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# City of DeLand

DeLand Police Department

JASON D. UMBERGER  
CHIEF OF POLICE

## Internal Investigation Report

To: Gary Batten, Deputy Chief of Police

From: Lieutenant Juan Millan, Professional Standards

Subject: I.A. #19-10

Date: 06-20-2019

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**Complainant:**  
Chief of Police

**Employee Involved:**  
Officer Paul Turner, Operations Bureau

**Witnesses:**  
Lieutenant Timothy Hughes  
Sergeant Dave Stimpson  
Corporal Chalen Godwin

**Investigator:**  
Lieutenant Juan Millan, Professional Standards

### Type of Investigation:

- 1.2.1** Members and employees shall not engage in any conduct which constitutes neglect of duty, conduct unbecoming of a member or employee, or any act which is likely to adversely affect the discipline, good order, or reputation of the Department.
- 1.8.15** No member or employee shall knowingly falsify any official report or enter or cause to be entered any inaccurate, false, or improper information on any document, used and/or maintained by this department.
- 1.2.12 Carelessness**—An employee or member may be determined to have impaired or jeopardized the proper and efficient operation of the department due to his/her carelessness or by his/her neglect of his/her job performance under this provision where he/she acts or fails to act;
- either in a deliberate or willful manner which reflects a reckless or wanton disregard for life, safety or property,

- in a manner contrary to acceptable standards of performance,
- or which results or could have resulted in injury, danger, or damage to others or to their property.

**1.2.24** Members and employees are required to truthfully, and directly answer all questions asked by superior officers related to their employment with the City of DeLand.

### **DeLand Police Department Special Order 18-12 #2. Conduct Unbecoming an Officer**

#### **C. Integrity**

1. The public demands that the integrity of its law enforcement officers be above reproach, and the dishonesty of a single officer may impair public confidence and cast suspicion upon the entire department. Succumbing to even minor temptation can be the genesis of the malignancy, which may ultimately destroy an individual's effectiveness and may contribute to the corruption of countless others. An officer must scrupulously avoid any conduct, which might compromise the integrity of himself, his fellow officers, or the department.

#### **Complaint Summary:**

On 05/18/2019, Sergeant Dave Stimpson and Corporal C. Godwin brought forward a situation concerning Officer Paul Turner. The concerns were that Officer Turner had failed to follow Lawful orders/instructions given to him by his immediate supervisors during the course of an investigation. In addition, Officer Turner provided false information to both Corporal Godwin and Sergeant Stimpson concerning the manner in which the investigation was handled. Lastly, Officer Turner submitted several reports that were inconsistent and contradicting to the way the investigation had been handled.

On Saturday May 18, 2019, Officer Turner was dispatched to 504 South Adelle Avenue in reference to a Burglary of a residence with a battery therein. While in route, Officer Turner was informed that the victim had walked away from the location of incident and was at the intersection of Howry Avenue and Delaware Avenue. Officer Turner responded to this last address and made contact with the victim, identified as Anglique Christian. During the course of the investigation, Ms. Christian reported that she had been attacked by a known female who she identified as Dezyrae Barker. Ms. Christian advised that while she was asleep in the rear porch of her residence, Ms. Barker entered the room and began to hold her down, all while striking her multiple times in the face. Ms. Christian continued by stating that Ms. Barker then fled the scene, which allowed her the opportunity to contact Law Enforcement. Ms. Christian advised that she is familiar with Ms. Barker as she has had past dealings with her on other personal issues/matters. Officer Turner immediately requested the assistance of DeLand Fire Rescue and Volusia County EVAC due to the injuries Ms. Christian sustained during the attack. Officer Turner noted in his report that Ms. Christian sustained the following injuries; possible broken nose, a small Laceration to both her forearms, left cheek, and her right eye was slightly swollen. Due to the above mentioned injuries, Volusia County EVAC services transported Ms. Christian to the local emergency care facility, located at 701 West Plymouth Avenue (Advent Health Care). Officer Turner followed closely behind the transport vehicle (EVAC) and again made contact with Ms. Christian at the Hospital to further his investigation.

While the incident was actively being investigated by Officer Turner, Sergeant Stimpson, instructed him (Officer Turner) to gather the appropriate information to possibly file criminal charges against the assailant (Ms. Barker). A short time later, Sergeant Stimpson requested an update on the investigation, where Officer Turner responded by stating, "The situation appears to be suspicious in nature and needs further investigation." At approximately 0221 hours, Officer Turner completed a charging affidavit/report for

Burglary with a Battery there. The affidavit and report were submitted to Corporal Chalen Godwin for review and approval. Corporal Godwin questioned Officer Turner's Affidavit as it lacked information that would support the allegations made by the victim. Corporal Godwin asked Officer Turner, "Did you go to the location of incident?" to which Officer Turner replied, "I went to the scene after I left the hospital." Corporal Godwin then instructed Officer Turner to make the necessary changes to the reports, which would reflect all actions taken during his investigation. Officer Turner complied by making the corrections to his initial report and submitting a second updated version. Officer Turner submitted the second report that read as follow: "I did not go to 504 South Adelle Avenue due to the call volume at the time of the initial investigation, and later when I tried to talk to someone at the house there was no answer at the door." It must be noted that call volume is a common term used to denote the amount of incidents that officers are being assigned to. The reports and the statements provided by Officer Turner were again contradicting to his initial statements. Corporal Godwin decided to bring the concerning information to Sergeant Stimpson and both agreed on speaking with Officer Turner. During their conversation, Officer Turner again made another contradicting statement to both supervisors concerning the actions taken during his investigation. Officer Turner stated, "I went by the location of incident at approximately 2200 hours." Officer Turner again submitted a third report that read as follows: "I also went to 504 South Adelle Avenue and attempted to make contact with its occupants with negative results." Sergeant Stimpson immediately contacted Lieutenant Hughes and requested he conduct a search of Officer Turner's Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) history. Sergeant Stimpson made this request with the intent to determine the veracity of Officer Turner's statements.

Lieutenant Hughes reviewed Officer Turner's AVL system and the following information was discovered: Officer Turner's patrol vehicle was tracked driving past the location of the incident, but did not stop as he indicated in his reports, and as he explained to his supervisors. As a result of the AVL history findings, Lieutenant Hughes presented documentation to Captain Anderson questioning Officer Turner's integrity, his failure to comply with verbal orders given to him by his higher command, and his carelessness.

Officer Turner's conduct during the investigation of the above mentioned incident has created the following concerns;

- Did Officer Turner deliberately provide Corporal Godwin with false information regarding the steps he took to complete his investigation?
- Did Officer Turner deliberately provide Sergeant Stimpson with false information regarding the steps he took to complete his investigation?
- Did Officer Turner enter false information in his initial reports/affidavit regarding the steps he took to complete his investigation?

**Associated Case Number:** DL190003758

**Video and Images:** Included file from Officer Turner's Body Worn Camera (BWC)  
**Officer Turner's AVL History.**

**Case Notes:** On May 28, 2019, Lieutenant Hughes conducted an Audit on Officer Turner's AVL, which is attached to this report. In addition, copies of the Memo and reports are included.

All members interviewed were provided a copy of the Police Officers Bill of Rights, the Garrity Warning, and associated documents for review. All members took oath prior to the interview.

**Synopsis of Interview with Lieutenant Hughes:**

The following information was gained from the interview.

On Monday June 24, 2019, at approximately 11:10am contact was made with Lieutenant Tim Hughes at the DeLand Police Department regarding Officer Paul Turner's actions and/or lack of actions taken during the incident.

Lieutenant Hughes stated that on Saturday May 19, 2019, he and Sergeant Stimpson were having a phone conversation regarding a burglary investigation that had been handled by Officer Paul Turner. Per Lieutenant Hughes, Sergeant Stimpson expressed concerns that Officer Turner had failed to conduct a thorough investigation while investigating a violent crime. Per Lieutenant Hughes, Sergeant Stimpson advised that he questioned the manner in which the investigation was handled because Officer Turner submitted reports that were contradicting to each other. Lieutenant Hughes advised that Sergeant Stimpson became suspicious of Officer Turner's actions and/or lack of and immediately requested a copy of his AVL history. Lieutenant Hughes went on to say that due to Sergeant Stimpson's concerns, he made the decision to inquire about the investigation during shift briefing. Lieutenant Hughes stated that he asked the question as to who was working the call at 504 south Adelle Avenue, when Officer Turner responded, "I was the officer that had led the investigation." Lieutenant Hughes then made a general sarcastic statement by asking Officer Turner, "Did you miss the blood on the door?" Per Lieutenant Hughes, this is when Officer Turner responded by stating, "I did not go to the location of incident," but then altered his statement by saying, "I had stopped by the location of incident around 2200 hours." Lieutenant Hughes immediately requested Sergeant Stimpson and Corporal Godwin to speak with Officer Turner and to try and gather a definitive answer as to the actions taken during his investigation. Lieutenant Hughes went on to say that due to Officer Turner's inconsistencies, he felt the need to further investigate Officer Turner's actions or lack of. Lieutenant Hughes explained that an Officer has an obligation and it's his or her duty to assure a proper and thorough investigation is conducted which, would either prove or disprove a person's allegations. (Please see Sergeant Stimpson and Corporal Godwin's Interview Synopsis) Lieutenant Hughes went on to say that Officer Turner's AVL shows him passing by the location of the incident but doesn't come to a complete stop. The information was forwarded to Sergeant Stimpson who completed a Memo outlining his concerns.

With nothing further to add to the investigation, the interview was concluded.

#### **Synopsis of Interview with Sergeant Dave Stimpson:**

On Monday June 24, 2019, at approximately 7:00pm, an interview was conducted with Sergeant Dave Stimpson concerning the actions and/or lack of action taken by Officer Turner during the investigation.

The following information was gained through the interview. Sergeant Stimpson stated that Officer Turner was dispatched to 504 South Adelle Avenue, in reference to a Burglary/Battery. Per Sergeant Stimpson, soon after being dispatched to the above mentioned address, Volusia County Dispatch updated the call and advised, the victim had left the location of incident and was at a different site for contact. Officer Turner responded to the victim's location and immediately began his investigation. Per Sergeant Stimpson, Officer Turner later completed a charging affidavit, as well as a report for Burglary with a battery therein and submitted it to Corporal Chalen Godwin for review and approval. Per Sergeant Stimpson, Corporal Godwin immediately found the affidavit to be lacking important information and details that would explain the outcome and actions taken during the investigation. Per Sergeant Stimpson, Corporal Godwin questioned Officer Turner, "**Did you visit the location of incident.**" Per Sergeant Stimpson, Corporal Godwin advised that Officer Turner responded by stating, "**I went to the scene**

**shortly after leaving the hospital.”** (It should be noted that the victim was transported to the DeLand Hospital for the injuries she sustained during the incident and Officer Turner followed closely behind). Corporal Godwin then requested Officer Turner to update his reports as it needed to reflect the actions taken during his investigation. Officer Turner later submitted a second report that stated the following:

- **“I did not go 504 S. Adelle Av due to call volume at time of the initial investigation and later when I tried to talk to someone at the home there was no answer at the door.”**

Sergeant Stimpson advised that such statement in Officer Turner’s reports contradicted the statements he initially made to Corporal Godwin, where he verbally stated that he had gone to the location of incident (scene). Sergeant Stimpson went on to say that Officer Turner was again questioned in regards to the verbiage used in the second report along with additional grammar issues that needed correction. Per Sergeant Stimpson, Officer Turner again submitted a third and final report, which read as follows:

- **“I also went to 504 S Adelle Av and attempted to make contact with its occupants with negative results.”**

**Sergeant Stimpson stated that he approved the final report submitted by Officer Turner with the understanding that Officer Turner was going to conduct a follow up investigation, the following day.**

Sergeant Stimpson stated that due to the contradicting statements, he felt that Officer Turner had not been forthcoming with how the investigation was handled. Sergeant Stimpson also stated that the allegations were serious in nature and because of that he had an obligation to assure the investigation was properly handled. Sergeant Stimpson went on to say that as a result, he made the decision to discuss the case with Lieutenant Hughes (Via Cell Phone). Sergeant Stimpson continued by saying that the following day during briefing, Lieutenant Hughes confronted Officer Turner by asking him on whether or not he had gone by the location of incident. Officer Turner responded by saying, **“No.”** Per Sergeant Stimpson, Officer Turner again contradicted the statements he made during his verbal and written reports. Seconds later, Officer Turner changed his statement and said to Lieutenant Hughes that he had gone by the location of incident around 2200 hours. Sergeant Stimpson stated that due to Officer Turner’s inconsistencies, Lieutenant Hughes ordered him (Sergeant Stimpson) to call Officer Turner into his office for clarifications. Per Sergeant Stimpson, he asked Officer Turner, **“Did you go to this house or not?”** Per Sergeant Stimpson, Officer Turner responded by saying that he had not gone by the house but that later he had driven by and shined the spot light on the house, and it didn’t appear that anyone was there.

Sergeant Stimpson stated that due to the contradicting reports and inconsistencies with his verbal statements, he requested Officer Turner’s AVL history. Per Sergeant Stimpson, Officer Turner’s AVL history revealed that he had driven past the residence but never came to a complete stop as indicated in his reports. Sergeant Stimpson went on to say that he also checked Officer Turner’s CAD history and his Axon body CAM and neither indicated that he spent investigative time at the location of the incident. It should be noted that Sergeant Stimpson had ordered Officer Turner to respond to the location of incident, to further his investigation and to help prove or disprove the allegations made by the victim.

With nothing further to add to the investigation, the interview was concluded.

**Synopsis of Interview with Corporal Chalen Godwin:**

On Monday June 24, 2019, at approximately 7:35pm, an interview was conducted with Corporal Chalen Godwin concerning the actions and or lack of action taken by Officer Turner during an investigation. Corporal Chalen Godwin began by explaining that Officer Turner had been dispatched to 504 South Adelle Avenue in reference to a battery. The call was later updated and Officer Turner responded to the intersection of Howry Avenue and Delaware Avenue, where he made contact with the victim. Corporal Godwin went on to advise that Officer Turner later updated the call to a Burglary with a Battery therein. It should be noted, the victim was transported to the DeLand Hospital due to her injuries. Per Corporal Godwin, Officer Turner interviewed the victim at the DeLand Hospital and later in the evening submitted a report for approval. Corporal Godwin stated that while reviewing Officer Turner's report, he noticed several important details missing from his narrative to include returning to the location of incident. Corporal Godwin went on to say that he questioned Officer Turner as to why he didn't make it back to the residence, and Officer Turner responded by saying, **"I had."** Corporal Godwin advised that he instructed Officer Turner to document those facts in his reports and to re-submit them for approval. Corporal Godwin stated that Officer Turner complied and added the following information: **"I did not go 504 S. Adelle Av due to call volume at time of the initial investigation, and later when I tried to talk to someone at the home there was no answer at the door."** Per Corporal Godwin, this is when he informed Sergeant Stimpson that he questioned Officer Turner's reports as he failed to add important details of the investigation to include returning to the location of incident. Per Corporal Godwin, Sergeant Stimpson immediately expressed his concerns about Officer Turner's investigation or lack of and asked Corporal Godwin to hold the affidavit until the next day/shift. Corporal Godwin went on to say that due to the above mentioned questions, they instructed Officer Turner to conduct a follow up investigation. The follow up request was done to assure the scene of the crime had been properly processed and or to try and identify any potential witnesses that would collaborate the alleged crime. Corporal Godwin stated that the next day while in briefing, Lieutenant Hughes questioned the squad as to who had handled the call at 504 South Adelle Avenue, when Officer Turner responded, **"I was the one that handled the investigation."** Corporal Godwin said that Lieutenant Hughes then asked Officer Turner if he had missed the blood on the door. Per Corporal Godwin, this is when Officer Turner responded by stating, **"I did not go to the location of incident."** Corporal Godwin said that shortly after making that particular statement, Officer Turner altered his statement by saying, **"I had stopped by the location of incident around 2200 hours."** Per Corporal Godwin, Officer Turner's statements were contradicting to what he (Officer Turner) told him the day of the incident. Corporal Godwin stated that as a result of Officer Turner's statements, he became concerned as to whether or not Officer Turner had been forthcoming with the actions taken during the investigation. Corporal Godwin went on to say that he immediately made it a point to meet with Sergeant Stimpson and Lieutenant Hughes to address his concerns. Per Corporal Godwin, he explained to both Lieutenant Hughes and Sergeant Stimpson that Officer Turner had provided different accounts of the actions he took during his investigation. Per Corporal Godwin, he went on to explain that the information he received from Officer Turner was that, "He had gone by the location of incident and that he had knocked on the door, the lights were on and nobody was there." Corporal Godwin went on to say that this was the time where all three supervisors questioned Officer Turner's integrity as it appeared Officer Turner had not been forthcoming in the manner the investigation had been handled. Per Corporal Godwin, all three supervisors made the decision to confront and questioned Officer Turner on whether or not he had gone to the location of incident. Per Corporal Godwin, Officer Turner's initial response was, "I had drove by" but quickly changed his statement by saying "No, I just kind of drove down the road." Corporal Godwin stated that due to the new information disclosed by Officer Turner, they requested Officer Turner to make the necessary changes to his reports that would reflect the actions taken. Once again, Officer Turner complied and submitted a third and final report.

Lieutenant Millan went on to question Corporal Godwin as to whether he had viewed Officer Turner's AVL history and his response was, "Only what was given to me in the packet." Corporal Godwin went on to say that, "If I was reading the paperwork right, it did not appear that Officer Turner had stopped or

gone by the residence. I couldn't be wrong though." It should be noted that Officer Turner's AVL revealed that Officer Turner had indeed Driven past the residence but failed to come to a complete stop as he indicated in his reports.

Lieutenant Millan then questioned Corporal Godwin on Officer Turner's apparent physical condition the night of the incident. Corporal Godwin advised that Officer Turner did not appear to be ill, nor did he report any illness to his immediate supervisor (s) during shift.

Corporal Godwin ended the interview by stating that Officer Turner's Body Worn Camera log had also been viewed and again there was no indications that Officer Turner had gone to the actual location of incident.

With nothing further to add to the investigation, the interview was concluded.

### **Synopsis of Interview with Officer Paul Turner:**

On Tuesday July 9, 2019 at approximately 6:41pm, an interview was conducted with Officer Paul Turner concerning his actions or lack of actions taken during this investigation. Paul Turner began by explaining that on Saturday, May 18, 2019, he was dispatched to a Battery call, where a female claimed to have been battered by a known subject as she slept at her residence. Officer Turner went on to say that the female victim had fled the scene of the incident and was located at the intersection of Howry Avenue and Delaware Avenue. Per Officer Turner, he immediately responded to the intersection mentioned above and made contact with the victim identified as Anglique Christian. The following information was gathered while in contact with the victim:

Per Officer Turner, Ms. Christian advised that while she slept in the rear porch of her residence located at 504 South Adelle Avenue, Dezyrae Barker entered the place where she was sleeping and began battering her. Ms. Christian continued to explain that Ms. Barker must have entered the home using the front door, which is generally left unsecured. Ms. Christian went on to say that during the attack, she was able to get a clear view of the subjects face and had no doubts it was Ms. Barker. Ms. Christian continued by stating she is familiar with Ms. Barker as she had past dealings with her on other personal matters. Ms. Christian went on to say that Ms. Barker suddenly stopped attacking her and fled the scene. Ms. Christian then stated that she used an open glass window in the house to exit the home. Ms. Christian went on to say that she was able to make her way to the intersection of Howry and Delaware Avenue, where she contacted Law Enforcement. Ms. Christian complained about the injuries she sustained during the attack and immediately requested medical attention.

Per Officer Turner, DeLand Fire Rescue and Volusia County EVAC were both called out to the scene to evaluate and care for Ms. Christian's injuries. Per Officer Turner, EVAC transported Ms. Christian to the DeLand Hospital, located at 701 West Plymouth Avenue. Officer Turner continued by stating he met Ms. Christian at the hospital, where he was able to further gather information concerning the events that led to her injuries.

Officer Turner went on to describe the injuries as follows: Minor cuts and small lacerations to Ms. Christian's arms and neck.

The following are excerpts from the interview conducted with Officer Turner;

**Officer Turner:** So there's been a lot of incidents there between her and Desiree. They are fighting over boys and they are dating mutual boyfriends and stuff like that. It's just a big cat fight essentially between what is going on with them.

**Lieutenant Millan:** At any time did you feel that it was important that you or anyone else go by the location of incident to investigate further?

Officer Turner responded by stating that at the initial onset of the investigation, he requested Officer Lizabet's assistance and asked him to pass by the subject's residence to further investigate. Per Officer Turner, Sergeant Stimpson immediately came over the radio and advised him, "Not to worry about it and that we would follow up with it later." Officer Turner stated that because of that statement, he felt the investigation could, "Wait a little." Officer Turner went on to say that shortly after he cleared the hospital, he drove past the location of incident but the residence appeared to be abandoned. Officer Turner went on to say that based on that observation, he made the decision not to stop at the residence.

Per Officer Turner, shortly after passing by 504 South Adelle Avenue, a Volusia County Deputy came over the radio and requested a secondary unit for backup. Per Officer Turner, the Deputy had conducted a traffic stop at the local neighborhood Wal-Mart, located at 955 South Woodland Blvd, which was in close proximity of his location. Officer Turner went on to say that he immediately responded to the above mentioned location and assisted as a backup unit. Per Officer Turner, the traffic stop led to a D.U.I investigation, which took over three hours of his time/shift. It should be noted that police records reflect Officer Turner became the designated Breathalyzer Operator during the D.U.I investigation.

**Lieutenant Millan:** How serious were the allegations made by the victim?

**Officer Turner:** She said it was a burglary and a battery which I believe is a second or third degree felony.

Lieutenant Millan then questioned Officer Turner on whether or not Sergeant Stimpson had requested an update on the investigation the night of the incident. Officer Turner responded by stating he had received a message through the MDC (Mobile Digital Computer), where Sergeant Stimpson questioned him on whether or not he had completed a charging affidavit. Per Officer Turner, he responded by stating, "No, it was 13A. I needed to follow up." It must be noted that 13A is a local police code used to denote a suspicious incident. Lieutenant Millan then addressed the reports that Officer Turner submitted later that morning. Lieutenant Millan questioned Officer Turner, if he had submitted an affidavit, to which he replied, "**I may have done it but I hadn't signed and sent it yet. I was just getting it ready for the follow up if I did one, but I know I definitely did one the next day for a 707.**" Lieutenant Millan also questioned Officer Turner, if he had submitted a report the night of the incident to which he replied, "**An incident report, yes.**" Officer Turner went on to state that the reports were submitted to Corporal Godwin for approval.

**Lieutenant Millan:** Did Cpl. Godwin ask you to change anything about your initial report or to add details to your initial report?

**Officer Turner:** Yes, he wanted me to be more detailed about what I did exactly, if I went by the house. He wanted a little more details since it was or potentially could be a serious crime.

**Lieutenant Millan:** So you turned in an initial report that you were asked to add information to, correct?



**Officer Turner:** I believe so.

**Lieutenant Millan:** And what did you add on the second report?

**Officer Turner:** The second report I believe I, off the top of my head it was something about me going by the address and not making contact with anyone. And then proceeding on. I believe in the original report I notated that due to call volume I couldn't follow up very well. That's what I believe the original report said. That due to call volume I wasn't able to follow up or something.

Lieutenant Millan then addressed the conversation Officer Turner and Corporal Godwin had prior to submitting the second report. Lieutenant Millan questioned Officer Turner on whether or not Corporal Godwin had asked him if he had gone to the scene of the incident. Officer Turner stated that he responded by saying, "Yes, I went by after I cleared the Hospital."

**Lieutenant Millan:** Did you indeed go to the scene?

**Officer Turner:** I went by the scene. I looked at the house when I was driving by and it looked abandoned completely so I just kept going.

**Lieutenant Millan:** Did you mention at any time that you had actually stopped at the residence?

**Officer Turner:** I did, yes.

**Lieutenant Millan:** Why did you change from going to the residence and then stopping at the residence?

**Officer Turner:** Because I knew at that point that I didn't follow up completely. That I was going to get yelled at. That I was going to get torn apart like we all have been lately, so I just wanted to avoid it. It wasn't the best decision ever.

Lieutenant Millan then addressed the inconsistencies between the second report submitted and the verbal statement made to Corporal Godwin.

**Lieutenant Millan:** So on your second report that you made the changes to, and I'll quote what you wrote on the report: "I did not go to 504 S. Adelle Ave. due to the call volume at the time of the initial investigation and later when I tried to talk to someone at the home, there was no answer at the door." You just said that you never stopped and the reason that you said you never stopped was because of the fact that you did not want to get in trouble.

**Officer Turner:** "I told him that I stopped because I didn't want to get in trouble. So I told him.

Lieutenant Millan then addressed the changes made to a third report submitted by Officer Turner concerning his investigation. Officer Turner stated that he made changes to the third and final version of the report by saying, "I also went to 504 South Adelle Avenue and attempted to make contact with its occupants with negative results."

Lieutenant Millan then questioned Officer Turner, on whether he had stopped at the location of incident to which he responded, "**I drove by and never stopped and attempted to make contact, no.**"

Lieutenant Millan continue' by questioning Officer Turner if he provided false information to Sergeant Stimpson and Corporal Godwin, to which Officer Turner responded by stating, **"Yes. I was not being honest and I am ashamed of it. It's not who I am and I'm not happy I did it."**

Lieutenant Millan then questioned Officer Turner on how he reached the conclusion that the reporting party was the victim and not the perpetrator. Officer Turner responded by stating his decision was based on the statements made by the victim and the obvious injuries she sustained that collaborated her allegations. In addition, Officer Turner stated the following:

**Officer Turner:** I went by the address the next day at 504 S. Adelle. I met with the occupant of the house. I forget what her name was; a white lady, larger. She said that she had let Ms. Christian stay at the back of the house. Said she was there for a few days. She said that she was next door around the time that everything was going on and she didn't see anyone go into the house at all. She didn't hear anything. She was next door I believe it was 506 South Adelle is what she was saying. I talked to the resident at 506, black male and he didn't hear or see anything. Based on all of that I was able to talk to them. I went to the back where she said she was assaulted. I found the mattress they were talking about. I saw some pinkish red stains. The resident said that was makeup. When I talked to the resident she said that Anglique and Desiree have been going back and forth constantly over a couple weeks. Now this was nothing new and that Desiree had previously stayed with her. So she had been a resident of the house off and on for a few months.

Lieutenant Millan then questioned Officer Turner as to why he decided to provide false information to his immediate supervisors and the reason he submitted multiple contradicting versions of the investigation rather than just coming forward with the truth. Officer Turner responded by stating, **"Frankly intimidation from him (Referring to Officer Godwin) because it's just been a history where we are all getting yelled at and screamed at constantly. We're all getting called into the office and the morale was just thru the floor at that point because we are constantly getting yelled at. I was just fed up with it and wanted to avoid getting yelled at one morning. It's not the right decision obviously but that was the original reason why. I was just fed up getting yelled at and I just wanted it to go away for a few hours."**

Lieutenant Millan then questioned Officer Turner on whether or not it was common to activate his BWC when conducting a follow up investigation. Officer Turner responded by stating, **"Yes, you do whenever you make any kind of public contact you always have your body cam on."** When questioned as to why his BWC was not on, Officer Turner responded by stating, **"Because I didn't get out of the car. I didn't call out or do anything with CAD either."**

With nothing further to add to the investigation, the interview was concluded.

### **Conclusion:**

On Wednesday, May 18, 2019, Officer Turner was on duty assigned to Alpha squad when he was dispatched to 504 South Adelle Avenue in reference to a report of Battery. The victim, Ms. Christian, left the scene of the incident and met Officer Turner at another location. Christian was later transported to the Advent Health Care facility located at 701 West Plymouth Avenue for the injuries she sustained during the attack. Officer Turner immediately followed the emergency transport vehicle to the hospital and again made contact with Ms. Christian.

While the incident was actively being investigated by Officer Turner, Sergeant Stimpson instructed Officer Turner to gather the appropriate information to possibly file charges against the assailant. Later that evening, Sergeant Stimpson requested an update on the investigation, to which Officer Turner responded by stating, **“The situation appears to be suspicious in nature and needed further investigation.”** At approximately 0221 hours, Officer Turner completed a charging affidavit/report for Burglary with a Battery therein. The report and affidavit were both completed and submitted to Corporal Godwin for approval. Corporal Godwin immediately noticed that there were several important details missing from the narrative to include Officer Turner returning to the location of incident. Corporal Godwin questioned Officer Turner as to why he didn't make it back to the residence, and Officer Turner responded by saying, **“I had.”** Corporal Godwin instructed Officer Turner to document those facts in his reports and to re-submit them for approval. Officer Turner complied and added the following information to his second report: **“I did not go 504 South Adelle Avenue due to call volume at time of the initial investigation and later when I tried to talk to someone at the home there was no answer at the door.”** The statement in his second report conflicted with his previous report, and verbal statements he made to Corporal Godwin. As a result of these discrepancies Corporal Godwin, Sergeant Stimpson and Lieutenant Hughes again approached and questioned Officer Turner as to what actions he conducted as part of his process of the investigation. Due to the discrepancies between the first and second report and the verbal statements made to Corporal Godwin, Sergeant Stimpson and Lieutenant Hughes, Officer Turner was again approached and questioned as to what actions had been taken during the investigation. Officer Turner then submitted a third final report that read as follows: **“I also went to 504 South Adelle Avenue and attempted to make contact with its occupants with negative results.”** Once again Officer Turner submitted contradicting statements on the actions taken during his investigation, which brought serious concerns on whether or not a thorough investigation had taken place. Due to the above mentioned concerns, an audit to Officer Turner's AVL history revealed the following: Officer Turner's patrol vehicle traveled south on South Adelle Avenue passing the residence of 504 South Adelle Avenue, but failed to come to a complete stop as indicated in his reports, and as he explained to his immediate supervisors.

On Tuesday, July 9, 2019 at approximately 6:41pm, the above findings were confirmed by interviewing Officer Turner. Officer Turner admitted to submitting several contradicting reports which did not reflect the actions he took during the course of his investigation. In addition, Officer Turner admitted to providing false information to his immediate supervisors to avoid getting into trouble. The following statements were made by Officer Turner as a form of explanation for his actions: **“Because I knew at that point that I didn't follow up completely, that I was going to get yelled at... That I was going to get torn apart like we all have been lately... so I just wanted to avoid it. It wasn't the best decision ever.”**

- Did Officer Turner deliberately provide Corporal Godwin and Sergeant Stimpson with false information regarding the steps he took to complete his investigation?

Officer Turner provided false information to at least two different supervisors, Corporal Godwin and Sergeant Stimpson, and he did so at different times during the same shift of duty. Officer Turner admitted during his sworn interview that he provided false information to his immediate supervisors to avoid being yelled at. It should be noted that no officers within the Alpha Unit had filed a complaint against their immediate supervisors for any alleged misconduct. Records reflect that Officer Turner had multiple opportunities to recant his claims, but he made a conscious decision not to.

- Did Officer Turner enter false information in his second and third report regarding the steps he took to complete his investigation?

Officer Turner submitted a total of three different reports related to the incident, and all three have a different narrative explaining the actions he took during the course of his investigation. It must be noted that a charging affidavit form includes the statement, “I swear/affirm the above statements are correct and true”, and this form is required to be signed by the investigating officer upon completion. The first report was questioned by Corporal Godwin as it lacked important information regarding required steps to be completed as part of the investigation. When Officer Turner was questioned as to whether he had returned to the location of incident, Officer Turner responded by stating, “**I had.**” While Officer Turner’s answer was not entirely truthful, his statements in the charging affidavit were not necessarily false, but rather missing or lacking important information. Officer Turner was instructed to correct his report and document his response, and to re-submit the form for approval. Officer Turner complied and added the following information: “**I did not go 504 S. Adelle Avenue due to call volume at time of the initial investigation and later when I tried to talk to someone at the home there was no answer at the door.**” This statement is false, by Officer Turner’s own admission and as proved by evidence available. Dispatch records show that Officer Turner had opportunities, and even drove by the residence, but he never went to the door. Due to the discrepancies, Officer Turner was again approached and questioned as to what actions were taken during the investigation. Once again, Officer Turner submitted a third report which read, “**I also went to 504 South Adelle Avenue and attempted to make contact with its occupants with negative results.**” This statement is also false, and as mentioned and documented above, it is clear that Officer Turner did not put a complete effort on his attempt to contact possible witnesses and or anyone within the residence. Officer Turner’s AVL history also confirmed that he drove past the location of incident but failed to come to a complete stop as indicated in his reports.

After reviewing video recordings from Officer Turner’s BWC, after reviewing pertinent reports and dispatch records, and after interviewing parties involved, I reached the conclusion that violations of the following Policies and Procedures are **Sustained** against Officer Paul Turner;

**1.2.1** Members and employees shall not engage in any conduct which constitutes neglect of duty, conduct unbecoming of a member or employee, or any act which is likely to adversely affect the discipline, good order, or reputation of the Department.

**1.8.15** No member or employee shall knowingly falsify any official report or enter or cause to be entered any inaccurate, false, or improper information on any document, used and/or maintained by this department.

**1.2.12** **Carelessness**—An employee or member may be determined to have impaired or jeopardized the proper and efficient operation of the department due to his/her carelessness or by his/her neglect of his/her job performance under this provision where he/she acts or fails to act;

- in a manner contrary to acceptable standards of performance,

**1.2.24** Members and employees are required to truthfully, and directly answer all questions asked by superior officer’s related to their employment with the City of DeLand.

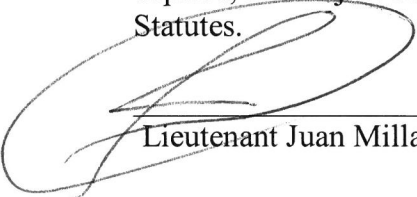
**DeLand Police Department Special Order 18-12 #2. Conduct Unbecoming an Officer**

C. Integrity

1. The public demands that the integrity of its law enforcement officers be above reproach, and the dishonesty of a single officer may impair public confidence and cast suspicion upon the entire department. Succumbing to even minor temptation can be the genesis of the malignancy, which may ultimately destroy an individual's effectiveness and may contribute to the corruption of countless others. An officer must scrupulously avoid any conduct, which might compromise the integrity of himself, his fellow officers, or the department.

**Recommended Finding for Review:**

I, the undersigned, do hereby swear, under the penalty of perjury, that, to the best of my personal knowledge, information, and belief, I have not knowingly or willfully deprived, or allowed another to deprive, the subject of the investigation of any of the rights contained in ss.112.532 and 112.533, Florida Statutes.



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Lieutenant Juan Millan, Professional Standards