

Amelia Huffman
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TO: Stephen McBride, Badge #4517
CC: Office of Police Conduct Review
DATE: August 21, 2022
RE: Administrative Case #21-01705

CHIEF'S DECISION:

- Discharge
- Suspension Duration: 10-hours
- Permanent Demotion
- Temporary Demotion, Duration: _____
- Written Reprimand
- No Merit

This memo summarizes my approach and reasoning for my decision as interim Chief of Police that the listed policy violation by Sgt. McBride is sustained. The memo accompanies the enclosed Notice of Discipline and Suspension Form.

Allegations:

Allegation #1

It is alleged that Sgt. McBride failed to review Officer Dylan Pearson's Body Worn Camera and failed to review all sworn employees' reports and supplements related to the use of force or injury incident for completeness and accuracy. 13.43

MPD P&P 5-301 (IV)(C)(2)

Use of Force – On-Duty Supervisor Responsibilities.

Summary of the Basis for Decision:

The facts noted in the case investigation support the conclusion that Sergeant McBride violated Minneapolis Police Department Policy 5-301 (IV)(C)(2). The Police Conduct Review Panel determined that there is merit to this allegation, and I concur with the panel recommendation.

Allegation #1

Incident #1 **13.**

- On November 4, 2020, Sgt. McBride was assigned as a supervisor on the Bicycle Rapid Response Team (BRRT), responding to a protest of approximately 500 people who entered Highway 94 near Riverside Av.
- BRRT was asked to move the crowd to the west, and many of the protestors refused to move, grabbed officer's bicycles and a bottle was thrown at officers.
- The MDHR alleged that MPD officers used their bicycles as, "Weapons," when the bicycles were used to move the crowd.
- Officer Dylan Pearson informed Sgt. McBride that he used his bicycle to strike a protestor.
- Sgt. McBride observed the subject of the force, who was claiming to have a broken nose.
 - Sgt. McBride stated that the subject of the force did not display any symptoms of a broken nose or any signs of physical injury at all. He observed that she did not seek attention from street medics present that night.
 - Sgt. McBride stated that due to the nature of the scene, it wasn't possible to interview the subject of the force as he would normally do for a Supervisor Force Review. The chaotic nature of the scene and the crowd is documented on BWC video from the incident.
- Sgt. McBride completed a Supervisor Force Review narrative in PIMS and noted that the BWC still needed to be reviewed.
 - Sgt. McBride stated that he doesn't watch BWC videos on cell phones because he needs reading glasses and wasn't carrying them in the field on the night of this incident.
 - Sgt. McBride stated that there are insufficient computers at the BRRT warehouse and that the BWC video of Officer D. Pearson wasn't uploaded for him to watch. He also stated that the network speed at the BRRT warehouse is so slow that it's nearly impossible to watch BWC footage from that location.
- Sgt. McBride did not notify Internal Affairs that the Supervisor Force Review was not completed by the end of his shift.
- Sgt. McBride apologized for having failed to properly complete the Supervisor Force Review for Officer Dylan Pearson.
- The Police Conduct Review Panel recommended a finding of Merit for the allegation that Sgt. McBride did not conduct a full and complete Supervisor Force Review for Officer Dylan Pearson as required by MPD policy.
- There is a preponderance of the evidence to support the allegation that Sgt. McBride failed to properly conduct a Supervisor Force Review for Officer Dylan Pearson and this allegation is **Sustained.**

13.43

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[REDACTED]

As the interim Chief of Police, I am responsible for providing clear expectations for what is acceptable behavior in our workplaces as well as what will not be tolerated. The Police Conduct Review panel recommended a finding of merit for the listed policy violation in this case, and I concur with their recommendation that Sgt. McBride failed to conduct a Supervisor Force Review in 13.43 [REDACTED] incidents cited in the investigation.

I hold officers of the Minneapolis Police Department to a high standard. I expect them to live up to our oath of office, our professional code of ethics and our department's core values of trust, accountability, and professional service. Once Sgt. McBride was notified that the supervisor force review needed to be done, he was responsible for carrying out the task responsibly, with care and attention to detail. To handle supervisory force review without reading the reviewing reports, BWC video and other available evidence shows a lack of regard for the critical role of a supervisor in managing his employees and the risk for the agency. Sgt. McBride should have taken steps to complete the required steps in the force review and when he found himself unable to do so, contacted Internal Affairs to discuss the appropriate next steps. With this conduct, Sergeant McBride failed to meet MPD standards. The violation in this matter undermines accountability and public trust.

As interim Chief of Police with authority to discipline for violations of policy under Minn. Stat 626.89 Subd. 17, I am issuing a 10-hour suspension without pay (category B) to Sergeant McBride for his failure to properly complete the Supervisor Force Review related to this incident.

DocuSigned by:

Amelia Huffman

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Amelia Huffman
Interim Chief of Police

CC: OPCR Case File
Commander Veliz

Enclosure: Discipline Form