara Mann, in violation of SPPD Policy Manual, section 320.5.5 (f), which states:

*(f) Discourteous, disrespectful or discriminatory treatment of any member of the public or any member of this Department or the City.*



**Findings: SUSTAINED.** Based on the preponderance of the evidence, the investigator concluded that the evidence supports a finding that Sandoval was disrespectful toward Amara and Stacey Mann and therefore violated SPPD Manual, section 320.5.5 (f).

**ALLEGATION #2:**

It is alleged that Officer Sandoval failed to identify and document statements from witnesses in a police report, in violation of SPPD Policy Manual, section 323.1 (PURPOSE AND SCOPE), which states:

*On-duty officers, within the city limits, are to take all steps reasonably necessary and consistent with their assignment to affect the enforcement of the penal provisions of the City, State, and Nation and to protect life and property. When an officer has reason to suspect that a crime has been committed or is about to be committed, the officer has a duty to investigate in order to ascertain the facts. The purpose of the investigation is to ascertain the truth so that the guilty may be brought to justice and the innocent cleared. Officers must exhaust every legal means at his or her disposal to ascertain the truth. Such investigations are document in reports prepared by the investigating officer. Report preparation is a major part of each officer's job. The purpose of reports is to document sufficient information to refresh the officer's memory and to provide sufficient information for follow-up investigation and successful prosecution. Report writing is the subject of substantial formalized training and on-the-job training.*

**Finding: SUSTAINED.** Based on the preponderance of the evidence, the investigator concluded that the evidence supports a finding that Sandoval failed to collect statements from witnesses and failed to write a supplemental report documenting the statements. The evidence substantiates that Sandoval violated SPPD Policy Manual, section 323.1.

**Allegations Regarding Corporal Andrew DuBois**

**ALLEGATION #1**

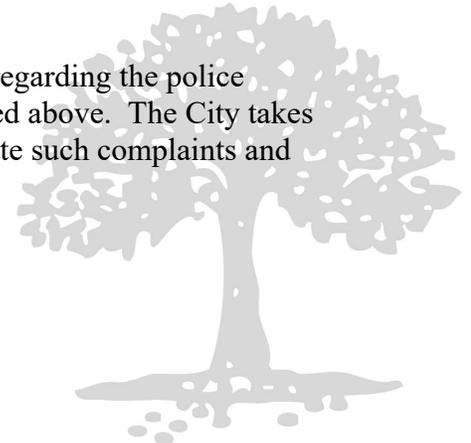
It is alleged that Corporal DuBois did not accept a citizen complaint from Stacey Mann and failed to complete a citizen complaint form, on November 1, 2020, in violation of SPPD Policy Manual sections 1013.4.2 and 1013.4.5, which state:

*1013.4.2 All complaints will be courteously accepted by any department member and promptly given to the appropriate supervisor.*

*1013.4.5 Supervisors shall ensure that all formal and informal complaints are documented on a complaint form.*

**Finding: SUSTAINED.** Based on the preponderance of the evidence, the investigator concluded that the evidence substantiates an allegation that Corporal DuBois failed to accept a complaint and failed to complete a complaint form.

This concludes the independent investigation of the citizen's complaint regarding the police response to a November 1, 2020 incident and call for service, as described above. The City takes all citizen complaints seriously and is committed to thoroughly investigate such complaints and



take appropriate retraining and disciplinary action when necessary, in accordance with the personnel rights of employees.

Respectfully,

*Sean Joyce*

Sean Joyce  
Interim City Manager

cc: Mayor and Council  
Public Safety Commission  
Police Chief Solinsky

