



CITY OF NEW HAVEN
DEPARTMENT OF POLICE SERVICE
INTERNAL AFFAIRS UNIT
ONE UNION AVENUE | NEW HAVEN, CONN. | 06519

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newhavenct.gov

CASE CLOSURE SUMMARIES: May 2024

IA Case Number: 23C-015
Date Received: March 3, 2023
Complainant: "Mr. Mattera"
Incident District: 3
Officer(s): Trevor Canace
Date Closed: April 9, 2024
Disposition: Sustained

New Haven Police Officers responded to 98 Union Avenue, Union Station, to assist MTA officers. Upon arrival MTA officers were attempting to effect an arrest on an individual who was pulling away from them. NHPD officers assisted and were finally able to handcuff the arrestee. During this incident there were two individuals, within close proximity, who were shouting and recording with their phones. These two individuals were given commands by officers to back up. One individual complied while the other, Mr. Mattera, remained. Officer. Canace, after continuing to give verbal commands to Mr. Mattera, lightly pushed him. Mr. Mattera fell to the ground in a "dramatic fashion" and claimed he was injured. Medical assistance was offered, and AMR was called. Mr. Mattera refused medical assistance on scene. On March 3, 2024, Mr. Mattera left a voice message, at Mayor Elicker's office, stating his rights were violated by officers. The message was forwarded to the Internal Affairs and a civilian complaint was made to Internal affairs, by Mr. Mattera, on March 4, 2023. In his civilian complaint Mr. Mattera stated he was assaulted and shoved to the ground by Officer Canace. The investigation, which included the review of all reports, body worn camera footage and interviews determined that the use of force used was in violation of *General Order 6.01 Use of Force*. Officer Canace did not properly attempt to de-escalate the situation and his actions led to the need to use force. The investigation determined by preponderance of evidence that misconduct or malfeasance complained of occurred therefore, this complaint was **sustained**.

IA Case Number: 23C-041
Date Received: June 13, 2023
Complainant: Marlowe Huff
Incident District: 6
Officer(s): Robert Hayden, M. Williams
Date Closed: April 4, 2024
Disposition: Not Sustained

On June 13, 2024, the Office of Internal Affairs received a civilian complaint from Marlowe Huff. Mr. Huff stated he was pulled over by Officer Hayden for turning down Charles St. He added that he felt Officer Hayden was harassing him since he had stopped him on other occasions for no reason. He also added that Officer Williams was rude. The investigation, which included a review of all reports, body worn camera footage and interviews showed Officers Hayden and Williams pulled Mr. Huff over

for traveling the wrong way on a one-way street. Mr. Huff was argumentative and uncooperative with the officers, telling Officer Hayden that he cannot tell him what to do. Mr. Huff is given the handed the infraction for the motor vehicle violation he committed. There were no previously documented complaints or interactions between Officer Hayden and Mr. Huff. The investigation was unable to determine by preponderance of evidence whether or not the misconduct or malfeasance complained of occurred therefore this complaint was **not sustained**.

IA Case Number: 23C-033
Date Received: June 3, 2023
Complainant: Sye Lipscomb
Incident District: 2
Officer(s): Michael Valente
Date Closed: April 4, 2024
Disposition: Exonerated

On January 6, 2019, New Haven Police Officers responded to a burglary complaint at 908whalley Avenue, the Racquet Koop. Police conducted an investigation which led to the arrest of Sye Lipscomb. On June 3, 2023, the Office of Internal Affairs received a civilian complaint form from Mr. Lipscomb. Mr. Lipscomb stated he was falsely imprisoned and claimed racial bias. The investigation, which included the review of reports, body camera footage and interviews, showed that officers conducted their investigation and were able to establish probable cause for the arrest. There was no evidence of any racial bias. The investigation determined by a preponderance of the evidence that the alleged act did occur, but the officer engaged in no misconduct because, the act was lawful, justified, and proper, therefore, the officer was **exonerated**.

IA Case Number: 24C-010
Date Received: January 8, 2024
Complainant: Erick Dundy
Incident District: 4
Officer(s): Christopher Nguyen
Date Closed: April 25, 2024
Disposition: Unfounded

New Have Police Officers were dispatched to an address in this city for a domestic dispute. Upon arrival officers observed Erick Dundy, in the doorway, yelling and attempting to go up the stairs. Mr. Dundy appeared to be intoxicated and was agitated. Officers questioned Mr. Dundy regarding the incident. Officers conducted an investigation and arrested Dundy for Breach of Peace. On January 9, 2024, Mr. Dundy filed a civilian complaint with the Office of Internal Affairs. Mr. Dundy stated Officer C. Nguyen wrongfully arrested him and “went above and beyond to distort the story.” The investigation, which included the review of reports, body camera footage and interviews, showed the officers were able to establish probable cause for the arrest. The body camera footage was consistent with what was documented in Officer Nguyen’s report. The investigation determined by a preponderance of evidence that the misconduct of malfeasance complained of did not occur, therefore, this complaint was **unfounded**.
