

SHERIFF

KING COUNTY

KING COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
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Susan L. Rahr
Sheriff

October 5, 2007

Mr. James Keller

15
[REDACTED]

RE: Findings in IIU Files 2006-085 and 2007-032

Dear Mr. Keller;

The Internal Investigations Unit recently concluded two cases where misconduct allegations were made against you during the time you were employed as a King County Sheriff's Deputy. Chief Robin Fenton has concluded her review of these matters and sustained several of the allegations. Specifically, the sustained findings were;

2006-085

GOM 3.00.020 (3) Appropriate Use of Authority
GOM 3.00.020 (1) (d) Performance Standards

2007-032

GOM 3.00.015 (1) (a) Making False or Fraudulent Reports or Statements

While you are not entitled to a traditional Loudermill Hearing, as you are no longer an employee, you will be afforded an opportunity to respond to the findings. Your response can be in writing or in person if that is your desire. Should you choose to schedule a meeting with the Sheriff, please call me at 206 205-8202 prior to October 30, 2007.

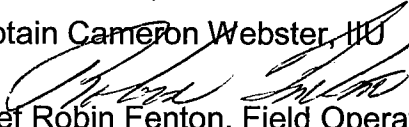
Sincerely,



Captain Cameron K. Webster
King County Sheriff's Office
Internal Investigations Unit
(206) 296-4200



Memorandum

Date: September 26, 2007
To: Captain Cameron Webster, IIU **Via:** Direct
From:  Chief Robin Fenton, Field Operations Division
Re: IIU Files 2006-085, 2007-002 and 2207-032

This memorandum is to bring to your attention that I have thoroughly reviewed IIU Files 2006-085, 2007-002 and 2007-032. These files all involve allegations against Deputy James Keller and James Schrimpsher.

IIU File 2006-085

Allegations I and II stem from Keller and Schrimpsher's contact with Anthony Alvarez on 12/27/06. Sgt. Corey recommends Sustained findings for both deputies for;
GOM 3.00.020 (3) Appropriate Use of Authority
GOM 3.00.020 (1) (d) Performance Standards

I do not concur with Sgt. Corey's recommendations on Allegations I and II and find these allegations Non-Sustained for both James Keller and James Schrimpsher.

Allegations III and IV stem from Keller and Schrimpsher's contact with Luke Bulyca on 12/27/06. Sgt. Corey recommends Sustained findings for both deputies for;
GOM 3.00.020 (3) Appropriate Use of Authority
GOM 3.00.020 (1) (d) Performance Standards

I concur with the Sustained findings recommendations for both James Keller and James Schrimpsher.

These Sustained findings are based on the fact that Deputies Keller and Schrimpsher inappropriately detained Luke Bulyca for approximately thirty minutes on a non-extraditable warrant. Luke Bulyca was handcuffed and in the back of a patrol car while they conducted business on two other situations. It is the responsibility of both deputies, equally, to be conscientious of the amount of time a person is detained in the back seat of a patrol car under these circumstances.

Allegations V and VI stem from Keller and Schrimpsher's contact with Brandy Goldsberry on 12/27/06. Sgt. Corey recommends Non-Sustained findings for both deputies for:
GOM 3.00.020 (3) Appropriate Use of Authority
GOM 3.00.020 (1) (d) Performance Standards

I concur with these recommendations.

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Allegation VII;

GOM 3.00.015 (1) (a) Making False or Fraudulent Reports or Statements.

Sgt. Corey, based on his investigation and his interviews with Keller and Schrimpsher, recommends Sustained findings for both deputies on this allegation, in this case.

For Deputy James Keller, I do not concur and find this allegation Non-Sustained.

For Deputy James Schrimpsher I do concur. My finding is based solely on my belief that Deputy Schrimpsher was dishonest in his IIU interviews regarding the phone contact he claims to have had with and the information he claimed to have received from Deputy Charles Douglas.

IIU File 2007-032:

Allegation I:

GOM 3.00.015 (1) (a) Making False or Fraudulent Reports or Statements.

Under the "Recommendations" section of his Follow Up on this case, Sgt. Corey lists three bullet points regarding this allegation against Deputy James Keller. Sgt. Corey recommends Sustained findings for all three bullet points.

I do not concur with Sgt. Corey on bullet point one related to Deputy Keller's knowledge of the late afternoon/early evening phone calls to the Selover / Goodvoice cell phone and find this portion of the allegation Non-Sustained.

I do concur with St. Corey's recommendation of Sustained on bullet points two and three, regarding both Keller's assertion that the total time Brandy Goldsberry was detained was "less than an hour" and for his written description of the events leading to Brandon Selover's arrest in a FIR that Deputy Keller wrote under 06-386073.

With regards to Deputy James Schrimpsher and this allegation, Sgt. Corey lists six bullet points and recommends Sustained for all six. I have Sustained only bullet point one related to Schrimpsher's assertion that the length of Brandy Goldsberry detention was "long enough to give her a ride to Aurora... 30 minutes"

I do not concur with Sgt. Corey's recommendation of Sustained findings for bullet points two through six on this issue for Deputy Schrimpsher.

Allegations II and III

GOM 3.00.020 (3) Appropriate Use of Authority

T.B. 9.21.200 Drugs, Money and Other Property

Sgt. Corey recommends Sustained findings for both Keller and Schrimpsher on these allegations.

I do not concur with Sgt. Corey's recommended findings for these allegations and find these allegations Non-Sustained for both Deputy Keller and Deputy Schrimpsher. There is insufficient evidence to prove that either deputy took narcotics from Goodvoice or that either deputy handed narcotics over to Brandy Goldsberry.

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IIU File 2007-002:

It should be noted that this file includes allegations against Deputy Schrimpsheer only.

Allegation I:

GOM 3.00.020 (3) Appropriate Use of Authority
Sgt. Mullinax recommends a finding of Non – Sustained. I concur.

Allegation II:

GOM 3.00.020 (1) (d) Acts in Violation of Sheriff's Office directives, rules, policies or procedures as set out in this manual, the training bulletins or elsewhere (in this case T.B. 9.01.020 specifically)

Sgt. Mullinax recommends a finding of Sustained. I concur. Deputy Schrimpsheer has a responsibility to ensure and verify that the information he is receiving from another source is confirmed prior to the handcuffing, detaining, searching and vehicle search incident to an arrest.

It is now in conclusion that I make the following recommendations:

I have Sustained three specific misconduct allegations against Deputy James Keller. The thirty minute detaining of Luke Bulyca, the fraudulent FIR that was written describing the arrest of Brandon Selover and the dishonesty regarding the detention time for Brandy Goldsberry. As Deputy Keller voluntarily separated from this department June 13, 2007, I make no disciplinary recommendation.

For Deputy James Schrimpsheer, I have Sustained the allegations regarding the thirty minute detaining of Luke Bulyca, the making false statements about a conversation he had with Charles Douglas, the allegation regarding the length of time that Brandy Goldsberry was in custody and the allegation regarding the inappropriate use of authority in which he detained, handcuffed and searched the vehicle that Eric Ellis was in.

Based upon these sustained findings, Deputy Schrimpsheer's prior IIU file and the Department's past practice in the area of these allegations with regards to discipline I recommend that his employment be terminated.