

ARREST AND PENDING DISMISSAL OF PHILADELPHIA POLICE OFFICERS

PHILADELPHIA- On April 17, 2018, approximately 10:10am, in the area of 100 E. Sharpnack Street, Police Officer Matthew Walsh and Police Officer Marvin Jones (both assigned to the 14th District) stopped an adult male citizen for investigation. According to documentation subsequently prepared and submitted by the officers, the citizen was stopped for “apparently using narcotics.” Also according to the officers’ paperwork, during the encounter, the citizen was frisked because he failed to take his hands out of his pockets. The citizen was ultimately released without charges. Sometime after the encounter, the citizen filed a complaint against police.

The complaint was investigated by the Internal Affairs Division (IAD). That investigation determined the following:

Based on video surveillance recovered during the course of the IAD investigation, Police Officer Walsh and Police Officer Jones could not have seen the citizen “apparently using narcotics.” In addition, the citizen was fully compliant at the time of the stop. Moreover, the search of the citizen (which resulted in the removal of a prescription pharmaceutical from the citizen’s pants pocket) was not noted on the “Vehicle/Pedestrian Investigation Report” prepared and submitted by the officers.

The IAD investigation further determined that Officers Walsh and Jones stopped the citizen without reasonable suspicion or probable cause, improperly searched the citizen (and his vehicle) without probable cause, detained the citizen in handcuffs for approximately 15 minutes, drove him approximately one block away, then released the citizen approximately one minute later.

Based on the contents of the video surveillance, the investigation also determined that Officers Walsh and Jones falsified the Vehicle/Pedestrian Investigation Report they prepared and submitted.

As a result of this investigation, on 09-26-18, Officer Matthew Walsh and Officer Marvin Jones were arrested and charged with Criminal Conspiracy (M2), False Imprisonment (M2), Tampering with Records (F3), Obstructing Administration of Law (M2), and Official Oppression (M2).