

ORLEANS PARISH CRIMINAL SHERIFF'S OFFICE

SPECIAL OPERATIONS DIVISION

INTER-OFFICE MEMORADUM

Date September 20, 2009

To: Col. Wilfred Washington
 Internal Affairs Division

From: Deputy Johnathan S. Griffin Sr.
 Special Operations Division

Subject: Off Duty Altercation of Deputy Stephen Thomas and Deputy Chrishanda
 Doherty

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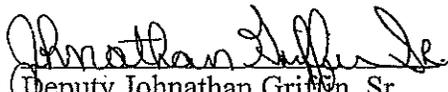
On Sunday, September 20, 2009 at approximately 1630 hours, Deputy Johnathan Griffin, a member of the Orleans Parish Criminal Sheriff's Office (O.P.C.S.O.) and assigned to the Special Operations Division (S.O.D), was informed by Sergeant Hunter of New Orleans Police Department (NOPD) of a domestic dispute.

Sergeant Hunter stated while on duty at the Third District Police Station investigated a domestic dispute which took place in the seventh district. Sergeant Hunter stated the individuals involved were current employees of the O.P.C.S.O. Sergeant Hunter ended by advising Deputy Griffin to contact both deputies in an effort to issue a summons both parties.

Deputy Griffin proceeded to the House of Detention (HOD), to interview Deputy Stephen L. Thomas, who is also a member of the O.P.C.S.O, assigned to the House of Detention. Deputy Thomas stated on Saturday, September 19, 2009, he and his girlfriend, Deputy Chrishanda Doherty, who is also member of the O.P.C.S.O and assigned to H.O.D., were out shopping with his (Thomas) child. Deputy Thomas then stated while shopping both he and Doherty were approached by his (Thomas) ex-girlfriend. Thomas went on to state as he and Doherty arrived home, they were again met by his ex-girlfriend who was irate and belligerent while taking the child from the car and proceeded to walk up the street. Deputy Thomas ended by stating while Doherty went back out to pull her car back into the driveway, she was approached by his ex-girlfriend, who then began a physical confrontation with Doherty.

Deputy Griffin then relocated to the Third District Station with both deputies. While at the station, Deputy Griffin met with Sergeant Hunter who then issued a Municipal summons to both deputies and the ex-girlfriend for Disturbing the Peace for Section C on September 25, 2009 at 3:00pm under NOPD Item #I-26664-09.

A copy of any paperwork relative to this investigation will be attached and made part of this report. Any additional information obtained will result in a supplemental report.


Deputy Johnathan Griffin, Sr.
Special Operations Division

Orleans Parish Criminal Sheriff's Office

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: Sheriff Marlin N. Gusman
From: IAD Special Agent Byron J. Woods
Date: September 21, 2009
Subject: OPCSO Employee Violation via OPCSO Communications Division

On Sunday September 20, 2009, OPCSO/IAD Commander Wilfred Washington, Jr., received a telephone call from the OPCSO Communications Division relative to alleged "**Misconduct**," by two (2) employees of the OPCSO, to wit Deputy Chrishanda Doherty, [REDACTED] and Recruit Stephen L. Thomas, [REDACTED]. It was reported to Colonel Washington by the OPCSO Communications Division that the two employees were involved in a "**Domestic Dispute**," which also involved the two (2) year old baby of Recruit Thomas and the baby's mother, the alleged victim, [REDACTED]. The OPCSO Special Operations Division, (SOD) was contacted by NOPD Third District Sergeant "Hunter," and asked to escort the two OPCSO employees to the NOPD Third District Station. Deputy J. Griffin of the OPCSO/SOD brought both OPCSO accused employees to the NOPD Third (3rd) District for an interview and investigation into this matter. Recruit Thomas ex-lady friend, [REDACTED] contacted the NOPD on Sunday 09-20-2009, and indicated that Recruit Thomas and Dep. Doherty of committed a "**Battery**," upon her. It was further alleged [REDACTED] accused Dep. Doherty of striking and injuring her infant child. After a brief investigation by NOPD 3rd District Sgt. Hunter, both Dep. C. Doherty and Recruit S. Thomas were issued **Municipal Court "Summons" for "Battery,"** on [REDACTED]. Deputy Doherty was also issued a "Summons," for "Battery," on the child [REDACTED]. Both sets of Summons were issued under the same (★) NOPD Item Number which was I-26664-09. Both OPCSO employees were allowed to leave (★) without a physical arrest and released to the custody of the OPCSO via SOD Deputy Griffin.

Both Recruit S. Thomas and Deputy C. Doherty came to the OPCSO/IAD Office on Monday Sept. 21, 2009, to give statements relative to this matter. Both OPCSO employees gave basically the same statements relative to this incident. Both employees indicated in their statements that they had driven to Recruit S. Thomas residence [REDACTED], on Saturday 09-19-2009, at about 7:30 p.m., with Recruit Thomas infant son, [REDACTED]. They both said when they arrived at his residence they were confronted outside and in front of Recruit Thomas residence by [REDACTED], who walked up to Dep. Doherty's vehicle. They both said [REDACTED] opened Dep. Doherty car door, called her a "Bitch," and proceeded to curse her and provoke a confrontation. They said they tried to ignore [REDACTED] who then took her son from the back seat of Dep. Doherty's car and walked across the street from Recruit Thomas residence to catch a bus. Deputy Doherty and Recruit Thomas said they then went inside his house. Deputy Doherty went back outside to move her vehicle from the street and put it in the driveway of Recruit Thomas home. Deputy Doherty said when she got back inside of Recruit Thomas

house, unknown to her [REDACTED] had entered the house, and was inside in the living room, threatening Recruit Thomas. Deputy Doherty stated [REDACTED] then turned to her and began cursing and threatening her again. She said [REDACTED] came over to her and struck her in her chest area with her fist, after which they began physically fighting. They both said [REDACTED] was holding the infant child in her arms during this confrontation. Both OPCSO employees said that during the fight the infant child [REDACTED] fell from [REDACTED] arms and hit his head on the floor causing a visible bump (Injury). They said the fight was finally broken up by Recruit Thomas and a neighbor friend, who was in the house. Both Dep. Doherty and Recruit Thomas stated the incident took place at his residence and not at [REDACTED] residence as she allegedly indicated to the NOPD, which caused the OPCSO employees to be issued the summons.

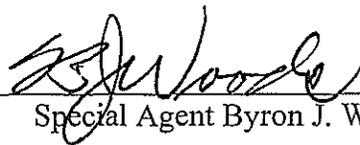
Deputy Doherty and Recruit Thomas indicated Recruit Thomas aunt came from upstairs at the residence and after she helped to established order, his aunt drove both [REDACTED] and the child back to [REDACTED] residence.

Since this incident took place while the two employees were "off duty" and the incident was not connected to or at their job sites, they were advised to contact and retain an attorney to represent them for their up coming court date which was set for September 25, 2009, in Section "C," of Orleans Parish Municipal Court at 3:00 p.m.

Please note that according to the statements of the two accused OPCSO Employees, the alleged victim [REDACTED] told the NOPD Third District Officers that they came to her residence and attacked her in the NOPD Third (3rd) District. The two OPCSO employees indicated the incident actually occurred at Recruit S. Thomas residence, which in fact is in the NOPD Seventh (7th) District. The accused Stephen Thomas residence in the 7th District is documented as the location of the alleged offenses and is visibly noted on the two NOPD Summons issued by NOPD Third District Officer Michael Asevedo, Badge No. 1527. (Summons #A49518 and A49519)

Colonel Washington indicated, via orders of Sheriff Marlin N. Gusman the two OPCSO Employees were to be brought to the OPCSO/IAD Office on Monday September 21, 2009, to give audio recorded statements relative to their involvement in the above described incident. It was further indicated they were not to be "Suspended" or put on a "Working Suspension." The IAD was advised by the Sheriff's Office to have the two employees keep the IAD abreast of their Municipal Court Proceedings and after the court case has been adjudicated, to have them turn over the results to the IAD for further disciplinary action if applicable or needed.

Status: Pending


Special Agent Byron J. Woods

Approval: _____

Orleans Parish Criminal Sheriff's Office
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: Sheriff Marlin N. Gusman,
From: IAD Special Agent Byron J. Woods
Date: September 25, 2009
Subject: Alleged Battery/Domestic Dispute (OPCSO Employees)

ADDENDUM

On Friday September 25, 2009, Orleans Parish Criminal Sheriff's Office (OPCSO) employees, Deputy Chrishanda Doherty and Recruit Stephen Thomas came to the Internal Affairs Division (IAD) to deliver documentation relative to their Municipal Court Cases involving allegations of "Battery" and "Domestic Battery." A "Peace Bond," was issued to Deputy Doherty on 09-25-2009, in reference to the alleged victim Ms. Curtrell Charles. Recruit S. Thomas was issued a "Louisiana Uniform Abuse Prevention Order," (Stay Away Order) on 09-25-2009, relative to [REDACTED]. Both employee stated they were given tentative Municipal Court date of January 15, 2010 to return to court for a trial in this matter.



Special Agent Byron J. Woods

PEACE BOND

State of Louisiana
Parish of Orleans

You are hereby placed under a peace bond by Judge Eddie Sapir
JUDGE

Chrishanda Doherty / DOB [REDACTED]
Person to be placed under bond

Address

Is ordered not to harass, humiliate or threaten any complainants or witnesses in Case No. 1072078 C, and particularly,

[REDACTED] /
Victim Address

_____/
Victim Address

_____/
Witness Address

_____/
Witness Address

Unlawful violation of ordinance No. 101 M.C.S. Section 42 paragraph 129 relative to
(describe breach of peace in application)
Battery 54-96

You are furthered ordered

1. Not to contact by phone or by mail
2. Not to go within two (2) square blocks of the residence or household of the victim or witness(es)
3. Not to go within two (2) square blocks of the victim or witness(es) school or place of employment
4. Not to go within two (2) square blocks of the victim or witness(es) family members
5. Not to intentionally contact the victim or witness in any manner whatsoever

Failure to fully comply with the court's order to maintain peace may result in your being held in contempt of court, along with the obligation to pay to the City of New Orleans the sum of twenty-five hundred dollars and/or five months in the parish jail.

ACCEPTANCE

Chrishanda Doherty, have read and fully understand all conditions of my peace bond, and I accept and agree to comply with all the conditions herein. I understand that for violation of any of the conditions, I may be held in contempt of court and the amount of my peace bond immediately becomes due. I fully understand that a violation of this peace bond may result in an attachment being issued for my arrest and possible incarceration.

[Signature]
CITY ATTORNEY

Chrishanda Doherty
Person to be placed under peace bond

[Signature]

Eddie L. Sapir
JUDGE

TRUE COPY

Signed this 25th day of Sept./2009 New Orleans, Louisiana MUNICIPAL COURT

- 4. YOU ARE ORDERED NOT TO go to the residence or household of the alleged victim, the alleged victim's school, or the alleged victim's place of employment.
- 5. THE COURT WILL allow _____ to return to the residence at a date and time to be determined by the alleged victim and law enforcement agency to recover his/her personal clothing and necessities, provide that he/she is accompanied by a law enforcement officer to insure the protection and safety of the parties.
- 6. THE COURT ORDERS a representative of _____ (law enforcement agency) to accompany _____ to the residence located at _____ to recover _____ personal clothing and necessities.
- 7. YOU ARE ORDERED TO pay the sum of 0.00 to the _____ (Family Violence Program) no later than / /
- 8. YOU ARE ORDERED TO submit to a court-approved course of counseling or therapy related to family violence for _____ and YOU ARE ORDERED TO complete successfully said counseling or therapy no later than / /
- 9. YOU ARE ORDERED TO provide restitution to the victim of this crime for the pecuniary loss to said victim and/or for the costs incurred by the victim in connection with the criminal prosecution in the amount of 0.00 no later than / /
- 10. Other: _____
- 11. YOU ARE HEREBY PLACED UNDER A PEACE BOND IN THE AMOUNT OF TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED & 00/100 (\$2,500.00) DOLLARS FOR THE PERIOD OF ONE YEAR OR UNTIL TRIAL. VIOLATION MAY RESULT YOUR BEING HELD IN CONTEMPT OF COURT ALONG WITH THE OBLIGATION TO PAY THE BOND TO CITY OF NEW ORLEANS AND/OR 6 MONTHS IN JAIL.
- 12. THE DEFENDANT IS ORDERED TO RETURN TO COURT ON THE _____

Date of Order	Expiration Date of Order	
<u>9/25/2009</u>	<u>9/26/2010</u>	SIGNATURE OF JUDGE
mo./day/yr.	mo./day/yr.	/s/ JUDGE EDDIE L SAPIR
		PRINT OR STAMP JUDGE'S NAME

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT:

VIOLATION OF THIS ORDER MAY RESULT IN FORFEITURE OF BOND, REVOCATION OF PROBATION, A FINE OF UP TO \$500 AND/OR 6 MONTHS IMPRISONMENT.

FURTHER, PERSONS VIOLATING THIS ORDER MAY BE IMMEDIATELY ARRESTED, JAILED, AND PROSECUTED PUSUANT TO LA. R.S. 14:79. DEPENDING ON WHETHER THE VIOLATION IS A FIRST OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE AND DEPENDING ON WHETHER THE VIOLATION INCLUDES A BATTERY, A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS ORDER MAY BE FINED UP TO \$2,000.00 AND MPRISONED WITH OR WITHOUT HARD LABOR FOR UP TO FIVE YEARS. A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS ORDER MAY BE FURTHER PUNISHED UNDER OTHER CRIMINAL LAWS OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.

PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 922 (G)(9) AFTER NOTICE AND OPPORTUNITY FOR A HEARING, A PERSON WHO IS SUBJECT TO AN ORDER THAT EITHER INCLUDES A FINDING FINDING BY THE JUDGE OR BY ITS TERMS EXPLICITLY PROHIBITS CERTAIN BEHAVIOR, OR WHO HAS BEEN CONVICTED OF A MISDEMEANOR CRIME OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, IS IS PROHIBITED FROM RECEIVING, POSSESSING, OR TRANSPORTING FIREARMS OR AMMUNITION.

I have read and fully understand all conditions of the above orders, and I accept and agree to comply with all conditions and penalties herein.

9/25/2009

DATE

Steph Thomas
SIGNATURE OF DEFENDANT

FULL FAITH AND CREDIT pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 2265

The issuing court certifies that it had jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter under the laws of the State of Louisiana, and the defendant was given reasonable notice and opportunity to be heard sufficient to protect the defendant's right to due process before this order was issued; or if the order was issued *ex parte* the court ordered the the defendant be given reasonable notice and a opportunity to be heard within the time required by the laws of the State of Louisiana.

THIS ORDER SHALL BE PRESUMED TO BE VALID AND ENFORCEABLE IN ALL 50 STATES, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TRIBAL LANDS, U.S. TERRITORIES, AND COMMONWEALTHS.

[Signature]
SIGNATURE OF JUDGE

NOTICE TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

It has been determined by a court of competent jurisdiction that the subject of this order poses a threat of danger to the protected party. Therefore, if the defendant is found in the presence of, in the immediate vicinity of, or you as a law enforcement official have probable cause to believe that the defendant has been in the presence of or in the immediate vicinity of the protected party, you are directed to remand the defendant into custody and hold the defendant without bond pending a hearing before the issuing court.

[Signature]
SIGNATURE OF JUDGE

Copies to: 1) Court file 2) Alleged Victim 3) Defendant 4) Reporting/Investigating Law Enforcement Agency 5) Prosecuting Agency 6) Louisiana Protective Order Registry

FAXED MAILED ELECTRONICALLY TRANSMITTED HAND DELIVERED TO LA. PROTECTIVE ORDER REGISTRY

DATE: _____ CLERK: _____



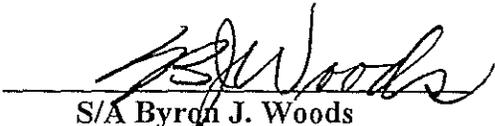
Office of the Criminal Sheriff
Parish Of Orleans • State Of Louisiana

Marlin N. Gusman
Sheriff

FAX Sheet

To: Deputy Ponton
From: Byron J. Woods S/A Internal Affairs Division (IAD)
Date: October 6, 2009
Tel. No. #: [REDACTED]
OPSCO FAX: [REDACTED]
FAX No.: [REDACTED]

Comments: The Orleans Parish Criminal Sheriff's Office is requesting any and all information available as to possible "Wants" and "Warrants" on a Recruit Deputy of this Department. Lieutenant Errol Lee of the Orleans Parish Criminal Sheriff Office suggested the OPCSO/IAD Contact you for the information since he stated he did not have a printer in his office to supply us with the needed Documents. The Employee in question is Recruit Deputy Thomas L. Stephens, Black Male, and a [REDACTED]. Lieutenant Lee indicated he had spoken to you and you were awaiting this "FAX" Request. If there are any questions please contact me in the Sheriff's Office at [REDACTED] Our FAX # [REDACTED]


S/A Byron J. Woods

ATTENTION
Colonel Washington

DATE: 10-06-2009 11:48:10 AM Type: Recv

SUBJECT: BA FROM DMV - DMV

Message:

Reference: 02R200001C

Msg Key : BA,

Date/Time: 20091006114822

Source : DMV

02R200001C.DMV.BA.20091006114822.

LA0380000.

CTL/

ATN/WASHINGTON

BA.LA0360000. .075C0086DE.WASHINGTON

CLS/E (NEW) OLN/ 9663674 DISC/03

THOMAS STEPHEN LLOYD II

[REDACTED] RAC/B SEX/M EYE/BRN WGT/175 HGT/601

RES/1,2,00 EXP 20120119 SSN [REDACTED] ENDR NONE

PERS STATUS: (SUS AFFDT)

* NEW PRIVATE LICENSE CLASS *

20060614 WRITTEN PROMISE

20060512 LAKE PROVIDENCE MAYORS

PRIVATE VEHICLE

INDEF SUSPENDED

20080821 TO 00000000 REINSTATED 00000000

PAID RECEIPT REQUIRED

FEE \$100.00

END*

=====

①

1072078 C
Christhanda Doherty

CHRITRELL CHARLES
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
POI MICHAEL ASEVEDO [REDACTED]

PEACE BOND

MS CHRITRELL ^{CHARLES} WAS STRUCK BY
MS DOHERTY
[REDACTED] WAS STRUCK BY
MS DOHERTY
SUBJECTS WERE INVOLVED IN AN
ALTERCATION BETWEEN MR. CHARLES
AND MR. THOMAS INVOLVING THEIR
SON WHICH TURNED PHYSICAL

SEP 25 2009 PEACE BOND
PLEA OF NOT GUILTY
SET FOR TRIAL. SERVE ALL
PARTIES ROR BOND

1-6-10
Peace Bond

ITEM NO. F-26664-09 MUNICIPAL COURT SECTION C

CAR NO. 303-B DISTRICT 7 ZONE L04 ARREST CREDIT 03
BEFORE ME THE UNDERSIGNED AUTHORITY AT (LOCATION WHERE SWORN)

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA PERSONALLY CAME AND APPEARED
POLICE OFFICER MICHAEL ASEVEDO BADGE NO. 1527

WHO, FIRST BEING DULY SWORN, DID DEPOSE AND SAY, THAT HE HAS REASONABLE
GROUNDS TO BELIEVE, AND DOES BELIEVE THAT ON SAT, THE 19 DAY
OF SEPTEMBER YEAR 2009 AT OR ABOUT 8:00 P.M.
CHRISHANDA DOHERTY DEFENDANT

WHO GAVE HIS NAME ABOVE AND HIS BIRTHDATE [REDACTED] A 49513
RACE B SEX F AGE 33 AND HIS
ADDRESS [REDACTED]
EMPLOYMENT 33 PARISH SHERIFFS DEPT
ORLEANS

DID AT [REDACTED]
LOCATED IN THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS, PARISH OF ORLEANS, STATE
OF LOUISIANA, THEN AND THERE WANTONLY AND UNLAWFULLY VIOLATE

- CITY OF NEW ORLEANS CODE, AMENDED 1995 LOUISIANA REVISED STATUTES
STATUTE ORD. SECT. PARA VIOLATION:
(1) 17271 MCS 5496 RELATIVE TO BATTERY
ON CHRITRELL CHARLES
(2) 17271 MCS 5496 RELATIVE TO BATTERY
ON [REDACTED]
(3) _____
(4) _____

ALL AGAINST THE PEACE AND DIGNITY OF SAME
PO Michael Asevedo
AFFRANT'S SIGNATURE
SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME ON THE 20TH DAY OF SEPT
YEAR 2009 Stef R. Hernandez Sgt R. Hernandez
POLICE SUPERVISOR 334

THEREFORE, YOU, THE ACCUSED:
CHRISHANDA DOHERTY
ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED AND SUMMONED BY THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN THE UNDER-
SIGNED POLICE OFFICER TO PERSONALLY APPEAR BEFORE SECTION C
OF THE MUNICIPAL COURT OF NEW ORLEANS, LA, 727 SOUTH BROAD ST. ON THE
25 DAY OF SEPT YEAR 2009 AT 3:00 P.M.
TO BE ARRANGED WITHOUT FAIL; OTHERWISE A WARRANT FOR YOUR ARREST
MAY BE SOUGHT ALL ACCORDING TO LAW, PARTICULARLY LA. C. CR. P. ART 211.
MICHAEL ASEVEDO BADGE NO. 1527
POLICE OFFICER

I ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE ABOVE SUMMONS.
ACCUSED Christhanda Doherty

ORLEANS PARISH CRIMINAL SHERIFF'S OFFICE

DISCIPLINARY HEARING DISPOSITION

SHERIFF DIVISION COMMANDER WARDEN'S/SHERIFF'S COMMITTEE
 CHIEF

DATE: 4/7/11 ~~4-28-11~~
I.A.D. CONTROL #: 049 -11

TO: MARLIN N. GUSMAN, SHERIFF

FROM: Major Carlos Louque

On 4/7/11, a Disciplinary Hearing was held on the above referenced I.A.D. case. As the Hearing Officer, I reviewed the charge(s) against Deputy Stephen Thomas [REDACTED]/HOD Security.

After Consideration of the evidence presented, it is in my opinion that the charge(s) should be classified as follows:

Check (√) if additional sustained violation(s) (ASV).

	RULE NUMBER & NAME	ASV	DISPOSITION
1.	201 - Adherence to Law/Off Duty	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2.	301 - Professionalism	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3.		<input type="checkbox"/>	
4.		<input type="checkbox"/>	
5.		<input type="checkbox"/>	
6.		<input type="checkbox"/>	

As a result, it is my/our recommendation that Deputy Thomas should:

(Check (√) One): not be disciplined to be disciplined as follows:

	RULE NUMBER & NAME	DISPOSITION
1.	201 - Adherence to Law	
2.	301 - Professionalism	
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		

COMMENTS (optional):

Unreachable by phone. A letter will be sent in an attempt to contact.

*IF AN ADDITIONAL SUSTAINED VIOLATION(S) IS RECOMMENDED, AN INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE ARTICULATING HOW THE ADDITIONAL VIOLATION(S) WAS DETERMINED SHALL BE ATTACHED, AND MADE A PAGE OF THIS FORM.

Signature of Hearing Officer(s):

Major Louque

Date: 4/7/11

_____ Date:

_____ Date:

_____ Date:

_____ Date:

CONCUR/DO NOT CONCUR

Signature of Division Commander

Date:

COMMENTS:

CONCUR/DO NOT CONCUR

Martin N. Gusman, Sheriff

Date:

COMMENTS:

INSTRUCTIONS: The Hearing Officer shall be responsible for forwarding to I.A.D., via appropriate chain of command, both the original Hearing Notification Form and the original Hearing Disposition Form, along with the entire investigative report.

THIS FORM SHALL BE ISSUED TO AND SIGNED FOR BY THE ACCUSED EMPLOYEE AT LEAST FIVE (5) CALENDAR DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE HEARING.

ORIGINAL: I.A.D. Investigative Report file

ORLEANS PARISH CRIMINAL SHERIFF'S OFFICE

DISCIPLINARY HEARING DISPOSITION

SHERIFF
 DIVISION COMMANDER
 WARDEN'S/SHERIFF'S COMMITTEE
 CHIEF

DATE: 4/28/11
 I.A.D. CONTROL #:

TO: MARLIN N. GUSMAN, SHERIFF

FROM: Rank and Name of Hearing Officer/Assignment

On Date, a Disciplinary Hearing was held on the above referenced I.A.D. case. As the Hearing Officer, I reviewed the charge(s) against Rank/Name/SSN/Assignment.

DEPUTY STEPHEN THOMAS / [REDACTED] / #00 SECURITY

After Consideration of the evidence presented, it is in my opinion that the charge(s) should be classified as follows:

Check (✓) if additional sustained violation(s) (ASV).

	RULE NUMBER & NAME	ASV	DISPOSITION
1.	<u>201- ADHERENCE TO LAW/OFF DUTY</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>Sustained</u>
2.	<u>301- PROFESSIONALISM</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>Sustained</u>
3.		<input type="checkbox"/>	
4.		<input type="checkbox"/>	
5.		<input type="checkbox"/>	
6.		<input type="checkbox"/>	

As a result, it is my/our recommendation that Accused Employees Name should:

(Check (✓) One): not be disciplined to be disciplined as follows:

	RULE NUMBER & NAME	DISPOSITION
1.	<u>201- ADHERENCE TO LAW/OFF DUTY</u>	} recommend
2.	<u>301- PROFESSIONALISM</u>	
3.		} Termination.
4.		
5.		
6.		

COMMENTS (optional):

**IF AN ADDITIONAL SUSTAINED VIOLATION(S) IS RECOMMENDED, AN INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE ARTICULATING HOW THE ADDITIONAL VIOLATION(S) WAS DETERMINED SHALL BE ATTACHED, AND MADE A PAGE OF THIS FORM.*

Signature of Hearing Officer(s):

Marlin N. Gusman

Date: 4/28/11

Date: 4/28/11

Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office
Marlin N. Gusman, Sheriff

Internal Affairs Division

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: Marlin N. Gusman, Sheriff

From: IAD Special Agent Byron J. Woods *BW* IAD # 049-11

Date: March 24, 2011

Subject: Domestic Battery (Deputies Stephen Thomas & Chrishandra Doherty)

Case Report

On Wednesday March 23, 2011, at about 5:30 p.m., Special Agent Byron J. Woods of the OPSO/IAD received a telephone call from IAD Commander Colonel W. Washington relative a Complaint of alleged "Domestic Battery" involving two OPSO Deputies, Deputy Chrishanda Doherty and Deputy Stephen Thomas. Colonel Washington stated he had received information from OPSO Chief of Security, Earl Weaver that Deputy C. Doherty, who is assigned to the Orleans Parish Prison (OPP), was in the Emergency room at Touro Hospital with injuries she sustained from a beating she received at the hands of Deputy S. Thomas who is assigned to the House of Detention (HOD). It was learned OPP Warden Major Kevin Winfield was at Touro Hospital with Deputy Doherty and was standing by until this IAD Investigator could arrive to conduct his investigation. (See Attached Report)

Upon Arrival at Touro Hospital this IAD Agent learned Deputy Doherty was sitting outside of the Emergency Room sitting in a wheelchair with obvious injuries. Deputy Doherty had minor swelling to her facial area and a black cast on her right ankle. Through an interview with Deputy Doherty it was learned she had a broken right ankle. Deputy Doherty stated to this IAD Agent that Deputy Stephen Thomas had come to her residence, located at [REDACTED], at about 10:30 am on March 23, 2011, to speak to her about a complaint he had made to the OPSO/IAD on that same date. To clarify this matter Deputy S. Thomas came to the IAD Office on 03-23-2011, at about 9:00 am to file a complaint against OPSO Sergeant Chaz Ruiz, alleging Sgt. Ruiz was spreading "rumors" about him being in a "Sexual Relation" with a "Male Ex-Inmate" [REDACTED]. Deputy Thomas stated to IAD Agents Byron Woods and Johnny Morreale that Deputy Doherty had allegedly told him on this same morning that Sgt. Ruiz gave her this negative information about him. He said Deputy Doherty could verify his allegation about what Sgt. Ruiz allegedly told her. After speaking to Deputy Thomas he left the IAD Office and Agents B. Woods and J. Morreale contacted Dep. Doherty

and without giving her the facts of this matter, asked her if she was available to come to the IAD Office. Deputy Doherty arrived at the IAD Office at about 9:35 am on 03-23-2011, where the complaint of Deputy Thomas was explained to her and the reason for her being there, in that she would allegedly be able to corroborate Deputy Thomas allegation and complaint. Deputy Doherty stated to the two IAD Investigators that she did not tell Deputy Thomas that Sgt. Ruiz made the statement about him being involved sexually with an ex-inmate. She said she did speak to Deputy Thomas that morning but the conversation was about other rumors about him being involved in bringing "Contraband" into the Jail Facilities. She said the issue of him allegedly being sexually involved with an ex-inmate did come up somewhere in their conversation on this day but she said that had been a subject of rumors and conversation among other Deputies for more than a year. Deputy Doherty was "ordered" by the IAD Agents, not to discuss her IAD testimony in this matter with anyone with the exception the IAD Personnel, Sheriff Gusman or Chief Short. Deputy Doherty left the IAD Office at about 10:00 am the same day.

In further speaking to Deputy Doherty, at Touro Hospital, she stated to this Agent that Deputy S. Thomas came to her residence at about 10:30 am, on 03-23-2011, and began questioning her about her statement to the IAD. She said when she told him she was ordered by the IAD not to speak to anyone about the matter he tried further to find out if she given the IAD the same statement he made. When she refused to answer any of his questions she said he became upset and began pushing and striking her in the facial area. She said he dragged her around in her apartment and either hit or pushed her causing her to fall and break her right ankle. Deputy Doherty stated to this IAD Agent that she did not want to file a complaint against Deputy Thomas because she did not want him to lose his job over this incident. It was further learned that when Deputy Doherty arrived at Touro Hospital Emergency Room the Supervising Nurse of Duty asked her what had occurred. At the hospital Deputy Doherty was still wearing her BDU Uniform which identified her as a Law Enforcement officer. After the Nurses at Touro's "ER" spoke to Deputy Doherty, and then contacted the New Orleans Police Department (NOPD) and reported the matter to them.

New Orleans Police First (1st) District Officer Joseph Hébert, assigned to Unit #107, and his supervisor Sergeant Raymond Young, manning Unit 130-B, arrived at Touro Hospital to conduct their investigation under NOPD Item Number C-34997-11. After Deputy Doherty spoke to the 1st District Officers and gave the same account of this incident to them, it was decided Deputy Stephen Thomas would be Arrested but charged with **RS 14:35 to "Simple Battery."** The NOPD Officer stated even though the two involved Deputies were involved in an "Intimate Relationship" (Boy/Girl Friend) they never actually lived together which may fit the qualification for "**Domestic Battery.**" The original NOPD Signal for this incident was "**35-D Domestic Battery**" but the NOPD Investigators changed it to an **NOPD Radio Call Signal 35 "Simple Battery."**

At about 9:00 p.m. this same date 03-23-2011, Deputy Stephen Thomas, who was at work in the OPSO/HOD Facility, via orders from OPSO Chief Earl Weaver, was escorted by his Rank Lieutenant Dannis Taylor to the OPSO intake and Processing Center receiving area where NOPD Officer J. Hébert effected the arrest on him for **RS: 14:35, "Simple Battery,"** on Deputy C.

Doherty. Special Agent Byron Woods and OPSO Captain Melvin Joseph were present along with NOPD P/O J. Hebert to make the arrest. IAD agent B. Woods confiscated Deputy S. Thomas OPSO Badge, Commission Cards and Identification Card. Lieutenant Taylor was advised to secure Deputy Thomas Service Weapon which was in his locker at the HOD Facility. Chief Earl Weaver was asked to advise the IAD of the status of whether or not Dep. Thomas' weapon should be returned to him or at what point. Deputy Thomas was then escorted into the IPC Facility by Agent Woods, Captain Joseph and NOPD Officer Hebert where he was booked accordingly. (See Attached NOPD Report)

On Thursday March 24, 2011, at about 1:00 pm, Deputy Stephen Thomas reported to the IAD Office after being released from the OPSO/IPC 12:39 pm, the same day, on a \$10,000.00 Surety Bond and a "Stay Away Order" from the Criminal Courts (See Attachment). On this same day March 24, 2011, at about 1:15 pm, Deputy S. Thomas was interviewed by members of the IAD Investigative Staff. At this IAD Interview, Deputy Thomas denied that he deliberately "Physically Abused" Deputy Doherty on 03-23-2011, at her residence. Deputy Thomas stated he was "invited" by Deputy Doherty to come to her residence at about 10:30 am on morning of 03-23-2011. He said from the beginning she was aggressive toward him because he went to the OPSO/IAD concerning his complaint against OPSO Sgt. Ruiz and named her as his witness. He said during their verbal argument Deputy Doherty came toward him in an aggressive manner and he tried pushing her away. When she came at him again he "**Punched her in her face with his closed right hand (fist),**" which caused her to stumble. He said she never fell because of his punch. He said she stumbled and fell on her own after the punch which caused her to allegedly hurt (break) her ankle. He admitted he punched her in her face but he said it was only one (1) punch to the face. Deputy Thomas indicated he felt justified in striking Deputy Doherty and that he believed his actions were "**Self Defense**" in this matter.

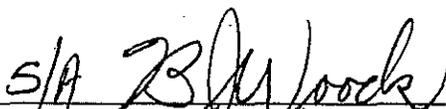
(He basically indicated he thought she was going to hit him so he hit her back first).

Deputy Thomas was officially Suspended from Duty by Agent B. Woods effective 10:00 p.m. on March 23, 2011 for violation of the Rules and Regulations of the OPSO to wit:

1. Rule #201 "Adherence to Law" (Off Duty State of LA. Charge)
2. Rule #301 "Professionalism."

Deputy S. Thomas will be scheduled to appear for a "**Hearing**" before the OPSO "**Disciplinary Review Board**" for an adjudication of the Administrative Charge as specified above against him.

Disposition: Sustained


S/A Byron J. Woods, IAD

Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office

Orleans Parish Prison

Inter-Office Memo

March 23, 2011

To: Sheriff Marlin N. Gusman

From: Major Kevin P. Winfield
Warden, OPP Facility

Subject: Incident involving Deputy Chrishandra Doherty.

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On Wednesday, March 23, 2011, at approximately 1530 hours, Major Kevin Winfield, Warden of the OPP Facility, received information from Sergeant Dwayne Washington, Assistant Watch Commander of the OPP Facility, relative to Deputy Chrisandra Doherty having been physically abused by her ex-boyfriend. Sergeant Washington informed Major Winfield that Deputy Doherty was in the emergency room at Touro Hospital.

Major Winfield proceeded to the Touro Hospital Emergency Room and met with Deputy Doherty. Deputy Doherty stated that her ex-boyfriend Stephen Thomas, who is a Deputy with the Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office assigned to the House of Detention Facility, had pushed his way into her apartment, located at [REDACTED], and began questioning her relative to what she had told the Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office Internal Affairs Division, relative to a complain he had made. Deputy Doherty stated that when she told him that she could not discuss the interview with anyone, He began pushing and hitting her, causing her to fall and injure her leg. Major Winfield asked Deputy Doherty if she had notified the Internal Affairs Division or the New Orleans Police Department of this incident. Deputy Doherty stated that she had not notified anyone of the incident because she did not want her ex boyfriend to get in trouble. Major Winfield informed

Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office

Orleans Parish Prison Facility

Inter Office Memo

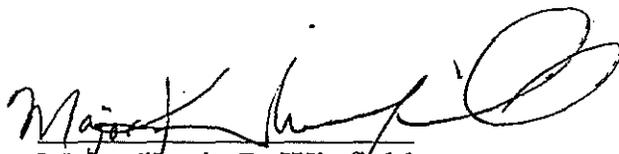
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Deputy Doherty that he was required to notify Chief Earl Weaver, Chief of Security and the Internal Affairs Division of the incident.

Major Winfield then notified Chief Weaver of this incident. Chief Weaver stated that he would notify the Internal Affairs of this incident.

Major Winfield also notified Major Carlos Louque, Warden of the House of Detention Facility of this incident due to the fact that it involved a Deputy assigned to his facility.

Major Winfield was contacted by Agent Woods of the Internal Affairs Division who stated that he was in route to Touro Hospital to meet with Deputy Doherty. Agent Woods arrived along with members of the New Orleans Police Department and took over the investigation into this incident.


Major Kevin P. Winfield
Warden, OPP Facility

Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office
Marlin N. Gusman, Sheriff
Internal Affairs Division

March 23, 2011

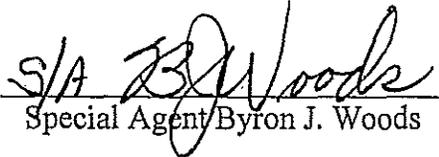
Employee Name: Deputy Stephen L. Thomas
Assignment: OPSO - HOD
Emp. # [REDACTED]
Home Address: [REDACTED]
City, State, & Zip Code: [REDACTED]
Home Telephone#: [REDACTED]

Effective this date, March 23, 2011, at 10:00 pm, you are being **"Suspended,"** from duty in connection with an allegation that you acted in a manner unbecoming of an employee of the Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office (OPSO). On this date March 23, 2011, while off duty from the OPSO, it was alleged that you committed a **"Battery"** (act of Domestic Violence) against OPSO Deputy Chrishanda Doherty at her residence. As a result of this action you were **"Arrested and Charged"** by the New Orleans Police Department's (NOPD) First District, with **"Domestic Battery."**
(RS 14:35-D)

Such Misconduct is a violation of the **"Rules and Regulations"** of the Sheriff's Office to wit:

1. Rule# 201 **"Adherence to Law"** (Off Duty - State Charge)
2. Rule #301 **"Professionalism."**

For payroll purposes, the effective date and time of your suspension is Wednesday March 23, 2011, at 10:00 pm, awaiting an appearance and hearing before the OPSO Disciplinary Review Board of the Sheriff's Office.


Special Agent Byron J. Woods

CC: Personnel
Payroll

DM-2

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MAG#: 522751 D O C K E T M A S T E R DATE: 4/28/2011
===== TIME: 10:06:28

ORLEANS PARISH MAGISTRATE COURT

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DEFENDANT(S) : CNTS CHARGE(S) :
=====

THOMAS, STEPHEN

1 RS 14 35.3 BOND: 10,000.00

DOMESTIC ABUSE BATTERY

=====
DATE PROCEEDINGS
=====

3/24/2011 DURELO *

FIRST APPEARANCE HEARING IN MAGISTRATE COURT SECTION M1
BOND SET FOR \$10,000.00
RESULT-RULE TO SHOW CAUSE FOR 5/09/2011 AT 10:00 AM
SCHEDULED -RULE TO SHOW CAUSE ON 5/09/2011 AT 10:00 AM, SECT M1
PROBABLE CAUSE TO SIMPLE BATTERY. PROTECTIVE ORDER ISSUED SIGNED
AND FILED.

More...

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END OF DOCKET MASTER

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