LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL
CF NO. 23-000735
COMMANDING OFFICER'S ADJUDICATION

ADJUDICATION

Department Complaint

Complaint Investigation, CF No. 23-000735, resulted in 5 allegations of misconduct against one Department employee:

Detective I Tommy Thompson — Hollenbeck Area
Serial No. 33086[1]

The allegations are listed below with a recommendation for classification and supporting rationale.

ALLEGATION 1. The Department alleges that on March 14, 2023, Detective Thompson, while on-duty, was involved in a hit and run traffic collision while operating a Department vehicle.

ALLEGATION 2. The Department alleges that on March 14, 2023, Detective Thompson, while on-duty, operated a Department vehicle while under the influence of alcoholic beverages resulting in his arrest.

ALLEGATION 3. The Department alleges that on March 14, 2023, Detective Thompson, while on-duty, failed to notify a supervisor prior to leaving city limits in a Department vehicle.

CLASSIFICATION

It is recommended that Allegations 1-3 be classified as **SUSTAINED.**

RATIONALE

The investigation revealed that on March 14, 2023 at approximately 1203 hours, Detective Thompson, while on-duty, was driving a city owned vehicle when he was involved in a traffic collision in the City of Santa Clarita (Stevenson Ranch). Pursuant to the collision, Thompson drove off the freeway to a gas station parking lot. While in the lot, Thompson was involved in a secondary/separate traffic collision.

[1] At the time this Complaint Investigation was initiated, Detective Thompson was a Detective II assigned to Operations-Central Bureau, Central Bureau Homicide.

The California Highway Patrol (CHP) responded and began an investigation into the collisions. During their interview with Thompson, the investigating officer recognized signs and symptoms that Thompson was under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs. Additionally, the investigation revealed Thompson had essentially fled the scene of the first collision. As a result, Thompson was arrested for 23152 (g) CVC, DUI (drugs and alcohol) and 20002(a)(1) CVC, (Misdemeanor) Hit and Run.

The CHP investigation revealed that Thompson drove away from the location of his traffic collision to a secondary location, failing to stop and provide his information.

Thompson admitted to consuming alcohol and taking prescription medication Ambien the evening prior to being arrested. Additionally, Thompson submitted to a breath test upon his arrest, which revealed a .03% Blood Alcohol Content (BAC).

Thompson admitted he left the city limits to retrieve his cellular phone from his residence. Thompson explained the lack of notification or seeking approval for being outside city limits was because only lived a few miles outside city.

Based upon a review of the related reports completed by the CHP and Thompson's statements, there is evidence to support the allegations did in fact occur, as stated. It is therefore recommended that Allegations 1-3 be classified as **SUSTAINED.**

ALLEGATION 4. The Department alleges that on March 17, 2023, Detective Thompson, while on-duty, operated his privately-owned vehicle while under the influence of alcoholic beverages resulting in his arrest.

ALLEGATION 5. The Department alleges that on March 17, 2023, Detective Thompson, while on-duty, provided a false statement to an outside agency when Thompson stated he did not consume any alcoholic beverages prior to operating his personally-owned vehicle.

CLASSIFICATION

It is recommended that Allegations 4 and 5 be classified as **SUSTAINED.**

RATIONALE

On March 17, 2023, Thompson was involved in a traffic collision when he lost control of his privately-owned vehicle. Fortunately, there were no injuries as a result of the accident. This collision occurred while Thompson was assigned home due to his arrest for Driving Under the Influence (DUI) arrest just three days earlier. In this incident, the responding Los Angeles Sheriff's Department (LASD) Deputies conducted their investigation and observed Thompson to display objective symptoms of being under the influence of alcohol. This suspicion was confirmed upon Thompson's subsequent BAC results of 0.08 and 0.09 during the booking process.

In review of the Body Worn Camera (BWC) footage of the responding LASD Deputies and supervisor, Thompson's behavior, actions and conduct is questionable of being impaired. Based upon the traffic collision and DUI investigation, which was documented by Deputies, proved beyond any doubt Thompson was operating his personal vehicle while under the influence of alcohol.

Regarding Allegation No. 5, Thompson is depicted on BWC telling LASD Deputies that he had nothing to drink, when asked. Based upon their observations of Thompson, the Deputies formed the opinion Thompson had been drinking. Additionally, in his subsequent interview with Internal Affairs, Thompson admitted he had in fact consumed alcohol earlier in the day before driving his personal vehicle in celebration of Saint Patrick's Day.

Based upon the evidence presented in this case, inclusive of the LASD Deputies traffic and DUI investigation, the BAC test results and the BWC video footage related to Thompson's detention and arrest, it is recommended that Allegations 4-5 be classified as **SUSTAINED**.

ADMINISTRAIVE INSIGHT (Thompson, Tommy, Serial No. 33086)

DIGITAL IN-CAR VIDEO / BODY WORN VIDEO / AUDIO RECORDINGS

The digital recordings associated with this investigation, inclusive of the interviews of the accused employee and witnesses(s), were reviewed. Body Worn Video from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and any other captured recordings related to this investigation were also reviewed.

EMPLOYEE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Upon his first arrest for DUI, Thompson was directed to and met with both Behavioral Science Section (BSS) and the Department's Addiction Prevention Unit (APU). During his interview with Internal Affairs, Thompson took responsibility for his actions and demonstrated remorse for his arrests. Furthermore, Thompson admitted to having a substance abuse dependency and volunteered himself to be enrolled in a treatment center for his alcohol use.

Based on the totality of the investigation, Thompson is being directed to a Board of Rights with a recommendation for removal, therefore, there will be no further recommendation(s) for a development plan.

PENALTY

The Department's allegations against Detective Thompson are serious in nature. The investigation has proven Thompson was arrested twice for DUI, both incidents occurred while Thompson was on-duty. In both cases, Thompson was involved in traffic collisions, the cause for these collisions were (presumably) based on his impairment. Fortunately, there were no reported injuries in either instance. In his first arrest, Thompson was also charged with Misdemeanor Hit and Run by the CHP. Additionally, the investigation proved Thompson provided a false statement(s) during the investigation of his second DUI arrest when he told investigators he had nothing to drink.

Thompson's conduct and actions are cause for significant concern. Thompson's behavior is not commensurate of a tenured homicide Detective. His decision making, actions and conduct not only tarnishes Thompson's reputation as a Los Angeles Police Officer, but also reflects poorly on the Los Angeles Police Department.

It is recommended that Detective Thompson be directed to a Board of Rights with the proposed penalty of removal.

TRAINING ISSUES

This was an off-duty incident, so no training issues were noted.

WORKPLACE ISSUES

None

WORK/COMPLAINT HISTORY ANALYSIS

Detective Thompson's complaint history was reviewed via TEAMS II for any complaint patterns.

03-4780	Date: 10/13/2003	NOD	Actions Could be Different
03-4154	Date: 06/02/2003	PTC	Counseling
03-4428	Date: 11/15/2002	Unauthorized Tactics	Official Reprimand
02-2272	Date: 05/15/2002	Unbecoming Conduct	Other Judicial Review
00-1306	Date: 03/02/2000	NOD	Suspension (4 days)
00-0201	Date: 01/06/2000	Improper Remark	Not Resolved
99-3133	Date: 07/26/1999	Discourtesy	Not Resolved
98-4154	Date: 09/23/1998	Discourtesy	Not Resolved
98-1566	Date: 03/13/1998	Alcohol Related	Suspension (3 days)

DEMOTION/DOWNGRADE CONSIDERATIONS

On August 26, 2023, Thompson met with Lieutenant II Ryan Rabbett, Officer-in-Charge, Central Bureau Homicide, at which time was served with documents to downgrade him from the paygrade of Detective II to Detective I. Thompson was subsequently administratively transferred from Operations-Central Bureau to Hollenbeck Area.

RELIEF FROM DUTY CONSIDERATIONS

Thompson has been placed on Injured on Duty (IOD) status since July 2023. Relief from Duty will be considered once Thompson has been served with this investigation.

ACTIONS TAKEN

None

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Thompson be directed to a Board of Rights.

RESPONSE TO COMPLAINANT

N/A. This was a Department generated complaint.

This letter of transmittal was written by:

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Officer-in-Charge, Central Bureau Homicide
Operations-Central Bureau

APPROVED BY:

MICHAEL A. OREB, Deputy Chief
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