



## City of Phoenix

To: Joseph G. Yahner  
Acting Police Chief

Date: February 14, 2012

From: Blake A. McClelland, Assistant Chief  
North Patrol Division

*AM*  
*ADC*

Subject: INTERNAL INVESTIGATION - PSB12-0003

**Internal Investigators:**

Commander Dave Harvey  
Lieutenant Linda J. Meraz (Investigative Review)  
Sergeant Jennifer Doty (Primary Investigator)  
Sergeant William Schmidt (Interviews)

**Allegation #1:**

It is alleged between June 1, and November 30, 2011, Officer Brent Brownell #9270 failed to complete multiple departmental reports and impound evidence prior to the end of his assigned shift without obtaining a supervisor's approval.

**Findings:**

Sustained

**Allegation #2:**

It is alleged on November 23, 2011, Officer Brownell made a false verbal report to Sergeant Gage when he reported that he called in a report on the voicewriter when he had not.

**Findings:**

Sustained

**Allegation #3:**

It is alleged on November 13, 2011, Officer Brownell made a false verbal report to Officer Wells when he reported that he completed but not finalized a department report when it was not yet entered.

**Findings:**

Unresolved

**Involved Employee:**

Officer Brent Brownell #9270  
Division: Patrol Operations North  
Precinct: Desert Horizon  
Squad: 62J  
Schedule: 2030-0630 / S, M, Tu  
Date of Hire: 03-24-2008

**Complainant:** Department Initiated

**Witness Employees:** See Witness Employee Section

**Attachments:** See Attachment section

**SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION:**

On November 13, 2011, Officer Brent Brownell #9270 failed to complete an assault report involving a known suspect prior to the end of his shift. Hours later, first shift Officer Cameron Wells #8979 called Officer Brownell at home because he could not locate the report in the Police Automated Computerized Entry (PACE) system and was currently with the suspect who wished to turn herself in. According to Officer Wells, Officer Brownell said he completed the report but must not have finalized it in PACE. Officer Brownell told Professional Standards Bureau (PSB) investigators he remembered the call and that the assault report was discussed, but said he did not remember details of the conversation because he had been sleeping when he took the call. Afterwards, Officer Wells relayed Officer Brownell's statement to his supervisor, Sergeant Brian Thatcher #8135, who contacted PACE and learned that Officer Brownell had no unfinalized reports in case management or waiting to be entered from the voicewriter. Ultimately, Sergeant Thatcher directed the first shift officers to re-interview the parties and complete the original report.

On November 23, 2011, Sergeant Joseph Gage #7740 asked Officer Brownell if he had completed a supplement to the first shift officer's report regarding the assault. Officer Brownell told PSB that he did not want to get into trouble so he falsely stated that he had called in the report via voicewriter on Wednesday, November 16, when he had not. Sergeant Gage then verified there were no unfinalized reports in PACE or the voicewriter and directed Officer Brownell to complete the supplemental report at that time.

PSB assumed the investigation and conducted an audit of departmental reports and property invoices completed by Officer Brownell for the previous six month period, June 1 through November 30, 2011. The audit revealed that thirty-nine out of the total seventy-nine reports Officer Brownell completed were late. Additionally, on two occasions Officer Brownell failed to impound evidence until the underlying reports were completed one week later.

The investigators determined the allegations that Officer Brownell failed to complete multiple reports and impound property prior to the end of his shift and that he provided a false verbal report to Sergeant Gage when he stated he completed a report are sustained . The allegation that Officer Brownell provided a false verbal report to Officer Wells when he stated he completed a report is unresolved.

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