COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO

Inter-Department Correspondence

SCOTT R. JONES
Sheriff

Date: June 6, 2016

To: LIEUTENANT LISA GAYMAN
Professional Standards Division

From: SERGEANT MARCUS GREGORY
Professional Standards Division

Subject: INTERVIEW WITH MATTHEW WHITE, 2016PSB-158

Today is Tuesday, May 31, 2016 and the time is 1820 hours. I'm Sergeant Marcus Gregory of the Sacramento Sheriff's Department Professional Standards Division. With me is Sergeant Mike Abbott, also from the Professional Standards Division. We are at the Division Office located at 711 G Street, Sacramento, California. Present today is Deputy Matt White. Deputy White has declined to have any representation during this interview.

GREGORY: Is that correct?

WHITE: Yes.

GREGORY: This interview is regarding investigation 2016PSB-158 where it is alleged that Deputy Matthew White was arrested by the California Highway Patrol for driving under the influence of an alcoholic beverage and subsequently booked into the Sacramento County Main Jail on April 16, 2016. Deputy White's actions and conduct was of such nature to cause discredit to the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department. Prior to going on tape I gave Deputy White a Lybarger Warning explaining his Miranda Rights. Deputy White has invoked his Miranda Rights and has been ordered to make a truthful statement regarding this investigation. He has read and signed the Lybarger Warning. Deputy White, you are advised this investigation is confidential. You are hereby instructed not to discuss the substance of the investigation, nor any questions or answers presented during the course of this interview with anyone with the exception of your representative or attorney pending the conclusion of the investigation. Do you understand this conversation is being recorded?

WHITE: Yes sir.

GREGORY: Before we start would you please say your full name and spell your first and last name.

WHITE: It's Matthew Lawrence White, M-A-T-T-H-E-W, White like the color, W-H-I-T-E.

GREGORY: By who are you employed?

WHITE: The Sacramento County Sheriff's Department.

GREGORY: For how long?

WHITE: Approximately 12 years.

GREGORY: What is your current position with the department?

WHITE: Deputy Sheriff at the, ah, Sacramento County, ah, Airport.

GREGORY: How long have you been assigned out there?

WHITE: Three and a half years.

GREGORY: Did you have an opportunity to read the California Highway Patrol report I provided you, CA37111?

WHITE: Yes I did.

GREGORY: Were there any discrepancies or corrections that you would like to address in that report?

WHITE: Ah, no.

GREGORY: Were you traveling northbound State Route 99 on April 16, 2016, at approximately 2:30 in the morning?

WHITE: Yes I was.

GREGORY: Were you subsequently pulled over around that time by a member of the California Highway Patrol?

WHITE: Yes I was.

GREGORY: After being pulled over did you advise the officer that you were a Sacramento County Sheriff's Deputy?

WHITE: Yes I did.

GREGORY: Why did you advise him you were a Deputy?

WHITE: Um, I was afraid of, ah, ah, unfair treatment or being, ah, arrested.

GREGORY: Is it correct you did not have your license on your person that morning?

WHITE: Ah, that is true.

GREGORY: Was that part of the reason for telling him you were a Deputy?

WHITE: I, ah, prior to…I think two weeks prior to that I lost my, ah, Sheriff's I.D. along…my…my whole wallet was lost and I submitted a…a Info Report just a day or two before this. That's the reason I didn't have a driver's license on me.

GREGORY: Were you in possession of your duty weapon when you got pulled over?

WHITE: I was not.

GREGORY: Do you recall what you had to drink that evening?

WHITE: Ah, to the best of my knowledge I know I had, ah, ah, two, um, Miller beers and I think three to four shots of Jim Beam throughout the course of the night.

GREGORY: Do you recall what time you started drinking that night?

WHITE: Um, I know it was later. I would probably estimate it the first beer was probably around a quarter to 12 and I took three shots prior to leaving, which would have been I believe, ah, estimated around 1:30.

GREGORY: Where were you coming from?

WHITE: I don't re…remember the name of the bar actually, but I know it's from Stockton. If I think hard enough I can think of it, but now I don't know.

GREGORY: Did you ask Officer Fuhrman or his partner, Officer Stahr, if you could just call a ride?

WHITE: Yes I did.

GREGORY: Were you looking for consideration based on your peace officer status when you asked them that?

WHITE: No, just as a citizen I was trying to avoid a driving under the influence arrest.

GREGORY: Do you believe that based on your peace officer status that that put the CHP Officers in an uncomfortable position?

WHITE: I can, ah, guess that it probably did. I don't know for sure, but they were very, ah, professional and, ah, throughout the, ah, encounter.

GREGORY: It mentioned in the report that you stated you thought you were gonna get fired. Is that the case?

WHITE: I did, yeah.

GREGORY: Did the officer conduct Field Sobriety Tests on you?

WHITE: Yes.

GREGORY: Did he tell you whether or not you passed those tests?

WHITE: Ah, I…I don't believe he ever informed me that I failed them, but given the current position we're in I assumed that I failed them poorly.

GREGORY: The officers subsequently arrested you and transported you to the Sacramento County Jail to conduct a breathalyzer examine on you, is that correct?

WHITE: Yes sir.

GREGORY: Were you booked into jail that night?

WHITE: Yes I was.

GREGORY: What is the current status of your court case related to this arrest?

WHITE: Um, you know, I…I spoke with the, ah, lawyer. I paid him his fees, um, I know that it's going through the process. I…I don't think it's complete. I know the DMV hearing was not done and then for the actual court case I'm…I'm unaware what the status is right now.

GREGORY: Do you currently have a valid driver's license?

WHITE: I, ah, I do…I do. It's…I just received one today in the mail. Ah, picture I.D. and everything. It said, ah, subject to, ah, being surrendered upon the, ah, completion of the investigation per DMV.

GREGORY: Prior to this interview I provided you with a copy of the Sacramento Sheriff's Department Vision, Mission and Values. Upon reviewing that document do you believe the arrest was good ethical behavior?

WHITE: I'm sorry, can you say that one more time for me.

GREGORY: After reviewing the Vision, Mission and Values there, do you believe your arrest was good ethical behavior?

WHITE: On my part, no.

GREGORY: Have you taken any steps in correcting your behavior since the incident?

WHITE: Um, yes I have. Um, the, ah, irony of it all is, ah, I've…I've been well aware for the last couple of years that, ah, alcohol has been a little bit of a problem in my life and, ah, in September I was introduced to Alcohol Anonymous and I've attended there and I've been off again, on again and then, ah, I was 45 days sober prior to this arrest and had not touched alcohol and, ah, ah, and since this arrest I've gone right back, I have a sponsor and back to the program and, ah, I met with my, ah, Lieutenant and, ah, at the Airport. I expressed my disappointment in myself and, ah, I'm taking it from there and of course, ah, ah, I have abstained from alcohol since.

ABBOTT: Obviously part of this case will go up to be reviewed by your commanders and the chiefs. Is there anything that you would like to add on your own behalf?

WHITE: Absolutely, yeah, thank you for, ah, asking me. Ah, I think that the two things that, ah, stick, ah, there's a handful of things that really stick out to me and most sincerely I say, ah, how humbled I've been by this overall experience and regardless of what happens, as far as discipline goes, I mean, the, ah, DMV, courts, down to my appointment, the part that hurts me the most is my own personal pride. I can truly say with astonishment, ah, how embarrassed I was to be booked into the Main Jail and to have this a stigma of going through that and I'm the first to, ah, recognize the values that our department has, but, ah, and I, ah, I…I, ah, tend to, ah, concur with these values 'cause that's how I want to conduct my own personal life and that's how I want to be, so just as damaging as it's been to the department, it's been to myself and I can't reiterate the humbleness that I feel overall and in…in the course of that they…I think the one thing I really need to do is obviously come clean and be honest about alcohol is a problem in my life. That's

embarrassing to say, but also I tend to be the hero of my own story and move on and try to, ah, I mean, as we were talking before about the number of alcohol related incidents that we have as a department I hope to be somewhat of a contributor to…to that and would hope to…that my supervisors would put me in a position that they can count on me again to help to attempt that is all that I would hope to say.

GREGORY: Okay. The time is 1830 hours and that will conclude the interview.

(WHITE.158) tli