



## City of Phoenix

To: Jack F. Harris  
Public Safety Manager

Date: June 16, 2010

From: Blake A. McClelland, Assistant Chief  
Professional Standards Division

*BAM*

Subject: INTERNAL INVESTIGATION - PSB10-0011

**Internal Investigators:**

Commander Jeffery Hynes  
Lieutenant Nick DeBenedetto (Investigative Review)  
Sergeant Charmane Osborn (Primary Investigator)  
Sergeant Gabe Lopez (Interviews)

**Allegation #1:**

On December 20, 2009, at 18415 North 44<sup>th</sup> Place, Officer Zachary Clark #9355 provided an untruthful verbal report to Sergeant James Rothschild when he denied knocking on a possible armed robbery suspect's door by himself.

**Findings:**

Sustained

**Employee/s Involved:**

Officer Zachary Clark #9355  
Division: Patrol Operations North  
Precinct: Desert Horizon Precinct  
Squad: 62H  
Schedule: 1300-2300/ T, W, Th  
Date of Hire: May 19, 2008

**Complainant:**

Department Initiated

**Witness Employees:**

See Witness Employee section

**Civilian Witnesses:**

See Civilian Witness section

**Departmental Report:**

2009-92003204 / Armed Robbery

**Attachments:**

See Attachment section

**SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION:**

On December 20, 2009, at approximately 6:24 p.m., Phoenix Police officers responded to a call of an armed robbery. The victim from the incident provided officers the license plate of the suspect vehicle. Officers' speaking with the victim requested additional units respond to the address they obtained from the motor vehicle department (MVD) from the suspect's license plate. Officer Zachary Clark #9355 responded to this request and went to the residence to see if the suspects could be located back at their home.

Upon arrival, Officer Clark approached the residence alone and attempted to contact the suspects. Officer Clark cleared on his police radio documenting his actions. Sergeant James Rothschild #6616 was concerned for Officer Clark's safety. Sergeant Rothschild cleared on his police radio giving specific directions for Officer Clark to remain out of site, keeping visual contact only on the residence until additional patrol officers could respond to assist.<sup>1</sup>

Sergeant Rothschild arrived at the residence and contacted Officer Clark to verify his actions taken upon arrival at the suspect's home. Officer Clark gave a verbal report that directly contradicted his radio transmissions. In an attempt to corroborate Officer Clark's statements, Sergeant Rothschild later contacted the only witness to Officer Clark's actions, Mr. Tim Clark. Mr. Clark's interview corroborated Officer Clark's radio transmissions and not his statements to Sergeant Rothschild.

During an administrative interview, Officer Clark admitted to providing Sergeant Rothschild an untruthful verbal statement reference his actions during the incident. This allegation is sustained.

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