



Conserving the Peace Through Values Driven Service Sheriff Pat Garrett

PRESS RELEASE

Deputy Suspended after Making Unprofessional Comments

October 13, 2014.

Deputy Chris Gilderson was acting in his official capacity as a Deputy Sheriff when he arrested Mr. Abdiwali Hussein on December 31, 2013, for Second Degree Theft and Supplying Alcohol to a Minor.

On February 11, 2014, Mr. Hussein met with a Sheriff's Office supervisor to make a complaint about his treatment during the arrest. Mr. Hussein reported that after his arrest on December 31, 2013, while being driven to the Washington County jail, Deputy Gilderson reportedly engaged in a verbal altercation and made unprofessional comments. He also alleged that Deputy Gilderson punched him in the face.

Due to allegations of criminal conduct, Sheriff Pat Garrett requested an outside law enforcement agency investigation. It is common practice in cases involving possible criminal complaints concerning employees to have another agency complete the investigation. Beaverton Police Department Detectives investigated the case.

Deputy Gilderson was placed on paid administrative leave until the external agency and internal investigations were complete, which is standard procedure.

Beaverton Police Detectives presented their findings to the Washington County District Attorney. The case was referred to the Clackamas County District Attorney for review since Deputy Gilderson has served the county for more than 13 years and is known to local prosecutors.

The Clackamas County District Attorney's Office spent about two weeks reviewing the criminal investigation. On April 2, 2014, Sheriff Garrett received a statement and letter from Clackamas County Sr. Deputy District Attorney Michael Regan stating the Beaverton Police report was "comprehensive and thorough." He also stated, "It is evident from my review of this investigation that Deputy Gilderson engaged in unprofessional conduct toward a citizen. I do not find sufficient proof that the officer's conduct caused either "offensive physical contact" or a "physical injury" to support a criminal charge of harassment or assault. I find no evidence of any other crimes."

Upon receiving the findings from the Clackamas County District Attorney's Office, Sheriff Garrett ordered an internal investigation. Supporting documents are attached. The Sheriff's Office encourages review of the documents and findings used to assist Sheriff Garrett with his decision.

Sheriff Garrett suspended Deputy Gilderson for several weeks without pay. Deputy Gilderson had no previous disciplinary history with the Washington County Sheriff's Office.

Following the investigation, Sheriff Garrett personally met with Mr. Hussein and apologized for Deputy Gilderson's behavior. We are grateful Mr. Hussein had the confidence to bring this complaint directly to us and know that we would ensure a thorough investigation.

Attachments: <u>Gilderson-Beaverton Police Reports.pdf</u> <u>Gilderson-Clackamas County DDA Memo.pdf</u> <u>Gilderson-Discipline Letter.pdf</u> <u>Gilderson-WCPOA Grievance.pdf</u> <u>Gilderson-Grievance Response.pdf</u>