INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY:

On July 13th, 2010 Investigator Jack Bisland opened this case for investigation based on a complaint in writing and under oath by Robert Walker of alleged Official Misconduct, in violation of F.S.S. 838.022, by Oak Hill Police Officer Michael Ihnken et al. Complainant Walker alleges that in April/May of 2009 then Sergeant Ihnken logged onto the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) training web-site and represented himself as both Sgt. Robert Walker and Officer Thad Smith and without knowledge and/or consent completed the on-line training course(s) and test's on their behalf. The training completed was mandatory re-training including; Domestic Violence, Juvenile Sex Offenders and Discriminatory Profiling and Professional Traffic Stops. Throughout the investigation additional allegations were made through the sworn statements of Law Enforcement Officers interviewed. Three of those allegations rose to a level of interest that required further investigation. Other allegations were identified as policy and performance violations which were not the subject of this investigation. The three additional allegations are as follows: (1) Allegation of Extortion in violation of F.S.S. 836.50 wherein it is alleged that Acting Chief Diane Young threatened to expose the fraudulent training and testing activities of Sgt. Mike Ihnken to FDLE if he failed to accept, without contention a demotion to Patrol Officer as punishment for other violations. (2) Allegation of Making, Possessing, Placing or Discharging a Destructive Device in violation of F.S.S. 790.161 wherein it is alleged that Sgt. Mike Ihnken (OHPD), Sgt. Manuel Perez (OHPD) and Volusia County Sheriff's Deputy William Armstrong possessed, made and discharged a destructive device composed of "The Works" toilet bowl cleaner and aluminum foil mixed in an empty two liter soda bottle cira November/December of 2009 on the side of US Hwy 1 in Oak Hill, Florida. (3) Allegation of Official Misconduct in violation of F.S.S. 838.022 wherein it is alleged

nature of the allegations the (FDLE) was notified and Inspector Rose Davis of the Office of Executive Investigations was assigned to partner in this investigation. The FDLE case number for this investigation is EI-14-0097. Between July 20th and 28th, 2010 Investigator Bisland and Insp. Davis conducted nine interviews of current and past Oak Hill Police Officers and Volusia County Deputy Sheriff's. Additionally, personnel and training records were reviewed for members of the Oak Hill Police Department in furtherance of this investigation. On August 17th, 2010 Investigator Bisland served a subpoena for a copy of the DVR documenting the Oak Hill City Commission meeting during which a resolution appointing Brandy Sutherin as a reserve police officer was unanimously approved by the Mayor and City Commissioners.

DETAILS:

The complainant, Robert Walker was formerly employed at the Oak Hill Police Department as a police officer and sergeant between February 2006 and October 2009. During that period on or about April 2009 then Sgt. Walker brought to the attention of

then Police Chief Guy Grasso that both his and Reserve Officer Thad Smith's mandatory retraining was due by June 30th, 2009. Chief Grasso subsequently instructed then Sgt. Ihnken to schedule the described training requirements to comply with FDLE Criminal Justice and Standards Training Commission (CJSTC) rules. Sgt. Walker's complaint states that in May of 2009 he discovered three Florida Criminal Justice Executive Distance Learning Program Certificates of Completion in his name granted May 20th, 2009 signed by FDLE Training Administrator David Brand. Knowing that he (Walker) had never completed any of the described training, he took the certificates to Chief Grasso and expressed his concern about the circumstances. Complainant Walker then reports that Chief Grasso stated he had no knowledge of any other person taking the training on Walkers behalf and would look into the matter. Comp. Walker further reports that he approached then Officer Diane Young to determine her knowledge of the certificates since he observed "notes" on the certificates in her handwriting. Comp. Walker stated that Officer Young advised she knew that Sgt. Ihnken had taken the test for Sgt. Walker and Officer Thad Smith as well, however did not want to make a big deal about it. Comp. Walker filed a report with the Oak Hill Police Department under case # 10-000209 on July 3rd, 2010 and completed a complaint affidavit on July 8th, 2010. Investigator Bisland met with Chief of Police Diane Young on July 9th, 2010 and received the written report and complaint. Investigator Bisland contacted FDLE CJST Director Mike Crews and briefed him regarding the complaint. Director Crews notified FDLE Executive Investigations and Inspector Rose Davis was assigned to work this investigation in conjunction with Investigator Bisland. Investigator Bisland and Inspector Davis spoke on Monday July 19th, 2010 and scheduled interviews in furtherance of this investigation throughout the week of July 19th, 2010.

On July 20th, 2010 at approximately 2:00pm Inv. Bisland and Insp. Davis interviewed Robert Walker. Walker was sworn and acknowledged that the interview was both part of a criminal investigation and voluntary. Walker had previously filed a complaint with the Oak Hill Police Dept. on July 3rd, 2010 (Oak Hill PD Case # 10-000209) alleging the Official Misconduct. Investigator Bisland asked Walker to provide a chronology of the events alleged. Walker advised that on several occasions he had brought to the attention of then Chief Guy Grasso that his mandatory training requirements were coming due by June 30th 2009. Grasso responded by stating he would notify then Sergeant Mike Ihnken, who was also the training Officer for the Department, to schedule the appropriate training. Walker further reports that at some time after that he discovered an envelope in his in-box at the Police Department containing three certificates issued by FDLE in his name for having successfully completed mandatory retraining in the areas of Domestic Violence, Juvenile Sex Offenders and Discriminatory Profiling, all dated May 20th, 2009. The certificates were signed by Mr. David Brand the Education and Training Administrator for FDLE. Walker advised that he did not take the training or the tests for theses area's of mandatory re-training. Walker further states that he was unaware at the time that the training could be taken on-line. Immediately, that same day, Walker reported bringing the certificates to the attention of Chief Grasso and informing Grasso that he had never taken the training. Walker states that Grasso yelled for and at Sgt. Ihnken and asked him to explain the certificates. Walker stated he confronted Diane Young because her hand writing was on a post-it note attached to Walkers certificates.

Young was a patrol and code enforcement officer at the time and Walker asked her if she knew about the training certificates. Walker stated that Diane Young told him that she was aware that Ihnken took the training and test's on-line for him as well as for Officer Thad Smith stating her exact words were, "He took Thad's tests too". Walker also stated that Diane Young had entered the training and test results into the FDLE ATMS (Automated Training Management System) for both him and Officer Thad Smith. Walker described the look on Diane Young's face when he confronted her as one of "Did I do something wrong"? Walker further stated that at the time he believed these actions were criminal however did not know that they would be considered Official Misconduct or that they were a felony. Inspector Davis asked Walker how Diane Young knew that Ihnken took the test's to which he replied Diane Young stated she saw Ihnken take the tests. Walker also stated that Diane Young later changed her story and stated that she saw him sitting at the computer but didn't know until later that he was taking the training and tests. Walker advised that Chief Grasso told him that he would look into these events.

Inv. Bisland then showed Walker copies of the three FDLE on-line training test results for Domestic Violence, Juvenile Sex Offenders and Discriminatory Profiling taken on his behalf and in his name. Each of the three test results are signed and dated Robert F. Walker 04/14/09. Inv. Bisland asked Walker if the signature that appears on each test was his signature. Walker advised that the signature on the tests was in fact his signature; however he did not take the training or tests. Inv. Bisland asked Walker to explain how and why his signature would appear on the documents. Walker advised that he asked Grasso the same question and Grasso thinks he put the test results in front of Walker and asked him to sign them thinking they were requests for training. Walker added that he did not recall signing the test results but confirms that it is his signature that appears on them. Inv. Bisland asked Walker if he ever asked anyone to take the training and tests for him or did he ever grant anyone permission to take this training or the tests on his behalf. to which he responded that he did not. Inv. Bisland asked Walker if then Sgt. Ihnken ever asked for his authority or permission to take this training and tests on his behalf, to which Walker replied that Ihnken did not. Walker advised that he retook the described training on line on June 18th, 2010 while employed part time at the Daytona Beach Police Department, after discussing the issue with his current supervisor.

Inv. Bisland then confirmed through Walker that on August 7th 2009 he administratively suspended then Sgt. Mike Ihnken while Wallker was the Acting Police Chief based on allegations that Ihnken stole a flashlight during a traffic stop. Walker advised that FDLE was investigating Ihnken for that allegation as well as \$55.00 that was missing from the evidence room at the PD. Walker further confirmed that he resigned from the Police Dept. in October of 2009 while the Acting Police Chief and that Ihnken was still suspended and under investigation by FDLE at that time. Subsequently, the FDLE investigation ended resulting in no charges being filed and Ihnken was returned to duty by then Acting Chief of Police Diane Young, who had been appointed as Acting Chief upon Walker's resignation. Walker further advised that he was contacted by Acting Chief Young and asked for advice on how to handle Ihnken's return to work, stating she needed help with the internal investigation. Walker stated that he had put Young in contact with the Internal Affairs Unit of the Daytona Beach Police Department to assist her. Walker

stated that DBPD Investigators did assist Young and gave her advice with the Ihnken matter. Walker also stated that he was again contacted by Young who advised Walker that she was getting pressure from a City Commissioner to reinstate Ihnken so she did not terminate him however reduced him in rank to patrol officer and placed him on the day shift so she could supervise him because she did not trust him. Walker further advised that he was told by Grasso that Brian Williams a Volusia County Deputy Sheriff who works the Oak Hill District had recently told him that Ihnken had stated that Diane Young demoted him to patrol officer under the threat that if he contested the demotion she would turn him into FDLE for falsifying the training documents of Walker and Smith.

Inv. Bisland asked Walker about his knowledge of alleged "bombs" that were being made and exploded by Ihnken. Walker advised that in late 2008 to early 2009 Officer Brian Riley of the OHPD reported to him that Sgt. Mike Ihnken and Volusia County Deputy Sheriff Bill Armstrong had put together a mixture of toilet bowl cleaner and aluminum foil inside an empty plastic 2 liter soda bottle and caused it to explode. Walker stated that he reported this to Chief Grasso who he believed confronted Ihnken about it. Walker further stated that Officer Riley was subsequently ostracized by Ihnken for reporting the incident.

Inv. Bisland asked Walker about his knowledge of the hiring of Officer Brandy Sutherin. Walker advised that he had conducted a preliminary interview of Sutherin as a candidate for reserve officer at OHPD. Walker stated that after he resigned from the Police Dept. Sutherin was hired first as a Reserve then Part-time and eventually Full-time. In the City of Oak Hill the Police Chief does not have the authority to hire or fire a police officer. Those actions must be done by the City Council through a Resolution. Candidates for hire or termination are presented to the Commission with an endorsement by the Chief of Police.

Inv. Bisland knows from a review of personnel records that Sutherin was hired as a reserve November 23rd 2009, part time on January 25th 2010 and full time on March 22nd of 2010. Shortly after his full time appointment Sutherin was involved in an off duty incident involving a car chase and shooting at a suspect. Ultimately, Sutherin resigned from the Department on May 14th, 2010.

to influence Sutherin's resignation under fear of opening an investigation into a chase involving Perez some time ago that allegedly resulted in an injury to a motorcyclist. At approximately 2:45 pm the interview of Robert Walker was concluded.

On July 20th, at approximately 10:30 am Inv. Bisland and Insp. Davis interviewed Thad Smith. Smith was sworn and acknowledged that the interview was both part of a criminal

investigation and voluntary. Smith advised that he has been a reserve officer for Oak Hill for approximately four years and works full time at the advised that he knows Officer Mike Ihnken and that Officer Ihnken had training responsibilities at the Oak Hill PD. Inv. Bisland showed Officer Smith three training certificates issued in his name dated May 20th, 2009 from FDLE for mandatory retraining requirements including; Domestic Violence, Juvenile Sex Offenders and Discriminatory Profiling. Inv. Bisland asked if Smith was familiar with this training to which he replied, "Yes". Inv. Bisland asked Smith if he had any recollection of taking this training, to which Smith advised, "I remember being instructed on the computer, I can't recall which date, but as far as specifics I can't remember, I cannot". Inv. Bisland followed up by asking Smith what he did remember. Smith advised, "I cannot remember exact dates. I do remember going in and sitting down and having a class but as far as saying that I remember exact details, I can't remember". Smith remembered that Sgt. Ihnken administered the training however not the topic. Smith advised that either Ihnken or Chief Grasso would have called him in to take the training.

Inv. Bisland showed Officer Smith copies of the FCJEI test results for Domestic Violence, Juvenile Sex Offenders and Discriminatory Profiling and explained the on-line training process to him. Officer Smith verified that the signature that appeared on all three test results were his signatures with the date 04/28/09. Inv. Bisland asked Smith if he had any independent memory of taking the training in those described areas during that period of time. Smith advised, "I remember signing these now, because I had signed some wrong papers and they told me I need to come back up and sign these papers or sign forms, I do remember that". Inv. Bisland asked Smith who "They" are that he referred to. Smith advised he was contacted by then Chief Grasso. Inv. Bisland asked Smith if he signed the test results on a different date than he went to the PD for training to which he replied, "Yes, cause I had signed some other papers which wasn't these and they (Grasso) told me I need to come back up and re-sign some papers, I remember this. Inv. Bisland asked Smith when he came back to the Police Station to re-sign papers if he had any interaction with Sgt. Ihnken and Smith advised, "No". Inv. Bisland asked Officer Smith if he remembered taking the tests on-line for the three specific areas of instruction: Domestic Violence, Juvenile Sex Offenders and Discriminatory Profiling to which he replies he did not. Smith stated I took some tests, I can't say this was it. Inv. Bisland asked Smith if he remembered what he did originally sign that was represented as being wrong and he did not. Officer Smith stated he remembers taking the three described areas of instruction, he just cannot remember if it was during this period in April 2009. Smith does remember taking mandatory re-training classes at the time he was hired by Oak Hill because his certificate was going to expire if he did not complete the training. Investigator Bisland asked Officer Smith if he ever gave Sgt. Ihnken or anyone authority or permission to take training or tests on his behalf, to which he advised that he had not. This concluded the interview of Officer Smith at approximately 10:50 am.

On July 20th, at approximately 3:45 pm Inv. Bisland and Insp. Davis interviewed Guy Grasso. Grasso was sworn and acknowledged that the interview was both part of a criminal investigation and voluntary. Grasso advised that he began his career with the

OHPD in 2001 as a patrol officer and was promoted to Sergeant in 2003 and Chief of Police in 2006 until resigning on January 25th, 2010. Inv. Bisland asked Grasso to remember the events circa April 2009 relating to Sgt. Bobby Walker and Officer Thad Smith's mandatory re-training requirements. Grasso advised that he remembered that the identified officers were required to complete the mandatory re-training before June 30th, 2009 or their certificates would be in jeopardy. After being made aware of this Grasso advised, "I contacted Sgt. Michael Ihnken for him to put a class on for the two officers, a couple of hours each night to get their re-training done in-house". Inv. Bisland asked Grasso what happened next to which he replied, "I believe I had a couple things, I had a letter to FDLE to sign I think I was given, not sure, the stuff for Bob (Walker) to sign or get Bob to sign them for the completion of the course". Inv. Bisland asked who gave Grasso these things to sign and Grasso advised, "Mike Ihnken".

Inv. Bisland showed Grasso the letter dated 04/27/09 from Grasso to Mr. David Brand of FDLE essentially verifying that Sgt. Walker had successfully completed his on-line mandatory re-training requirements. Grasso confirmed that the signature on the letter was in fact his signature. Grasso stated he remembered signing is letter and a similar one for Officer Smith. Inv. Bisland then showed former Chief Grasso the three test results dated 04/14/09 for Domestic Violence, Juvenile Sex Offender and Discriminatory Profiling all signed by Sgt. Robert F Walker. Grasso stated, "I believe I had Walker sign those. Sgt. Ihnken, I believe, gave them to me and I in turn handed them to Walker for him to sign. so we would have, I think this was signed before this (indicating the test results 4/14 were signed before the letter to FDLE 4/27)". Inv. Bisland asked Grasso if he remembered his conversation with Walker after May 20th, 2009 when Walker discovered the Certificates of Completion in his box at work. Grasso advised, "Sgt. Ihnken was in the office, Bob Walker was there and myself. I remember Walker coming to me and saying; listen where did these come from? I didn't take these, when I showed them to Ihnken he said well I took them on-line for him and I (Grasso) raised hell with Ihnken for doing that. Now whether Diane Young was there, I do not remember to say for sure if she was in the office at that time". Inv. Bisland asked Grasso who would have entered the training into the FDLE Automated Training Management System (ATMS) and he advised that Officer Diane Young would have entered the information. Inv. Bisland asked Grasso if he remembered what explanation Sgt. Ihnken offered as for why he got on-line and represented to be someone else and took their training. Grasso replied, "I don't totally recall, verbatim what he said, I remember he said that he didn't have time, he was going out of town and thought that was easier". Inv. Bisland showed Grasso Smiths test results. Grasso stated he believed that Ihnken also took Officer Thad Smiths on-line training. Inv. Bisland asked Grasso if he at any time ever gave Sgt. Ihnken permission or authority to take these tests on-line for the other Officers. Grasso responded, "Not only did I not give him permission, I wasn't aware that you could even take these tests on-line". Inv. Bisland again asked, "So you never authorized him in an effort to expedite this to come into compliance, do what you gotta do and get it done or any suggestion that it was an appropriate thing to do"? Grasso answered, "No sir". Insp. Davis asked Grasso if he ever remembered calling Officer Thad Smith back in because he signed the wrong papers and Grasso advised that he did not remember. Inv. Bisland asked Grasso if, similarly he had

Officer Smith sign his test results as he did with Walker and Grasso advised that he believed that he did.

Grasso also related recently running into Volusia County Deputy Sheriff Brian Williams and having a conversation regarding the turmoil in Oak Hill. In part of the conversation Grasso related, Brian Williams stated that Ihnken had told him that Chief Young had held the training certificates over Ihnkens head to get him to take his demotion from sergeant to officer. Inv. Bisland asked Grasso at what point in time does he believe Diane Young knew about Ihnken falsely taking the training and tests for Walker and Smith on-line. Grasso advised he personally believed that Young knew at the time it happened, explaining; not that she actually saw him take the tests but after the fact. Grasso stated she definitely knew at the time she took over as Police Chief based on conversations they had.

Inv. Bisland asked Grasso about his knowledge of alleged explosive devices made by officers. Grasso reported that Sgt. Walker had told him that Officer Brian Riley had reported that Sgt. Ihnken, D/S Bill Armstrong and possibly Officer Manny Perez had been involved in manufacturing a home made bomb that Grasso described as containing the heating element of a military MRE (meal ready to eat). Grasso stated it was reported to him that they exploded the bomb near the flea market on the night shift. Grasso stated he was told of the bomb approximately 4 months after the fact. Grasso reported having other issues with night shift officers shooting their firearms at night. Grasso advised that he had found empty shell casings inside the hood of the vehicles near the windshield. This concluded the interview of former Chief Grasso at approximately 4:00 pm.

On July 21st, at approximately 9:30 am Inv. Bisland and Insp. Davis interviewed Brian Riley. Riley was sworn and acknowledged that the interview was both part of a criminal investigation and voluntary. Inv. Bisland questioned Officer Riley regarding his knowledge of the allegations that Mike Ihnken falsely took on-line mandatory re-training and tests for Sgt. Bob Walker and Officer Thad Smith. Riley advised he had no direct knowledge and what he knew about those allegations he learned from Sgt. Bob Walker at the time Walker discovered he had been issued certificates of completion for training he stated he never completed around May of 2009.

Inv. Bisland asked Officer Riley to describe his knowledge of explosive destructive devices made and exploded by Law Enforcement Officers. Riley stated, "Well, I was told by Sgt. Ihnken (Michael Ihnken) that a Deputy named William "Bill" Armstrong and Manny Perez were involved in making these home made explosive devices, which included the ingredients of a toilet bowl cleaner, I think it is called the "Works" and aluminum foil and some other ingredient that I don't recall, by placing it in a plastic container, a two liter plastic soda bottle, shaking it up and watching it expand and explode. Inv. Bisland asked Riley if his initial knowledge of this bomb was based on a conversation with Sgt. Mike Ihnken and Riley advised, "Yes". Inv. Bisland then asked Riley if he ever had occasion to witness one of these bombs explode. Riley stated, "Yes, I believe during the same time that I was told about it while we were working together and

parked next to each other in our cars. Riley identified "we" as himself, Sgt. Ihnken and Volusia County Deputy Sheriff Bill Armstrong. Riley related, "Deputy Armstrong, I remember him getting into his trunk, I couldn't see inside the trunk, I was inside my car but I could see his trunk lid raised, he was back there doing something while Sgt. Ihnken and I were talking about this and other things. I then observed Deputy Armstrong go out into the middle of the road with a two liter bottle, plastic bottle, he shook it up and let it sit there and I asked Ihnken what are you guys doing? He said stay here you need to watch it or you should watch this, Sgt. Ihnken told me. So I said I don't want anything to do with this. He said no just watch, so I (Riley) looked at the bottle and I saw it expand and then I turned my head because I didn't want to see it explode and I turned my head and looked straight. The next thing I know a loud sound like a boom took place and it was the plastic bottle that exploded". Inv. Bisland asked if all three of them were working, on duty and in uniform to which Riley stated, "Yes". Inv. Bisland also established from Riley that this was not part of any official demonstration or training. Inv. Bisland asked Riley why he thought they were doing this activity to which he replied, "I think just for fun, just to see it happen, just something to do, it's pretty boring out in Oak Hill". Riley identified this occurring in November or December of 2009 near the 100 block of North US Hwy 1 near the intersection of Halifax. Riley stated it occurred in the middle of the road and at approximately midnight. No traffic was present and no one called in a loud or suspicious noise complaint. Riley also stated that Sgt. Ihnken had described the components of the bomb to him and he did not recall having a conversation with Armstrong about the bomb's components. Riley also stated that this was the first and only time he witnessed a bomb exploded. Riley believed that Sgt. Ihnken had seen the detonation previously based on conversations they had. Riley stated that after the bomb display he told Ihnken and Armstrong that they were "crazy" and they should not be doing this kind of stuff that it is dangerous and then Riley left. Riley advised that he reported the bomb incident within two days to Sgt. Bob Walker and some time after was ostracized by Ihnken and Armstrong for what he believed was reporting the incident.

Inv. Bisland questioned Riley regarding the hiring and resignation of Officer Brandy Sutherin. The information Riley knew regarding Sutherin was all information he heard from Officer M.J. Ebberhart and Sgt. Walker and had no direct or first hand information. This concluded the interview of Officer Riley.

On July 21st, at approximately 2:00 pm Inv. Bisland and Insp. Davis interviewed MJ Ebberhart. Ebberhart was sworn and acknowledged that the interview was both part of a criminal investigation and voluntary. Inv. Bisland questioned Ebberhart about his knowledge of the allegations of the fraudulently obtained training certificates by Mike Ihnken. Ebberhart advised what he knew he had learned from Sgt. Bob Walker. Walker had expressed concern to Ebberhart that his law enforcement certificate was going to expire on Jun 30th, 2009 if he did not complete his mandatory re-training. Ebberhart had heard at the time from Sgt. Walker that Sgt. Ihnken had fraudulently taken the on-line training and tests for the mandatory re-training of both Walker and Officer Thad Smith.

Off. Ebberhart also volunteered information regarding two books that Sgt. Ihnken had given him that he eventually determined were stolen from City Hall. Ebberhart reported this activity to Sgt. Walker and ultimately returned the books. Ebberhart has no direct knowledge or information relating to the other allegations identified in the investigation only what he was told by other Officers. Ebberhart did discuss his displeasure with the performance of Chief Diane Young and his efforts to have a vote of no confidence taken relating to her job performance. Ebberhart also identified what he described as several ways he has been mistreated by Chief Young. This concluded the interview of Officer Ebberhart.

On July 21st, at approximately 9:30 am Inv. Bisland and Insp. Davis interviewed Bill Armstrong. Armstrong was sworn and acknowledged that the interview was both part of a criminal investigation and voluntary. Inv. Bisland asked Armstrong if he had any knowledge of the allegations of Ihnken fraudulently taking training and tests on line for other Officers, to which Armstrong replied he did not. Additionally, Armstrong stated he had no information regarding Officer Sutherin's resignation from the Oak Hill PD. Inv. Bisland advised Armstrong of another allegation that Sgt. Ihnken, Officer Brian Riley and himself, back in November or December were involved in an exploding plastic soda bottle incident on US 1. Inv. Bisland asked Armstrong if he knew anything about that. Armstrong replied "We had fireworks". Inv. Bisland asked "What does that mean?" Armstrong replied "We had fireworks, we lit off fireworks". Armstrong described the fireworks as firecrackers. Inv. Bisland asked Armstrong to identify who was there when the fireworks were lit and he responded, "I don't recall who all was there it was so long ago". Inv. Bisland asked Armstrong if he was aware of an incendiary device that's described as a plastic two liter soda bottle. Armstrong stated he was aware of the devices having read about them on the internet. Armstrong advised "If you mix stuff in a bottle it'll expand and pop it". Inv. Bisland asked Armstrong if he ever made such a device which he stated he had not. Inv Bisland asked Armstrong if he ever witnessed Ihnken and or Riley set off such a device as described in the median of US 1, to which he responded "No I don't remember that". Bisland asked Armstrong if his answer was No I didn't or No I don't remember, to which he replied, "I don't remember". Inv. Bisland asked is it possible that you were there and forgot it; Armstrong replied. "No not in the median no", Bisland asked "Somewhere else?" and Armstrong replied "No". Inv. Bisland then asked Armstrong why witnesses would tell us that he not only was there but that he was the one who constructed the device?" Armstrong then stated, "I'm not gonna answer anymore questions about me, if we are here to talk about the Oak Hill Police Dept then we'll do that". Bisland responded, Fair enough". Bisland asked Armstrong if there was anyone at the Oak Hill Police Dept who would want to put him in a bad light and Armstrong stated "Very well could be". Armstrong then characterized his relationship with the members of the Oak Hill Police Dept. as one where he does not trust any of them and he has been warned to keep his distance from the Oak Hill PD. Armstrong stated that he doesn't hang out down there. Armstrong was asked when he last spoke with Ihnken and it was determined that he spoke with him the previous day at approximately 5:00pm to ask Ihnken why he might have been asked to come to the State Attorney's Office. Armstrong advised that Ihnken stated he had no idea why he would be asked. Near the end of the

interview Armstrong advised that he thinks he's going get an attorney essentially because of the allegations against him by members of the OHPD. Inv. Bisland asked Armstrong to provide his attorney with Bisland's contact information and to have the attorney contact him. Unsolicited, Armstrong then stated, if the incident that they are talking about is the time we lit a firework as a practical joke and it was Brian Riley. Bisland asked Armstrong if he would further describe that time and Armstrong stated we were near the Flea Market, I lit a firecracker approximately 10 feet from a building, maybe an echo, and Riley was approximately 20 feet away when it happened, kind of a joke and that was two years ago. Insp. Davis asked Armstrong who was present and Armstrong stated he could not recall who was there at the time. This concluded the interview.

On July 22, at approximately 9:30 am Inv. Bisland and Insp. Davis interviewed Brian Williams. Williams was sworn and acknowledged that the interview was both part of a criminal investigation and voluntary. Inv. Bisland asked Deputy Williams to describe his knowledge of Mike Ihnkens involvement in fraudulently taking training and tests on-line for other Officers. Williams advised, "I was only told what happened by Mike Ihnken. Ihnken said he had shown then Chief Grasso the new on-line tests that could be taken with FDLE and cause, I guess he had taken something to do with his mandatory or whatever and the Chief ordered him to take a test for one of the other officers and ummm in fear of that he did". Insp. Davis asked if Ihnken ever said why he was ordered to do that and why the officer(s) didn't take it himself. Williams responded, "No he did not". Inv. Bisland asked Williams about his knowledge of Ihnkens demotion from sergeant to officer. Williams advised, "Ihnken told me that when the Chief, now Chief Young, called him in to talk about him coming back to work, he told me he was given three options. Option one was to take a demotion, option two was to resign and option three if he didn't resign or take the demotion she would bring this "test" to the City Council and have the City Council fire him". Inv. Bisland recapped, stating; Ihnken admitted he took the tests and he admitted that Chief Young knew that he took the test? Williams stated yes, because she (Young) was the one who filed he paperwork with FDLE.

Inv. Bisland questioned Williams regarding his knowledge of officers involved in making bombs. Williams advised that he was told by Mike Ihnken and Officer Manny Perez that they had built and exploded these devices. Williams stated he never knew where they got the idea or where they exploded the devices however they did discuss the components of the device. Williams stated he remembered them describing the components as a plastic bottle, drain-o or something similar and a piece of aluminum foil and it explodes. Insp. Davis asked Williams if Ihnken or Perez identified Deputy Bill Armstrong as being involved to which Williams advised, "No".

Williams advised that he had recently run into Guy Grasso and the two had a brief discussion regarding Oak Hill and Ihnken's demotion. Williams stated he did not ask nor did Grasso volunteer any information regarding ordering, Ihnken to take training or tests in-line for other Officers. This concluded the interview.

On July 28th 2010 at approximately 11:28 am Inv. Bisland interviewed Sergeant Manny Perez. Perez was sworn and acknowledged that the interview was both part of a criminal

investigation and voluntary. Inv. Bisland asked Sgt. Perez about his knowledge of Ihnken's alleged involvement in fraudulently taking training and tests on-line for other officers. Perez advised the only information he had regarding that topic was hearsay among officers because of this investigation. Inv. Bisland asked Perez if he had any knowledge relating to bombs or destructive devices being made by officers. Perez stated, "Yes, I was approached, I don't remember the date. I just remember it was during the daytime, by then Chief Guy Grasso. He inquired about if I knew anything about that or whatever it was and I said no, I wasn't there. Grasso said, well what have you heard, I just said Armstrong or Ihnken or a combo of the two at the time said oh yeah we went to play a joke on Riley and we threw, I thought, I'll be honest at the time, I thought it was a firecracker, but as the conversation carried over time they started talking about different things you could make to make the popping noise and that was it". Inv. Bisland asked Perez to describe the "different things" that Armstrong and Ihnken identified, Perez advised that they spoke about the construction of a bottle bomb and advised that it contained toilet bowl cleaner and tin foil or magnesium. Inv. Bisland asked if Perez had an opinion based on his conversation with Armstrong and Ihnken whether they had experimented with the described device, to which Perez advised he did not recall the content and did not remember whether they said they did or did not.

Inv. Bisland asked Perez if he had any knowledge of Officer Brandy Sutherin's resignation after an off duty pursuit and shooting. Perez stated that Sutherin told him "they" were trying to get me to resign

Perez stated that ultimately Sutherin resigned. Inv. Bisland asked Perez if he was ever asked by Chief Young to influence Sutherin's resignation, to which he replied, "No".

Perez advised that he was concerned about Sutherin's performance
and would report his observations to Chief Young.

This concluded the interview.

On July 22nd, at approximately 8:20 am Inv. Bisland and Insp. Davis interviewed Chief Diane Young. Young was sworn and acknowledged that the interview was both part of a criminal investigation and voluntary. Inv. Bisland summarized the complaint, which Young was familiar with and then asked Young what knowledge she had about the allegations that Mike Ihnken fraudulently took on-line training and tests for Sgt. Bob Walker and Officer Thad Smith. Young advised the following: "OK what I know, first of all I did not know anything at all about Robert Walker's certificates. What happens is, Mike (Ihnken) does the training and the paperwork then came to me. What was happening was Mike was just plain not very organized in taking care of his paperwork. In looking for records for different officers at different times we've found that we just couldn't find them. Mike had training files but they just weren't accurately kept; so I made every Officer a three ring binder and kept them in my office. When the records

were generated they came to me and I filed them. Also if he hadn't put them in ATMS I checked to make sure they were in there correctly. In this situation the only thing that I can tell you is that there was an evening that I was working in my office, not the Chiefs office but the little small office next to it. Mike was out on the computer when I looked out and I asked what he was doing, because he was on duty, he said, I'm helping Thad. Now I could see that there was a test type of thing on the computer screen but I was not sure exactly what he was doing." Inv. Bisland asked if Thad was present to which Young replied, "No". Inv. Bisland then tried to establish a time frame when Young continued, "And I have something to show you on too, that I came across. I don't know if you have this. In reviewing, the day that you were at my office to see me and we pulled up these tests, just after you left I was putting the files away, I found a second test" (Young showed the tests to Bisland). Inv. Bisland reviewed the tests and it was determined that they were signed on April 14th, 2009. Young stated, "One's on the 14th and ones on the 28th, so date wise it wasn't something I made a big note of at the time. I was in the office and Mike was doing something on the computer and I really didn't note what date or month or anything. Inv. Bisland established we were talking around April of 2009. Inv. Bisland asked Young if the computer that Ihnken was working on was the stand alone desk top that was the only computer that the Oak Hill police officers had available to them inside the Police Station; which she confirmed was the case. Inv. Bisland asked Young if she was familiar with FDLE's on-line training program. Young advised that she had never taken the "Mandatories" on-line however what she observed Ihnken taking was definitely a test but not sure what it was for. Bisland followed up stating, "You came to find out later what it was, tell me about that". Young stated, "Well it was nearly a year later that Mike was on Administrative leave from the other charges from FDLE. There wasn't a day that didn't go by that there wasn't a discussion on Mike, the Department and what was going to happen with Mike". Bisland asked who these discussions were with and Young advised her and Bob Walker or Chief Grasso. Young continued, "I was outside in the parking lot and I remember because it was rather shocking to me. Outside in the parking lot talking with Chief Grasso about whether or not, how this was going to affect Mike. Was Mike going to get fired, was FDLE or the State Attorneys Office going to press charges (This was relating to the other allegations then under investigation by FDLE). Chief Grasso said to me well you know he also took Bobby Walkers certification tests and I remember it specifically because I was pretty surprised and I said to him, well I think he may have taken Thad's tests too and I told him about being in the office and seeing him on the computer". Inv. Bisland then showed Young an ATMS audit of her activity. It was established that Diane young had entered both Bob Walker and Thad Smith's on-line training into the ATMS system. Inv. Bisland asked Young if she ever had a conversation with Officer Thad Smith about his on-line training to which she replied she had not. Inv. Bisland then asked her if she had any conversations with Bobby Walker about his on-line training. Young stated, "I didn't talk to Bob Walker about it until after Bobby Walker had resigned". Bisland asked "What were those conversations?" Young responded, "Well there were several conversations, I talked with Bobby nearly every day and every night before his resignation and several conversations afterwards. Well let's see, we get back to the other investigation on Mike Ihnken, which he was still under investigation when I became Chief and Chief Grasso and Sgt. Walker had left. So we're waiting to find out what was going to happen with the State Attorneys Office,

FDLE had turned the case over to the SAO and we're waiting to see what's going to happen with the SAO. As time went by, longer and longer and longer and it didn't look like charges were going to be placed against him, there were several conversations about how I was going to handle this". Inv. Bisland asked, "Between who", and Young stated. "Mostly me and Bobby (Walker), at that point I wasn't really having any conversations with Chief Grasso. Now, I put in several formal requests, I requested Ponce Inlet PD, first I started with the Sheriff's Office about doing an IA after ya'll (FDLE) closed your case on Mike, Sheriff's Office, Ponce Inlet, I'm not going to get anybody's cooperation in Volusia County. So, I went to Titusville, I went to Brevard County and put a formal request into them to do an IA. Everybody turned me down; they didn't want to be involved due to the liability, this and that and of course Mike (Ihnken) had been involved in several other situations previous to even this investigation. So the Sheriffs Office didn't want to be involved, apparently there was also a situation that he was involved in that involved a Ponce Inlet Office so they didn't want to be involved. Brevard or Titusville told me that they didn't want to come into our county, as far as doing an IA. So Bobby (Walker) did get two Investigators at, where he's employed now (Daytona Beach PD), and they came up and talked to me". Inv. Bisland asked if those investigators were Sgt. Paul Barnett and Lt. Jeff Hoffman. Young stated, "Yes, they went through the entire investigation and pointed out, you know, several areas of which I may be able to use to terminate him (Ihnken). However, I don't have the authority to terminate; I would have to take the Officer in front of the Commission. Now I didn't really think my chances were going to be that good. FDLE failed to find any reason to charge him; the State Attorney's Office didn't find any reason to charge him. This is the "Golden" boy; my chances of getting him terminated, I think were slim. If I couldn't get him terminated, I was going to end up with a Sergeant I am really not sure I can trust. I had the authority to issue discipline up to and including demotion and suspension and that's what I chose to do. I demoted him so he would have no influence over any other officers; put him on day shift so he is under my direct supervision. This didn't seem to go over very well with either Sgt. Walker or Chief Grasso, however they weren't running the department. They had not stepped up with any, with all this stuff that they knew about or supposedly knew about at the time. Now they want me to bring this stuff into the mix. No body was behind me. They already knew about it so why hadn't they done something about it. They wanted me to use a controlled phone call they had done on Mike to show untruthfulness. However the digital recorder had been in Sgt. Walker's possession ever since they made the recording. It wasn't even in the station, Rumors and allegations of things Mike had done had been going on for years. Now, this situation on this testing, at the time that I observed Mike I was suspicious, I wasn't positive of what he had done. Now I find out a year later that both Sgt. Walker and Chief Grasso knew about it, participated in it and didn't do anything about it. Where was I going go with this, I couldn't get someone to come in and do an IA, because I would be possible, probably be a witness. I couldn't get an outside agency to come in and do an IA. So I did what I thought was best for the Department. To put this person under my supervision, if there were things going to be done then I would find out about it. I would know about it". Inv. Bisland asked, "So you don't have the authority to fire somebody, do you have the authority to hire somebody, or does that also require Commission approval". Young advise, "That also requires Commission approval". Inv. Bisland followed up, "You said that when you elected and it

was your responsibility, I mean you're the Chief and you're the one that's accountable, to demoted Ihnken and Grasso and Walker weren't happy about that, how was Ihnken with that? What was his reaction?" Young advised, "Well he wasn't happy with it either". Bisland stated, "That's punitive, he's getting demoted, I presume at least in rank and I don't know if his pay was adversely effected or not, so it's still punishment yet no IA took place. Was he given due process? I mean how did he react? I mean if I am Mike I'm thinking hey I just got cleared and you're punishing me anyway. So I mean what did you have to deal with, the outfall from that, if anything?" Young responded, "I did, I did an IA on the FDLE investigation and my findings were based on what FDLE and the State Attorney's Office looked into. These situations that he was under investigation for even though no charges were pressed, the fact of the matter was had he been doing his job correctly and supervising those officers neither one of those incidents would have happened". Inv. Bisland asked, "So what fell short of a criminal prosecution still qualified for some type of disciplinary action?" Young stated, "And that I felt was more with totally within my rights and authority to do because I was not investigating all these other things I was investigating FDLE's investigation or the State Attorney's investigation". Bisland advised, "Which is essentially what, had Brevard or the County or Ponce Inlet agreed to help; it's essentially what they would have done, I presume, or what you would have wanted them to do?" Young advised, "Exactly, it's what I wanted them to do, but since I couldn't get any mutual cooperation I did it myself'. Bisland asked. "OK, again what was Mike Ihnken's reaction to you calling him back off suspension saying you're coming back but you're coming back as an officer, tell me about that?" Young advised that Ihnken thought it was rather harsh and he was not happy". Young continued, "I said, well, it's not, well first of all, I gave him an option to resign. I said there's just too much here, there's too much controversy surrounding you. I haven't started an IA yet, this is a conversation before I started the conversation, so you have to make up your mind what you want to do and he said I haven't done anything wrong and I don't want to be terminated, and so I said alright I'm going to have to start an IA. So I started an IA on, based on FDLE's investigation. That's when he came back in, I said I can't bring you back as a supervisor, there's no way I'm brining you back as a supervisor, I'll bring you back on duty but I'm going to demote you". Inv. Bisland asked if there was some type of documentation of Ihnken's demotion and Young stated, "Yes he signed accepting the demotion and I believe there is a letter because I had to notify administration of pay change".

Inv. Bisland then established with Chief Young that this investigation had resulted in varied allegations and some of those allegations rose to a particular level of concern, particularly an allegation that officers manufactured and detonated a bomb or incendiary device. Inv. Bisland asked Young what her knowledge of the described allegation was. Young advised, "Very little, quite honestly stuff like this, they didn't tell me a whole lot because they know how I fell about this type or sort of stuff. The only thing, the only, actual person that, sorry to bring him into this, would be Deputy Williams (Brian Williams), mentioned something to me about it. No one in the Department ever mentioned anything to me about it". Inv. Bisland also established that at the time of the alleged bomb incident, Chief Young was a patrol officer. Bisland asked Young what Williams told her about the bomb. Young advised, "Something along the lines of did you

hear, did you hear about the bombing"? Young summarized stating Williams didn't really tell her a much, only that Williams indicated the bomb was part of the reason he was no longer assigned in the Oak Hill area.

Inv. Bisland then directed the interview to Mike Ihnkens demotion from sergeant to officer on March 22nd, 2010. Chief Young characterized Ihnkens response to an Oak Hill Police Department Memo the subject of which was "Notice of Discipline: Demotion from Sergeant to Patrol Office dated March 16th, 2010, as unhappy and disagreeable. Inv. Bisland asked Chief Young, "If Mike wasn't happy with or agree with; why did he voluntarily demote? Why would he (Ihnken) sign a piece of paper voluntarily taking a demotion if he didn't want to be terminated, or quit and he didn't agree with what you (Young) were doing in terms of punishment"? Young replied, "Why would be go......I don't suppose that uh.....why would be voluntarily, well I wouldn't have had any other choice but to take him in front of the Commission and take my chances, because there was no way that I could bring this man back as a Sergeant". Inv. Bisland then asked. "Let me ask this question; did you, during those conversations, when he walked out of the room demoted, give him several options one of which included; if he didn't voluntarily demote you were going to contact FDLE and notify them that he had fraudulently taken these certificate test's on line for Thad and Bobby". Young responded, "No". Bisland inquired, "Why would he say that and why would others say that he said that to them then and continues today to say it"? Young advised, "I don't know, that did not happen". Bisland asked if the letter that Ihnken signed accepting his demotion was prepared before the meeting and Chief Young stated that it was not, that Ihnken typed the letter that day himself.

The interview then began to focus on the Automated Training Management System (ATMS) entries of Walker and Smith's on-line training. It was established having reviewed an ATMS audit of Diane Young's activity that she entered both Sgt. Walker and Officer Smith's on-line mandatory re-training on May 5th, 2009. Insp. Davis asked Young if she knew at the time she entered the training into the ATMS system that Walker and Smith had not taken the training or tests. Young advised, "No I did not".

Inv. Bisland asked Chief Young to describe the Oak Hill Police Department hiring process. Chief Young reiterated that all hiring and firing is done by the City Commission. The Chief described the hiring process stating, "They put in their application, background investigation is started per FDLE, I have all that lined up. If they have been previously employed I go look at their file. I've been doing the background investigations for the last, at least three years. I took the IPTM course for background investigator's and began doing the backgrounds, so we're at that point right now. Applications have come in, first do the drivers license check, criminal history check and ATMS check. They just had oral interviews yesterday. Several of them I have already gone and looked at their files from their previous employers. Letters are sent out to any employers that are not law enforcement and all law enforcement I go directly to the Department and look at their files. Letters go out to their references, letters go out to neighbors and a local records check is done. After all that information comes back in and everything is copasetic. Then it's time for Voice Stress Test, drug test and a physical. If all of that goes fine and then

they are put in front of the Commission. A short Bio is given to the Commission and they vote whether or not to hire them". Insp. Davis asked, "So the Commission's going to get the entire package, everything's been done by the time the Commission gets it"? Young stated, "The Commission never got the entire package". Bisland asked, "They get a summary or something"? Young responded, "A summary but it's there for them if they want it, it's available to them". Insp. Davis followed up with, "Alright, but nothing goes before them until everything is done"? Young stated, "Right". Insp. Davis stated, "Like you're not waiting on results of anything". Young replied, "No". Insp. Davis stated, "So it's a complete........Young interrupted, "No well the last, at the time that uhmm, let's see, Chief Grasso was already out on sick leave uhmm, Bobby was Acting Chief, we had three people we had been interviewing, ect. ect. ect. They did go before the Commission to be hired contingent upon; they hadn't had their CVSA's or their drug tests". Inv. Bisland asked, "Who were they"? Young identified one as Brandy Sutherin. As the interview continued Chief Young advised the three were put on contingent upon completing CVSA'a and drug test's because they were so short handed.

completing CVSA a and drug test's because they were so short handed.

Later that same date after the interview of Chief Young, Inv. Bisland traveled to the Oak Hill PD to review Officer Brandy Sutherin's personnel file the findings of which will be the subject of another investigative report.

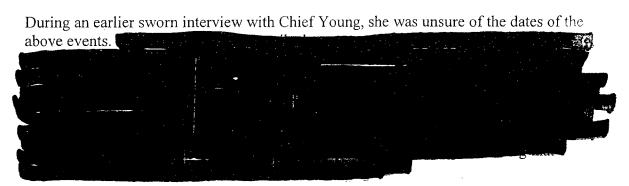
The Chief also volunteered that she knew she entered certificates into the ATMS system but also wanted Inv. Bisland and Insp. Davis to know that Chief Grasso would frequently forget his passwords and use Young's passwords which were kept on a rolodex in her office. In fact, Young stated that on one occasion Chief Grasso actually changed one of her passwords. This concluded the interview of Chief Diane Young.

On July 22nd, 2010 Inv. Bisland traveled to the Oak Hill Police Dept. and met with Chief Diane Young. Inv. Bisland asked to review the personnel file of former Officer Brandy Sutherin. Chief Young retrieved the file from City Hall and provided a location for Inv. Bisland to review same.

review of the file revealed that Brandy Sutherin was hired as a part-time non-paid reserve Police Officer by a unanimous Resolution of the Oak Hill City Commission on November 23rd, 2009. This resolution was signed by Mayor Darla Lauer on November 24th, 2009.



The next relevant document in the file was a copy of the Resolution appointing Brandy Sutherin from Part-time Non-paid Reserve Police Officer to Part-time Paid Police Officer dated January 25th, 2010 by unanimous vote of the Oak Hill City Commission and signed by Mayor Darla Lauer January 26th, 2010. The next relevant document located was a copy of the Resolution appointing Sutherin from Part-time Paid to Full-time Paid Police Officer dated March 22nd, 2010 by unanimous vote of the City Commission and signed by Mayor Darla Lauer March 23rd, 2010. A copy of Sutherin's letter of resignation dated April 30th, 2010 was also found in the file. Copies of all the documents identified in this investigative report while be maintained in the case file.



On July 22nd, 2010 Inv. Bisland reviewed Officer Ihnken's personnel file with particular attention to his demotion from sergeant to patrol officer. Chronologically, Inv. Bisland discovered a receipt on Oak Hill Police Department (OHPD) stationary dated March 4th, 2010 on which, by signature, Sgt. Mike Ihnken acknowledges receiving a copy of the determination not to prosecute on the grounds of insufficient evidence issued by the State Attorneys Office. Additionally located was an OHPD MEMO to Sgt. Ihnken from Chief Young dated March 15th, 2010 re: Notification of Administrative Investigation: Interview Notice of which receipt is also acknowledged by signature. The basis of the administrative investigation is alleged violations of Department Directive(s) 2.2.17:

Superior Officers shall be directly responsible for the actions of their subordinates. Another OHPD MEMO to Sgt. Ihnken from Chief Young dated March16th, 2010 re: Notice of discipline: Demotion from Sergeant to Patrol Officer was found. The contents of that MEMO outline three specific incidents in which a conclusion that Ihnken violated the rules was determined. The MEMO also describes the Penalty for the violations specifically, a demotion to Patrol Officer and a 5% reduction in pay. Another OHPD MEMO also dated March 16th, 2010 to Ihnken from Young was located in re: Notice of proposed Discipline: Demotion from Sgt. to Patrol Officer. The last relevant document discovered was an OHPD MMO from Ihnken to Young dated March 22nd, 2010 accepting the demotion.

None of the documents reviewed identify allegations of or findings that Ihnken is alleged to have fraudulently taken FDLE mandatory re-training and tests on-line on behalf of other officers. Inv. Bisland obtained copies of the described documents and copies will be maintained in the case file.

On July 26th, 2010 Investigator Bisland met with Chief Young and advised that Inspector Davis had researched the FDLE CJSTC training records and determined that neither Ihnken or Grasso were Certified Tazer Instructors. Consequently, all the Officers carrying Tazers that had been trained by either of them were not certified to carry the weapon. Investigator Bisland suggested that Chief Young immediately ground all Tazers in use at the Oak Hill Police Department; Chief Young agreed. Chief Young then explained that Mike Ihnken was the Departments training officer and that he had recently allowed his General Training Certificate to lapse for non-compliance. Additionally, the Chief stated that she provided Ihnken the training opportunity and ordered him to get into compliance. The Chief advised that as of this date Ihnken had taken the refresher training however still needed to be monitored by a Certified Instructor. Investigator Bisland advised the Chief that the monitoring process could be completed through the Emergency Services Division of Daytona State College and only takes 3-4 hours. Chief Young stated that she inquired of Field Services Specialist Kathy Meyer of FDLE as to Ihnken's Certification requirements and was comfortable they were in compliance. Investigator Bisland encouraged Chief Young to contact FSS Meyer and follow her instructions: identifying her as the expert in Training compliance. On Tuesday July 27th, 2010, Investigator Bisland was telephonically contacted by FDLE Bureau Chief Glen Hopkins who advised that as of July 1st, 2010 all eight of the Oak Hill Police Officers to include; Meredith J. Eberhart, Greg S. Gfell, Michael T. Ihnken, Manual N. Perez, Brian S. Riley, Diane C. Young, Russell W. McCarthy and Thaddeus G. Smith have not completed the mandatory firearms qualifications for June 30th, 2010. Inv. Bisland received a written correspondence from Bureau Chief Hopkins the following day, July 28th, 2010, which also verified that the listed officers were in violation of Rule 11B-27.00212(14) of the Florida Administrative Code and were not eligible to perform the duties of a certified officer. FDLE had received information from Chief Young that Officer Mike Ihnken had qualified all the identified officers on June 10th, 2010, however, Mr. Ihnken's General Instructors Certificate lapsed April 1, 2010 which caused his firearms certificate to lapse,

consequently, the firearms qualification of June 10th, 2010 was null and void. Upon learning of this information Chief Young contacted the Volusia County Sheriff's Office to take over all Law Enforcement Operations in the City of Oak Hill until such time as she could get her officers qualified. A copy of the letter from FDLE Bureau Chief Hopkins and the Criminal Justice Professionalism Program report of separation of the eight officers will be maintained in the case file.

On August 2nd, 2010 using both the State Attorney's automated system and the Oak Hill Police Department records section, Investigator Bisland identified all the enforcement related activity conducted by the sworn members between July 1st and July 27th, 2010. All eight sworn police officers of the Department were separated from Certification by FDLE for that period of time due to training non-compliance issues. Essentially, the sworn members of the Department had no Police authority during the separated period, which could potentially effect the legality and or prosecution of cases made. The following is a summary of the arrest's and Baker Act cases:

- 7/4/10 Arrest Defendant Jennifer Evans DOB 3/5/87 FTA Warrant OHPD case # 10-000211
 7/6/10 Arrest Defendant (Juvenile) Retail Theft (Order to take into custody) OHPD case # 10-000215
 7/17/10 Arrest Johnny Jackson DOB 1/3/79 VOP Disorderly Conduct OHPD case # 10-00021
 7/5/10 Baker Act DOB 4/5/81 OHPD case # 10-000214
 7/19/10 Baker Act DOB 9/24/63 OHPD case # 10-000224
 - ***Additionally (5) Uniform Traffic Tickets were issued***

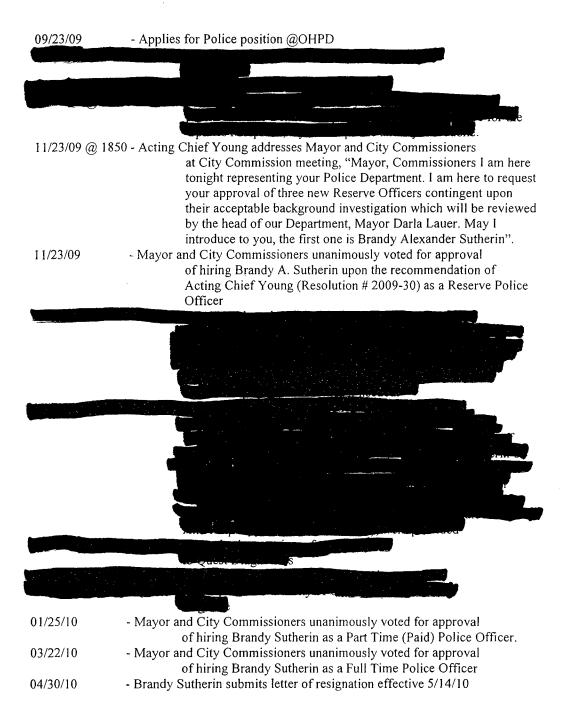
This information was provided to the prosecution division of the State Attorney's Office.

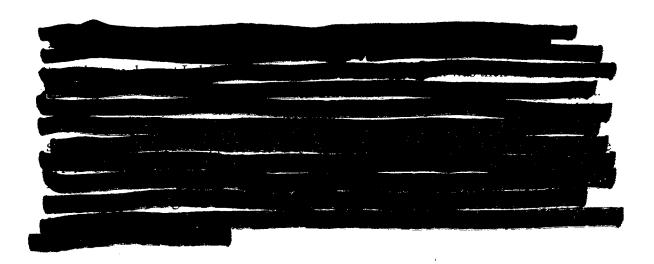
On August 17th 2010, Investigator Bisland served a subpoena on Oak Hill City Clerk Virginia Hass for any and all records, notes, minutes, agenda's and recordings of the November 23rd, 2009 City Commission meeting. Ms. Haas responded to the subpoend, providing Investigator Bisland with a DVR of the described meeting as well as a copy of the agenda and official minutes of the meeting. Investigator Bisland subsequently viewed the DVR of the City Commission meeting which began at approximately 1800 hours November 23rd, 2009. At approximately 1850 hours the agenda item identified as resolution 2009-30 came before the Commission. Acting Chief Diane Young addresses the Commission stating, "Mayor, Commissioners I am here tonight representing your Police Department. I am here to request your approval of three new Reserve Officers contingent upon their acceptable background investigations which will be reviewed by our Department Head, Mayor Darla Lauer. May I introduce to you; the first one is Brandy Alexander Sutherin....." Subsequently the Mayor and Commissioners unanimously approve Sutherin's appointment. The DVR, agenda and minutes will be maintained in this case file.

On July 22nd, at approximately 10:00 am Inv. Bisland interviewed Chief Diane Young. Young was sworn and acknowledged that the interview was both part of a criminal

investigation and voluntary. In advance of the interview Inv. Bisland had prepared a time line of events related to the hiring of Sutherin and his pre-employment background investigation. During the interview, Inv. Bisland asked Chief. Young to fill in additional events of the time line. The initial time line prepared by Inv. Bisland was as follows:

TIME LINE: Brandy A. Sutherin @ Oak Hill P.D.

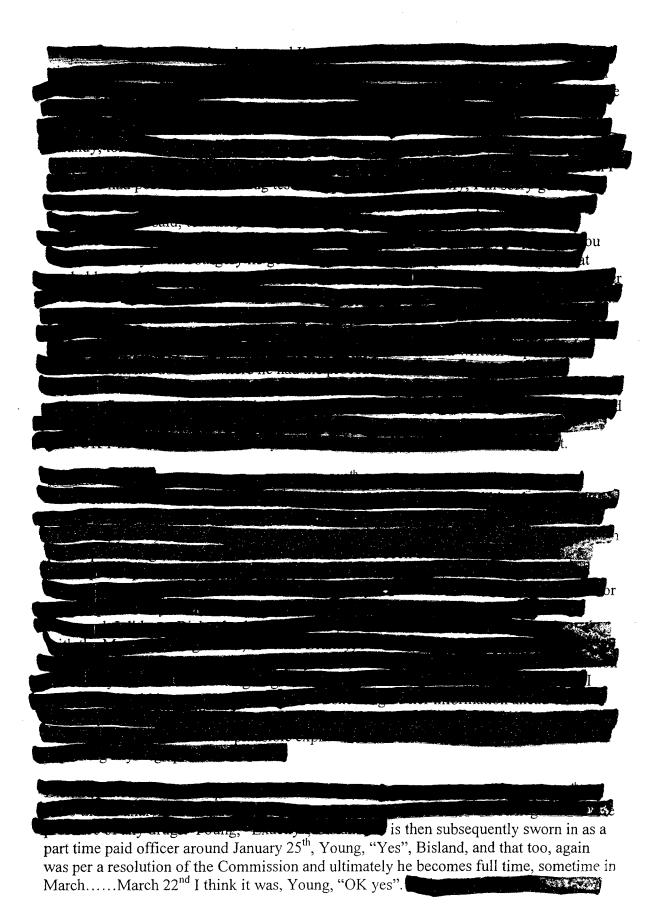


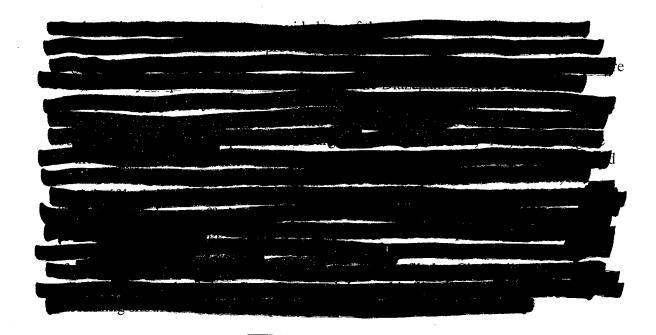


Bisland asked, on the 23rd of November, during a City Commission meeting you proposed three candidates for consideration to the City Commission and Mayor for employment; one of those candidates was Brandy Sutherin and his name was submitted that night for approval as a reserve non paid police officer for the City of Oak Hill, is that correct? Chief Young answered, "Yes". Bisland further stated, and that was in your words; upon their acceptable background investigation, which will be reviewed by the head of our department, identified as the Mayor Darla Lauer is that correct? Young answered, "Yes". Bisland continued, OK so that's the 23rd of November, the City Commission and Mayor unanimously vote for approval of hiring Sutherin upon your recommendation and sign resolution 2009-30.

them pushed through. They were actually, both Brandy and Robert were sworn in on December 18th at lunch time; the Mayor came by and swore them in. It was on that day that I was trying to wrap up getting the two new officers on the road. So they were sworn-in. I did the ATMS entries and then I got out my list of the stuff that I need to fax to Kathy at FDLE. Bisland stated, OK that's the FDLE required materials? Chief Young continued, "Required documents that when you hire a new officer that's what you fax in. I got out the list and started reviewing or putting together all of their, which I have a section in their notebooks that says FDLE requirements, so it's usually all right in line. Except their medical, their polygraph and their credit check and the drug test is in an envelope in the back of the binder, because that's stuff that we put in the confidential file.

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Bisland continued, you mentioned that the County backed out of doing the CVSA's pre-employment for those two candidates but you did have polygraph's done and those polygraph results were done prior to the 18th when they were sworn in, those were completed at that point and time? Young, "I have to open up, I'm not positive of that day

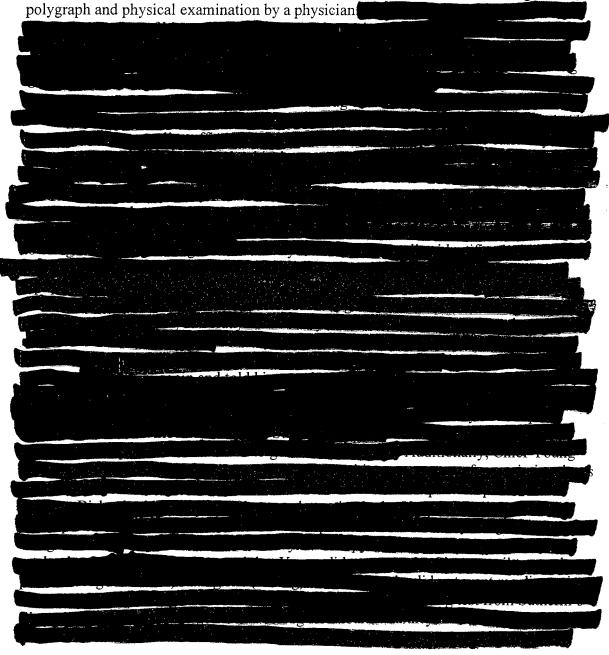
Bisland asked, are you aware of any performance issues or complaints about his (Sutherin) performance from the time he got sworn in until the point and time he became in January of 2010.

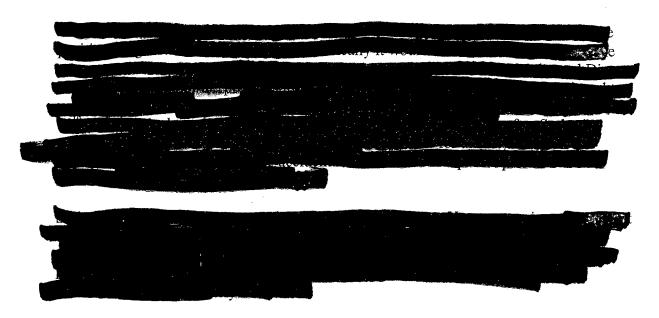
everyone said he's doing great, he seemed to be doing great. His FTO reports were great. I spent time with him because if he was here and I was here I would go to his calls; watch how he handled calls, everything looked good.

Bisland stated OK very good, I don't have any other questions, is there anything else you'd like to offer at this time as it relates to this? Chief Young stated, "No other than uhmmm no there isn't anything else, I think I've laid it all out

Bisland, "Ok Chier, thank you the time is 11:37am. This concluded the interview. A CD of this recorded interview will be maintained as evidence.

On August 25th, at approximately 10:15 am Inv. Bisland interviewed former Oak Hill Police Officer Brandy Sutherin. Sutherin was sworn and acknowledged that the interview was both part of a criminal investigation and voluntary. Inv. Bisland asked Mr. Sutherin to provide a chronology or summary of this employment with Oak Hill Police Department. Sutherin advised that he applied for the position on September 9th, 2009. Sutherin was hired as a reserve non paid police officer and sworn in on December 18th, 2009 and then a part time paid position on January 25th, 2010 and full time on March 22nd, 2010. Brandt Sutherin resigned effective May 14thth, 2010. In response to Inv. Bisland's questions Brandy Sutherin reported that Diane Young conducted a preemployment background investigation of him. That background investigation according to Sutherin included contacting prior employers, a neighborhood canvass, drug screen,





A CD of this recorded interview will be maintained as evidence.

An invitation to be interviewed or provide a statement was given to Sgt. Mike Inhken through his attorney, Mr. Kip Miller and was declined.

CONCLUSIONS:

Allegations:

- (1) Official Misconduct, in violation of F.S.S. 838.022, by Oak Hill Police Of Michael Ihnken for taking online training and tests on behalf of other officers: Probable cause exists to believe that Officer Mike Ihnken, a public servant, unlawfully and with corrupt intent to obtained a benefit for persons or caused harm to another by falsifying an official record or document. This is based as sworn testimony of Robert Walker, Guy Grasso, Diane Young, Thad Smith and Brian Williams. Insufficient evidence and conflicting witness statements however render the case unlikely to prove beyond and to the exclusion of reasonable doubt.
- (2) Extortion in violation of F.S.S. 836.50 wherein it is alleged that Acting Chief Diane Young threatened to expose the fraudulent training and testing activities of Sgt. Mike Ihnken to FDLE if he failed to accept, without contention a demotion to Patrol Officer as punishment for other violations: Insufficient evidence exists to substantiate this allegation.
- (3) Making, Possessing, Placing or Discharging a Destructive Device in violation of F.S.S. 790.161 wherein it is alleged that Sgt. Mike Ihnken (OHPD), Sgt. Manuel Perez (OHPD) and Volusia County Sheriff's Deputy William Armstrong

possessed, made and discharged a destructive device composed of "The Works" toilet bowl cleaner and aluminum foil mixed in an empty two liter soda bottle circa November/December of 2009 on the side of US Hwy 1 in Oak Hill, Florida: Conflicting statements and Insufficient evidence exists to substantiate this allegation.

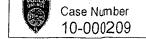
(4) Official Misconduct in violation of F.S.S. 838.022 wherein it is alleged Chief of Police Diane Young concealed and covered up

from the Mayor and City Commission: Insufficient evidence exists to substantiate this allegation.

The statements, evidence and facts of this investigation were reviewed and staffed and a determination of non-prosecution was concluded. This investigation is closed.

_ - Domestic Violence

OAK HILL POLICE DEPARTMEN



Incident Report

Incident / Crime: Police Information			Location of Incident: 217 S. US HWY 1 Oak Hill, FL. 3						FL. 32759			
838.022		Report Date: 07/03/10	1	& Time			Hour	Day	Montl	Date	Year	
		Report Time: 1129	of Inc	cident	At		129	SAT	07	03	2010	
		Codes: V=Victim R=Repor	ting Per	son W=	Witness	D=D				_		
	Name, Home Address Robert F. Walker -			R S DOB W M 01/22/62				i i	me Phone	()		
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Page 1 of 2

OAK HILL POLICE DEPARTMENT

Continuation

Incident Type: Police Information Case Number: 10-000209

Narrative:

Walker stated that G. Grasso stated that he had no knowledge of the certificates or what had transpired at that time.

Walker stated that he then approached Ofc. Young who is now Chief Young and asked her about the incident. Walker said that Ofc. Young allegedly knew about the incident and allegedly stated that Sgt. M. Ihnken took the test for him and she observed him doing so.

I asked Walker why he wished to file a report at this time and he stated that it was the right thing to do.

Walker further stated that he has already informed FDLE and the State Attorney's Office of the matter who will be looking for an investigative report by the Oak Hill Police Dept.

Walker stated that he wished to File and sign for criminal charges against Officer Michael Ihnken for Official Misconduct.

Walker then completed and signed a "sworn written statement". Walker also provided copies of the FDLE certificates of completion and a computer printed statement which he signed.

Walker stated that he will be waiting for the Oak Hill Police to provide him with a charging affidavit to sign and forward it to the State Attorneys Office as soon as possible.

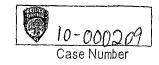
I immediately notified Chief D. Young of the report and she then gave me permission to speak directly to her about said report.

Case has been forwarded to Chief D. Young and is pending further investigation and/or complaint affidavit.

NOI.

Reporting Off	îcer	Reporting Officer	I.D. #	Date
(Print)	Officer B. Riley	(Sign) Of C B. OLDER	1217	07/03/10
Approved By:		Approved By	I.D. #	Date
(Print)	Sgt. M. Perez	(Sign) M-A.	1220	07/03/10

VICTIM / WITNESS STATEMENT



Write in 1st Person ONLY

Official Misconduct ADDRESS	NAME OF PERSON SIGNING Robert F. Walker							
- 「「「「」」、「「」」、「「」」、「「」」、「」、「」、「」、「」、「」、「」、								
AGE BIRTH DATE HOMEPHONE 48 01/22/62	EMPLOYED AT/SCHOOL ATTENDS Solf employed							
AGE BIRTH DATE HOMEPHONE 48 01/22/62 STATEMENT TAKEN AX 0 a K H-11 DATE - 07/03/10	TIME READ RIGHTS YES NO Initial:							
	reely and voluntarily, make the following statement:							
Please see a Hacked sta	tement (2 pages)							
FDLE has been notified								
by phone.	as been notified in person and							
Copies of affached certification tests have been provided to the State Attorneys office.								
a complaint affadavit	e I am requesting to sign for the offense of Official 3.022.							
Miscorduet F.S.S. 838	3.022.							
I Will ASSIST in Prosecution:	I wish for NO Prosecution at this time:							
I SWEAR AND AFFIRM THE ABOVE STATEMENTS ARE TRUE AND CORRECT.	SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS							
Holit F. Walle	Srd DAY OF July, 2010 OFC. B. Orley # 1217							
SIGNATURE	NOTARY PUBLIC/LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER							

Page ____ of ___

During the month of May, 2009 I approached Chief Guy Grasso of the Oak Hill Police Department and advised him that I was in need of mandatory retraining and that my deadline for said 40 hour mandatory was drawing close. Chief Grasso advised that he would get with Sgt. Ihnken, who handled the Department's in house training, and would have him set up training for those who needed it within the department.

Days later I entered into the Oak Hill Police Department and found three (3) printed certificates from FDLE with my name on the certificates (Domestic Violence-Juvenile sex offenders -Discriminatory Traffic Stops/Profiling). I never took these tests on line or at any time. I never asked anyone to take these tests for me.

At this time I approached Chief Grasso and advised him that I was quite upset by these circumstances. Chief Grasso who was seated in his office advised that he had no knowledge of the tests being taken by another. Chief Grasso advised that he would look into the matter.

I then approached Officer Diane Young and asked her if she had knowledge of these activities as I saw notes on the certificates that I believed to be her handwriting. Officer Young advised that she knew what had transpired and was present when Sgt. Ihnken took the tests in my name. Officer Young stated that she did not want to make a big deal out of it because Sgt. Ihnken had taken the tests for another officer. She then named part time Officer Thad Smith as being another officer for whom Sgt. Ihnken took tests for under the FDLE website.

I told Officer Young that I was extremely unhappy with this incident and that it cast both myself and the Department in a bad light. I also mentioned that because of Sgt. Ihnken's

RFW PS 10F2

actions that the potential for decertification of both myself and Thad Smith loomed in the future.

On October 27th of 2009 I resigned from the Oak Hill Police Department while in the position of acting Chief of Police. Diane Young eventually became the Chief several months later. Sgt. Ihnken at the time was being investigated by FDLE for theft allegations and had been placed on administrative leave with pay.

After the FDLE investigation wrapped up with an inconclusive finding, Chief Young contacted me via phone. She advised me that the Department had no Internal Affairs officer and that she doubted that she could do one herself. She told me that she wanted to fire Sqt. Ihnken for numerous offenses but wasn't sure how to go about it. She asked for my advice. I advised her that she had actually witnessed Sqt. Ihnken falsify documents by logging onto the FDLE site where he took multiple training courses under multiple names. I told her that she should take action upon this. Chief Young advised that she was not willing to do this because it could possibly jeopardize the certification/standing of several officers myself included. I told Chief Young that it was the right thing to do and that if I was decertified as a result I could live with it. Chief Young replied that she was not going to report the incident and that she didn't want to jeopardize Thad Smith's certification or standing in the department.

Chief Young returned Mike Ihnken back to work at OHPD shortly thereafter having full knowledge of what had transpired.

Robert F. Walker

Holut F. Walle

07/03/10

ps 2 of 2

7th. Judicial Circuit 707 Charging Affidavit - Volusia	Arrest#	_	Bk#	<u></u>		Pg #1 of	-		
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	Agency					Number: Agency Case			
	Name:		UCR:	Date	Number:	Time of			
	2#	Arrested:			Arrest:				
ADDRESS OF ARREST: Name Name			Ву:			Number:	D		
DEFENDANT (L,F,M): In n Ken	Michael -	T	A.K.A.:	Year		Sex: M	Race: W		
DOB: 9-29-73 Age: 3/ ID No.:	Fyec	POB	State: FL.	Expires: 2		S.S. #	Statement:		
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Probation: Yes No Probation: Sexual Predator:	Yes 🗆 No 🗗	English:	Yes 🗗 N		Deaf/Mut		s 🗆 No 🗗		
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Address-Other(Employer/School) (STREET, APT. N	UMBER)	(CI	ſŸ)	(STATE)	ZIPCOI	DE BUS/SO	CHOOL PHONE		
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#2 Charge: FEI	MISD ORD	FS/QRD:	<u> </u>	Citation No.	:	Bond:			
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#2 NAME(L,F,M):				Race:	Sex:	DOB:	Age:		
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Notary Public	Robert Formate Number	Weilker	ID NUM	BER					
OFFICIAL ODE CINET	& facility:		•			1			



Diane C. Young Chief of Police

POLICE DEPARTMENT

City 6, Dak Hill

234 SOUTH U.S. HIGHWAY 1, OAK HILL, FL 32759 386-345-3621 • FAX 386-345-2949 • DISPATCH 423-3888

July 6, 2010

Mr. Robert Walker

Mr. Walker,

This letter is to advise you that I am in receipt of your complaint against an officer of the Oak Hill Police Department and your request to file criminal charges. I have forwarded this complaint to FDLE and to the State Attorney's Office.

I have been advised by the SAO to inform you that due to the nature of the complaint and the subjects involved, that FDLE would be the agency to investigate the complaint and for you to contact FDLE for further action.

Please be advised that The Oak Hill Police Department will respond to calls and continue to provide service to your business located within the City of Oak Hill, in a professional manner. However, per department policy, officers shall not discuss any police business not related to the police matter they are addressing. I would appreciate your cooperation in this matter and request that you refrain from contacting individual officers for questioning in reference to your complaint.

Sincerely,

Chief Diane Young

cc: Virginia Haas, Oak Hill City Administrator

COPY