



**Preliminary Complaint Form**  
**Chief of Police – Anthony W. Rosa**

Employee's Name: Takera Smith Date: 11/12/2021

P.D. Case/Citation#: 42-2108-031743 I.A. #: 21-12-02

Alleged Misconduct (Attach additional sheets if necessary):

19.6.4.1.2. Written and verbal reports, documents, and communications, will be truthful and complete.

58.6.6.3. Officers or PSAs will identify and obtain statement(s) from drivers, passengers and witnesses.

Complainant (print): Thomas Rucano - see Complaint Brochure Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (home/Cell): 239-265-4913 Phone (work): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: 8887 W. Sunrise Blvd. Plantation, Fl

Supervisor Receiving Complaint: Sergeant Christopher Pullease

Investigation Authorized by: Anthony Rosa, Chief of Police 11/17/21

Investigation Conducted by: Sgt. J. Stewart I.A. Investigation: Yes

Findings:  Unfounded  Not Sustained  Sustained  Exonerated  Training

Division Commander: [Signature] Date: 4/15/22

Deputy Chief: [Signature] Date: 4/15/22

Recommended Discipline (on Notice of Intent): 8 hour Suspension 4/18/22

Final Disposition: \_\_\_\_\_

Chief of Police: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

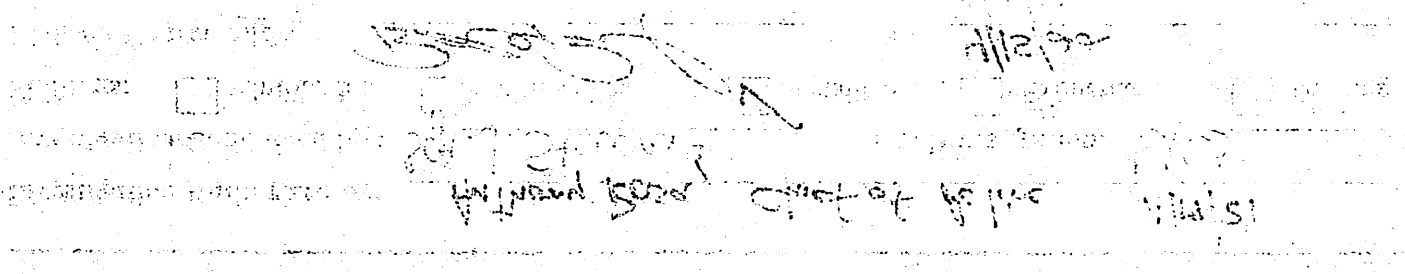
In signing this report, I acknowledge only that it has been discussed with me and that I have received a copy. I understand that I may respond verbally or in writing, and that such response will be made part of this report and taken into consideration.

Employee's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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## INTERNAL AFFAIRS UNIT

The function of the Internal Affairs Unit is to protect the integrity of the Sunrise Police Department by fairly and impartially investigating complaints against department employees.

Internal Affairs is located:

**Sunrise Police Department**  
10440 West Oakland Park Blvd  
Sunrise, Florida 33351

**Telephone: 954-746-3583**

Regular office hours are:  
Monday-Friday 9am-5pm

During non-business hours, complaints may be directed to any on-duty police supervisor.

Should a citizen be unable or unwilling to come to the Internal Affairs Office, an investigator may arrange to meet the complainant at another location.

Complaints must be made by the person who claims to be aggrieved, or any witness. Complaints should be initiated as soon possible. Other involved individuals may give statements as witnesses.

## THE COMPLAINT PROCESS

Serious complaints, such as criminal misconduct or brutality, are investigated by Internal Affairs. The employee's immediate supervisor will normally investigate less serious matters, such as discourteous and unprofessional conduct.

A complainant may be asked to give a sworn statement and take a polygraph examination. Florida Law requires that the complainant's name be provided to the Police Officer under investigation.

The following steps are taken in the investigation of your complaint:

1. The complaint is received, generally in the form of a signed affidavit or sworn statement.
2. The complaint is reviewed by the Chief of Police.
3. Formal investigations are conducted by Internal Affairs.
4. All findings and disciplinary recommendations are forwarded to the Chief of Police for final review.
5. The employee is informed of the findings and may request a hearing.

## CITIZEN COMMENDATION/ COMPLAINT REPORT FORM

THOMAS RUCANO  
(Name of Reporter)

8887 W SUNRISE BLVD  
(Address of Reporter)

239-265-4913 (Resident Phone) 8-6-21 (Other Phone)

11/12/21 (Date of Report) 8-6-21 (Date of Occurrence)

Police Case Number 422108031743  
(If Known)

ZEVA POLSYN  
(Witness 1)

8887 W SUNRISE BLVD  
(Address)

954-261-9767 (Home Phone) (Other Phone)

(Witness 2)

(Address)

(Home Phone) (Other Phone)

(Witness 3)

(Address)

(Home Phone) (Other Phone)

## NARRATIVE STATEMENT/ STATEMENT OF FACTS

*On Aug 6 I was involved in a traffic accident and when officer Tobias Smith 107 5233 arrived I informed her we were traveling east bound on Oakland Park Blvd. from Pine Island OLV to 1491 OLV and the other driver made a U-turn and hit our car. She took our information and told us we could leave when she filled out the police report. SHE LIED and said I said I was attempting to make a right turn. I don't know what the motivation was, but I absolutely never said that.*

*Thank you, Thomas R.*

\*Please use additional paper if needed, and attach.

I declare this to be a true and correct report and the information therein to be a fact. I further understand that I may be criminally charged for filing a false report, under F.S. 817.49 or F.S. 316.067.

Date/Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: Thomas Rucano

## QUESTIONS OR RECOMMENDATIONS

The Sunrise Police Department is committed to providing the best police service possible. Citizens' cooperation and input are essential if the department is to succeed in this goal. If you have any questions or recommendations on how the department can improve your police service please call:

Chief of Police  
954-746-3363

Uniform Major  
954-746-3661

Criminal Investigations Major  
954-746-3352

## EMPLOYEE COMMENDATION OR COMPLAINT BROCHURE



**Anthony W. Rosa**  
Chief of Police

**10440 West Oakland Park Blvd**  
**Sunrise, Florida 33351**  
**Telephone: 954-764-HELP**

## COMMENDING SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE

If you wish to commend the actions of any Sunrise Police Department Officer or employee you may:

- Ask to speak to the employee's supervisor and verbally communicate your praise.
- Write a letter to the Chief of Police explaining your praise.
- Use the narrative section of this pamphlet.

Correspondence complimenting superior performance by a Sunrise Police Department employee will be brought to the employee's attention and included in his /her personnel file.

Your compliments regarding the professionalism and outstanding service provided by Sunrise Police Department employees are always appreciated.

## COMPLAINTS

It is understood that a law enforcement agency cannot be successful in the administration of justice without the support of the community it serves.

To establish mutual trust, both citizens and Police Department employees must be assured that a fair and impartial system exists to thoroughly investigate and properly resolve complaints of misconduct.

## YOUR RIGHTS AS A COMPLAINANT

Any citizen who believes a Police Department employee is guilty of misconduct has the right to make a complaint to any on-duty supervisor or directly to Internal Affairs.

## FALSE COMPLAINTS

False Complaints are sometimes made against Police Department employees. Citizens should be aware that making a false statement or written declaration under oath is a violation of Florida State Statute.

The Sunrise Police Department believes that a fair and impartial complaint review process is necessary to ensure that the community receives the highest degree of professional law enforcement service.

If it becomes necessary to make a complaint, you can be assured of a fair and thorough investigation.



# SUNRISE POLICE DEPARTMENT



Anthony Rosa  
Chief of Police  
10440 W Oakland Park Blvd  
Sunrise, Florida 33351  
(954) 764-4357

## Internal Affairs Complaint Report Narrative

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### I. INTRODUCTION:

**Subject Employee:** PSA Takeria Smith

**Complainant:** Tom Rucano

**Witnesses:** Zeva Polsyn, Ashley Claridy, Kortney Donnangelo,  
John Williams, Nora Carlaw

On August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021, PSA Smith responded to a crash near the intersection of Oakland Park Blvd. and 60<sup>th</sup> Ave. There she met with drivers Ashley Claridy, Tom Rucano and his passenger Zeva Polsyn. At the completion of the investigation, PSA Smith wrote the traffic crash under case #42-2108-031743.

Weeks later, Tom obtained a copy of the traffic crash and read the narrative. According to his complaint, he felt that PSA Smith "lied" in the narrative section, specific to his statement. Tom stated that what was written in the narrative was a complete fabrication.

On November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Tom met with Sergeant Pullease and filed a formal complaint into this matter. Chief Rosa authorized an investigation on November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

The Investigative Narrative section outlines the details of my investigation into this matter and my conclusion with respect to any policy violations will be found in the Investigative Findings and Disposition section.



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## Internal Affairs Complaint Report Narrative

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### II. INVESTIGATIVE NARRATIVE:

On **8/6/21**, PSA Smith responded to a traffic crash at 60<sup>th</sup> Ave. and Oakland Park Blvd. involving Tom Rucano and Ashley Claridy.

On **11/5/21** Tom responded to the PSB to discuss the inaccuracies in the crash report. PSA Sweat completed a supplement to the original crash report.

On **11/12/21**, Tom met with Sergeant Pullease and filed a formal complaint against PSA Smith.

On **11/19/21**, Chief Rosa authorized a formal investigation to be conducted.

On **12/20/21**, I made contact with **Ashley Claridy** and took a sworn taped statement. Ashley stated she was coming out of the Publix parking lot and went west on Oakland Park Blvd. so that she could do a U-turn at 60<sup>th</sup> Ave. and head east. She said there was a solid green light as she waited for two cars to pass. Next, she made the U-turn onto Oakland Park and felt an impact, she looked to her right and saw a car with a male driver with his head down. Ashley then pulled over to the side of the road [REDACTED]. Ashley said she asked to occupants of the vehicle if they were ok but they did not speak beyond that.

PSA Smith arrived shortly after and spoke with Tom and Zeva Polsyn first. PSA Smith then went to her car where Ashley met her. PSA Smith told her, according to the other party, she was trying to travel westbound on Oakland Pk when their cars collided. Ashley told her that could not be possible due to the position of the cars. Since Ashley did not see the other vehicle, she assumed they pulled out from the gas station. Ashley continued to explain her actions and PSA Smith said she could see how both of their accounts could be correct.

Ashley then requested PSA Smith to check with Lauderhill PD for cameras as well as preserving the red-light camera video. PSA Smith said she does not have access to it but her supervisor does. Ashley said that she spoke alone with PSA Smith and that she did not overhear PSA Smith's conversation with the other vehicle occupants. Ashley said that PSA Smith never went back and talked to Tom again about the details of the accident. Upon Ashley seeing the police report, she noted that PSA Smith listened to her side of the story.

On **12/28/21**, I made contact with **Tom Rucano** and took a taped, sworn statement. On 8/6/21, the day of the accident Tom and his girlfriend, Zeva were headed to the DMV in Lauderhill. He said they tried the one on Pine Island first but it was too busy so they were heading to the one on Oakland Park. While driving, Tom was traveling eastbound in the far-right lane, as he passed through the intersection, Zeva said "Watch out Baby" and then he felt an impact on the driver side near the front quarter panel/driver door. He did not see Ashley make the U-turn but believes Zeva told him. He also said the collision happened just east of the intersection and that Ashley must have been in his blind spot bc he did not see her. Tom confirmed that he did not speak with Ashley about any details of the traffic crash.

Once PSA Smith arrived she spoke with Tom first. Tom told her that Ashley made a U-turn and hit the side of his car. PSA Smith then said, "Oh I am charging her". She then got their documents and returned to her car. She told Tom they could leave before even speaking to Ashley. Tom left there being told the other driver would be cited and he could leave. He never spoke to PSA Smith again about the accident. Tom confirmed that he did not overhear Ashley's conversation with PSA Smith and there were no other witnesses to his conversation with her other than Zeva.

Upon getting the police report Tom was floored with what was written, he could not figure out, why or how for that matter, PSA Smith wrote something the complete opposite from what he said. They never discussed red light cameras. I asked Tom for the first time on tape if he would be willing to provide his phone for a forensic analysis to verify his location and he eagerly agreed.

On **12/28/21**, I took a sworn, taped statement from **Zeva Polsyn**. Zeva said she is the owner of the vehicle that Tom was driving that day. Zeva said they were driving to the DMV on Oakland Park and Pine Island when they decided to go to the DMV out east instead. Zeva said they were traveling eastbound on Oakland Park Blvd. in the far-right lane when they passed through the intersection on a green light. She saw the car coming and warned Tom. Zeva was not sure where the car came from but assumed she had made a U-Turn.

Zeva said the cars stopped and Ashley came over and asked if they were ok. She confirmed that they did not discuss the details of the crash. When PSA Smith arrived she mostly spoke with Tom but Zeva heard the details that Tom told her, and they matched his statement. Zeva had no concerns that they would be found at fault for the crash bc she thought it was obvious who was. Zeva said she never heard PSA Smith say she was going to charge Ashley. When PSA Smith was done speaking with them, she told them they could leave (before she even spoke with Ashley). Zeva confirmed that PSA Smith never came back and spoke with Tom again and that she (Zeva) has never spoken to PSA Smith since that day.

On **2/2/22**, Tom and Zeva met me at the PSB. As discussed prior, they wished to have their phones forensically examined in an effort to prove their course of travel on the day of the accident. By doing this, it could prove if they came from the south, as written in the police report or if they came from the west as Tom stated. Officer Bautista assisted with this exam but nothing of any evidentiary value was recovered. Both Tom and Zeva signed consent forms and had the ability to contact me in the event they wanted to withdraw consent.

On 2/13/22, PSA Smith was served with her 5-day notice. We made arrangements for her to give a statement on 2/17/22.

On 2/17/22, I took a taped sworn statement from PSA Smith. She said that she remembered “parts” of the accident. When I first asked about her recollection, she stated, “I remember the statements that were provided to me that I put in the report”. She recalled being confused by Ashley’s statement and trying to understand which direction she was traveling. Once she talked with Ashley more, PSA Smith realized she was driving westbound until she did the U-Turn at 60th Ave. PSA Smith said she had an independent recollection of Ashley’s account of the events.

We then spoke about Tom’s statement. According to her, “Tom told me that he was making a right turn and I also confirmed with her and then that’s when she gave me a statement as well and based on the damages of the vehicles that’s why I placed – I had determined my fault”. PSA Smith then says she does not have an independent recollection of her conversation with Tom. She does not recall telling Tom she was going to charge Ashley for the accident. She could also not recall if she went back and spoke with either party again after the initial conversation. I then asked PSA Smith if she told either driver who was at fault on scene and she responded, “At the time of the crash I didn’t advise...I didn’t say on scene who I’ll be placing at fault. I just got their statements...I looked at the damages of the vehicles and then afterwards I determined the fault.”

I asked if she issued any tickets and she said no, she said that she would usually write a ticket for a deliberate act but chose not to in this case, even though Tom violated Ashley’s right of way. PSA Smith said that she has not spoken to either driver since the crash.

She could not recall when she wrote the narrative for this report but it was not the same day. She also could not recall when she submitted the report.

PSA Smith did not recall talking about any cameras with Ashley or Tom. She felt that since she was able to determine fault for the crash, she did not have to get the red-light camera footage. She acknowledged that she knew there was RLC footage available and that she knew how to obtain it. PSA Smith said she was trained to only get RLC footage when fault could not be determined at a traffic crash. She would only get it in a “he said, she said”.

Concerning RLC she said, “The reason why I don’t remember because once I got both of their statements and she (Ashley) was adamant that he made a right turn and based on the position of his car that was his car that was directly near the gas station on the corner...I just went off with that information and I didn’t even look at the surveillance cameras at the intersection”.

I asked PSA Smith if it was possible that she misunderstood the specifics of the crash or if she was certain what was written in the report was correct. She responded, “Yes its possible...its possible that I could’ve misunderstood him...because like I said both parties they were upset that the crash happened and its possible because I had a hard time misunderstanding her and it took some time for me to gather up the facts for the accident so it is possible”. I asked specifically if her confusion was prompted by Tom complaining and she said no, it was based on her recollection of the event.

She said shortly after leaving the crash scene (on the same day) she was able to determine who was at fault.



PSA Smith confirmed that she never met Tom, Zeva or Ashley prior to this accident and had no issues with them on scene.

On **2/22/22**, I spoke with **Kourtney Donnangelo and John Williams** who are both PSAs with Sunrise PD. Since they both help train new PSAs and are highly regarded by the road supervisors, I asked if they could provide a statement concerning the protocol when collecting Red Light Camera video. They both agreed.

On **2/28/22**, I took a sworn taped statement from PSA Donnangelo. She said that she has been employed around 3 years and helps train new hires. When asked about RLC procedure, PSA Donnangelo stated that she would always get video if it was available, even if it was obvious who was at fault. She also trains the new PSAs the same way. PSA Donnangelo confirmed that it is common practice for road PSAs to always get RLC footage.

On **3/1/22**, I took a sworn taped statement from **PSA John Williams**. He advised that he helps train the newly hired PSAs. PSA Williams stated that he trains new hires to always get RLC footage if available, regardless of the “outcome of the accident”. PSA Williams stated that is his common practice.

On **3/9/22**, I took a sworn statement from **PSA Nora Carlaw**. She confirmed that she did train PSA Smith in 2016 but cannot recall if they ever discussed RLC. I then asked if PSA Carlaw still trained new hires and she said yes, if they ask. She confirmed that she would always get RLC video or any evidence related to a crash and that she would teach the same. PSA Carlaw added, that it is important to get the video since people can get confused or forget where they were coming from.



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## Internal Affairs Complaint Report Narrative

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### III. INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS and DISPOSITION:

If Sergeant Pullease's allegations are true, PSA Smith would have violated the following policies:

- *19.6.4.1.2 Written and verbal reports, documents, and communications, will be truthful and complete.*
- *58.6.6.3 Officers or PSAs will identify and obtain statement(s) from drivers, passengers, and witnesses.*
- *58.6.6.19. Officers or PSAs will obtain any other information related to the crash that may be necessary to ensure thoroughness of the investigation.*

### IV: CONCLUSION

On 8/6/21 at 11:38am, PSA Smith responded to NW 60<sup>th</sup> Ave. and Oakland Park Blvd. to handle a traffic crash involving Tom Rucano and Ashley Claridy. Once on scene, PSA Smith first spoke to Tom, in the presence of his passenger, Zeva Polsyn.

#### **Tom's Statement:**

- Tom told PSA Smith he was traveling eastbound on Oakland Park (green light) when Ashley's vehicle struck his. Zeva, who witnessed the car hit them, assumed Ashley had been making a U-Turn at the intersection.
- PSA Smith said to Tom, "Oh I am charging her" (referring to Ashley) after hearing his story.
- PSA Smith told them they could leave at the conclusion of their initial conversation.
- They never discussed red light cameras.

*PSA Smith's Account (Related to Tom's statement):*

- She does not recall who she spoke with first.
- In her statement, PSA Smith said she did not have an independent recollection of her conversation with Tom.
- According to the report, Tom told PSA Smith he was making a right turn onto Oakland Park Blvd from 60<sup>th</sup> Ave., when Ashley made a U-Turn into him.
- PSA Smith does not recall saying "I am going to charge her" or if she went back and talked to Tom again.

**Ashley's Statement**

According to Ashley, PSA Smith went back to her car after speaking with Tom and sat in the driver's seat. Ashley chose to approach her and give her side of the story.

*Ashley's Account:*

- Ashley said she was heading westbound when she decided to do a U-Turn at 60 Ave., Upon doing so, she was struck by Tom's vehicle. Ashley had a green light, not a green arrow.
- According to Ashley, PSA Smith said Tom told her that she (Ashley) was "traveling to turn onto Oakland Park Blvd. to head westbound and at that moment is when your cars collided". Ashley told her that was impossible, and to look at the position of the cars. PSA Smith appeared confused.
- Ashley said she was "very adamant" in her position on what occurred, because what PSA Smith relayed to her was not even possible. Ashley also stressed that Tom could not have had a green light because she did, although Ashley could not say where Tom was coming from.
- Ashley said she had the green light and there were no cars in the roadway, therefore the only place he could have come from was from the red light (making a right turn) or the gas station. This was an assumption since she was not sure where Tom came from.
- Ashley requested red light camera footage, as well as footage from Lauderhill PD, if available. PSA Smith told her, that her supervisor could get access to those videos.
- When asked what she thought when she read the police report, she stated PSA Smith agreed with what she said, and not the other party.

*PSA Smith's Account (Related to Ashley):*

- PSA Smith had an independent recollection of Ashley's statement to her.
- PSA Smith said she was confused when she first spoke with Ashley, but became clear when she realized Ashley was heading westbound and made a U-Turn on green.
- PSA Smith does not recall discussing cameras with Ashley.

After speaking with both parties separately, PSA Smith told them they were free to leave. According to PSA Smith, she did not tell either party who was at fault because she was not certain while on scene. Later in the day, she was able to come to a decision about fault from, "looking at the damages of the vehicles".

When discussing details of the accident, PSA Smith confirmed that she did not speak to either party after the day of the accident and that she did not have any issues with them while on scene. Tom and Ashley confirmed this as well.

**In Summary:**

**I find the following concerning the allegations of:**

- *19.6.4.1.2 Written and verbal reports, documents, and communications, will be truthful and complete.*
- *58.6.6.3 Officers or PSAs will identify and obtain statement(s) from drivers, passengers, and witnesses.*

When considering these policy violations, I find two issues:

- The thoroughness of PSA Smith's investigation.
- The truthfulness/accuracy of the police report, specifically with Tom's statement.

Specific to a thorough investigation, I find that PSA Smith did interview both parties initially. She said after getting Tom's statement, and then Ashley's, she became confused when Ashley relayed a completely different account. PSA Smith said she was so confused that she was unable to determine fault while the parties were on scene. In her statement, she concluded with "...It was possible that I could've misunderstood him (Tom)", referring to what was written in the crash report. It was clear from her statement that her independent recollection of the event, was - confusion.

If PSA Smith was as confused as she claimed, she had an obligation to clarify the events with both drivers before allowing them to leave. Oddly enough, she told Tom and Zeva they could leave before bothering to speak to Ashley. This indicated she had no intention of speaking to Tom and Zeva about the accident any further. PSA Smith chose to not clarify the events with either party, to have a clear understanding of what happened, prior to anyone leaving the scene. I do not feel PSA Smith was as thorough and complete as she should have been when investigating this crash. She had an obligation to have a complete understanding of the events before allowing the parties to leave. If she was unable to determine who was at fault, her report should have reflected such. Deciding fault should not be based on conjecture.

When addressing the second issue, which is Tom's statement and the heart of this complaint, I am underwhelmed by PSA Smith's explanation. Even after PSA Smith's interview, it is still not clear how she was so confused on scene, yet her report appears concise; albeit likely inaccurate. According to the report, Ashley and Tom's statements are straight forward, easy to understand, and make sense. However, PSA Smith was so confused on scene she was unable to determine fault until sometime later.

Another area of concern is that PSA Smith had an independent recollection of the crash and Ashley's statement but could not recall Tom's statement independently. However, she was able to recall details with Tom and Zeva that were not in the report.

During PSA Smith's statement, she seemed to contradict herself at times or could not offer answers that made complete sense. Yet, the most alarming statement was made at the end, when PSA Smith said she could have misunderstood Tom statement, insinuating the report may not be accurate.

When evaluating the truthfulness of Tom's complaint, I considered the following:

- Tom's statement that was given to PSA Smith in front of a witness, Zeva.
- Tom was believable and honest in all my dealings with him.
- I asked Tom on tape, if he would consent to having his phone forensically examined in an effort to extract his location on the day of the incident. He agreed emphatically.
- Tom and Zeva did have their phones forensically examined on 2/2/22.
- Tom demanded a polygraph test to prove that he was telling the truth.
- Ashley was not able to say exactly where Tom was coming from, because she never saw him.

I also believe Ashley was truthful in her statement. She said she never saw Tom's car until they collided. She also said she did not know where Tom came from.

At the conclusion of this investigation, I find that it is *more* than likely that PSA Smith documented Tom's statement incorrectly on her crash report. From her own mouth, she acknowledged the report could be inaccurate. Unfortunately, I was not successful in extracting

any locations data from Tom or Zeva's phone to say with certainty the direction they were heading.

The purpose of this investigation is to determine whether or not PSA Smith violated SPD policy & procedures; not to reinvestigate or determine fault in the crash. With that said, I believe Tom and Ashley were completely honest in their versions of what happened that day and that the report authored by PSA Smith is *inaccurate*.

I do not believe PSA Smith conducted such a poor crash investigation based on malice or with intent to hurt Tom. I believe it was conducted in such a manner based on poor work ethic and laziness. I believe PSA Smith was genuinely confused on scene, however, it was her responsibility to clarify the details of the crash and document it accurately. I also think Ashley was so adamant in her statement that PSA Smith assumed Ashley's account was truthful and correct, and then completely discounted Tom's. As the author of documents used in an official capacity, PSA Smith bears a heavy burden to ensure they are accurate. Furthermore, PSA Smith has a work history of laziness and poor work ethic. This has been documented in shift notes and Preliminary Complaint Reports.

Based on the totality of the circumstances, this investigator finds the listed policy violations:

## **SUSTAINED**

### **Concerning the third policy violation, I find the following:**

- *58.6.6.19. Officers or PSAs will obtain any other information related to the crash that may be necessary to ensure thoroughness of the investigation.*

At the intersection of Oakland Park Blvd and 60<sup>th</sup> Ave., there are red light cameras (RLC) that can be used for traffic crash investigations. On the date of the crash, PSA Smith acknowledged there was RLC footage available, and that she knew how to obtain the footage, but chose not to get it. When asked why she chose not to get the video, PSA Smith responded:

- “Because I have both their statements, I did determine who was at – I mean, I didn't tell them who was at fault on scene but after the crash was over, I determined fault. But after the fact, I, because of the statements that was provided to me I didn't look at the cameras”.
- “...Once I got both of their statements and she (Ashley) was adamant that he (Tom) made a right turn and based on the position of his car that was-his car that was directly near the gas station on the corner...I just went off with that information and I didn't even look at the surveillance cameras at the intersection”.

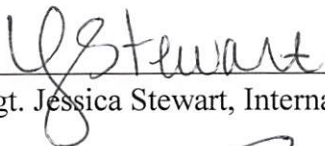
Also, during PSA Smith's statement, she claimed that she was trained to only get RLC video if fault could not be determined. As a result, I pulled her FTO file and was unable to find any documentation specific to this.

However, I did interview one of her trainers, PSA Nora Carlaw. PSA Carlaw said she does not recall specifically discussing RLC with PSA Smith but it is her practice to teach new hires to always collect RLC footage if available, even if it may not be needed. I also interviewed PSA Williams and Donnangelo. They both confirmed that it is common practice by PSAs to collect RLC footage, even if fault is already determined.

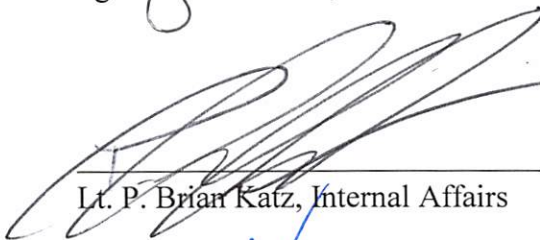
Had PSA Smith collected and reviewed the RLC footage, there would be no question as to the accuracy of her traffic crash report. Her failure to have a clear understanding of the events coupled with not collecting video evidence, is grossly negligent in my opinion. PSA Smith's actions, although not malicious, caused both parties involved in the accident months of unnecessary grief when dealing with their insurance companies.

Based on the totality of the circumstances, this investigator finds the listed policy violation:

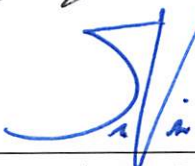
## SUSTAINED

  
Sgt. Jessica Stewart, Internal Affairs


4/7/22  
Date

  
Lt. P. Brian Katz, Internal Affairs

4/12/22  
Date

  
Sean Visners, Deputy Chief

4/12/22  
Date

  
Anthony W. Rosa, Chief of Police

4/18/22  
Date