

Summary of Alleged Conduct

It is alleged that on May 14, 2023, Officer Garcia Blas was driving off-duty in his personal vehicle in St. Louis Park when a Police Officer Observed Garcia Blas make a left lane change across two lanes without signaling. The Officer conducted a traffic stop on Garcia Blas. The officer could smell the odor of an alcoholic beverage coming from inside the vehicle. The Officer also noticed that Garcia Blas also had slurred speech and admitted to having seven Miller Lights.

When Garcia Blas was asked to get out of the vehicle to conduct FSTs, Garcia stated, based on his knowledge from “his department” he was not going to do the SFST. The Officer asked Garcia where he worked and Garcia replied, the Minneapolis Police Department.

Garcia declined to do SFST or provide a portable breath test sample. Garcia was placed under arrest. Handcuffs were placed on Garcia, and he was placed into the back seat of the squad car. Garcia was read the breath advisory. Garcia stated that he wanted to talk to an attorney. The officer then started to drive towards Hopkins PD so that Garcia could contact an attorney.

During transport Garcia stated that he needed to vomit. The officer pulled over and Garcia attempted to vomit. After Garcia attempted to vomit, Garcia asked to go to the hospital. The Officer took Garcia to Methodist Hospital. Once at Methodist Hospital, the Officer wrote a search warrant for a blood or urine. The warrant was served, and a nurse collected a blood sample. Garcia was released at the hospital pending blood results. On June 8, 2023, Officer Malmstedt received the results of the blood draw. The results showed a .18 BAC in Garcia’s blood.

Garcia Blas was charged with:

#: 1Level: Gross Misdemeanor Status: COURT/PENDING Statute:169A.20.1(5)

Description: Traffic - DWI - Operate Motor Vehicle - Alcohol Offender Last Name:
Garcia First: Blas Middle: Del Villar DOB: 06-20-1997

#: 2Level: Gross Misdemeanor Status: COURT/PENDING Statute:
169A.26.1(a)Description: Traffic - DWI - Third-Degree Driving While Impaired
Offender Last Name: Garcia First: Blas Middle:
Del Villar DOB: 06-20-1997

On October 13, 2023 Garcia was convicted with: Traffic-DWI-Operate Motor
Vehicle Under Influence of Alcohol. Statute: 169A.20.1(1) A Misdemeanor.
Local Confinement: Agency: Hennepin County Workhouse - Adult Corrections
Term: 90 Days

Stay: 90 Days For 2 Yr

Local Confinement:

Agency: Hennepin County Workhouse - Adult Corrections

Term: 6 Days

Time To Serve: 6 Days

Serve As:

Sentence To Serve

Service - Adult:

Service - Adult:

Type: sentence to service

6 Days For 365 Days

In Lieu of Confinement: 6 Days

Start: 10/13/2023 Due: 10/12/2024

Monitoring - Adult:

Monitoring - Adult:

Type: Supervised probation

Agency: Hennepin County Community Corrections - Adult Field Services

Term of 2 Yr

10/13/2023 - 10/13/2025

Status: Active 10/13/2023

Condition - Adult:

Condition - Adult:

1. No driver license violations, 10/13/2023

2. No driving without insurance, 10/13/2023

3. No alcohol-related traffic offenses, 10/13/2023

4. No drug-related traffic offenses, 10/13/2023
5. No careless driving, 10/13/2023
6. No reckless driving, 10/13/2023
7. No same or similar, 10/13/2023
8. Complete Comprehensive Assessment, Provide verification to probation of defendants completion of a suitable chemical use assessment, recommendations and

VIP, 10/13/2023

Fees: (Grand Total: \$378.00)

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Fine Totals: \$300.00

Fine: \$300.00

Law Library Fees: \$3.00

Municipality Fines: \$300.00

Crim/Traffic Surcharge (once per case): \$75.00

Chemical Dependency Assessment (State Share): \$25.00 (Waived)

Level of Sentence:

Level of Sentence:

Convicted of a Misdemeanor

Garcia Blas has paid all his fines and has his driving privileges reinstated.

**IN RE:
THE MATTER OF**

THE CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS
(Minneapolis Police Department)

and

Expedited Disposition

**POLICE OFFICERS' FEDERATION
OF MINNEAPOLIS**
(Blas Garcia, Badge No. 1488)

This Expedited Disposition ("Agreement") is made and entered into by and between the City of Minneapolis ("City"), the Police Officers' Federation of Minneapolis ("Federation") and Officer Blas Garcia Badge No. 1488 ("Member").

RECITALS

- A. The City and the Federation are parties to a collective bargaining agreement ("Labor Agreement") that governs the relationship between them.
- B. The Member is employed by the City in its Police Department ("MPD").
- C. The Federation is the Member's sole and exclusive certified bargaining representative.
- D. On 05/14/2023, the Member engaged in conduct resulting in a violation of Policy MPD P&P 5-102 Code of Conduct. Officer Blas Garcia was stopped for a moving violation; Officer Blas Garcia declined SFST's and was eventually transported to the hospital where a blood draw was completed. He was released pending the results of the blood test. Ultimately, Officer Blas Garcia was charged with DWI after the blood test results confirmed his BAC was over the legal limit. On 10/13/2023 Officer Blas Garcia pled guilty to misdemeanor DWI.
- E. The discipline for the policy violation is baseline 80-hour suspension, pursuant to the MPD Discipline Matrix in effect at the time of the policy violation.

F. The Member wishes to admit to the violation and take responsibility.

G. By admitting to the violation and taking responsibility, the Member waives any statutory or contractual required investigation or process, including, but not limited to compelled statement(s), a discipline panel, and a Loudermill hearing.

H. The Federation, through this agreement, waives any right to grieve or otherwise challenge the discipline imposed for violation of Paragraph D.

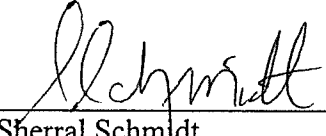
NOW THEREFORE, in recognition for the Member taking full responsibility for the Member's misconduct, the City, the Federation, and the Member agree as follows:

AGREEMENT

1. Based on the facts of the presented the member will serve an unpaid suspension of 50 hours.

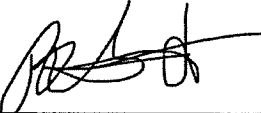
ACCEPTED AND AGREED TO:

FOR THE FEDERATION:


Sherral Schmidt
President, Police Officer's Federation

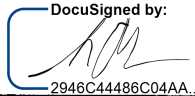
Date: 5/8/2024

FOR THE GRIEVANT:


Officer Blas Garcia
Minneapolis Police Department

Date: 05/08/24

FOR THE CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS

DocuSigned by:

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Brian O'Hara
Chief of Police

Date: 05/09/2024