

## Citizens Narrative

The following document is a statement of events and a request for this report to be sent to the Prosecuting Attorney for review for possible prosecution of the individuals listed. As the party who was the victim to these actions, I write the following account of events under no duress and of my own free will and do swear the following is an accurate accounting of events, as they occurred, to the best of my knowledge. I will attempt to break the report into abbreviated sections that can be explained in further detail upon investigation by Law Enforcement upon request. I shall lay the document out in chronological order and attach the proof of allegations in evidentiary attachments to be referenced as exhibits in the report. I do not make these allegations lightly and I am deeply disappointed that I am required to. Below is an accurate accounting to the best of available knowledge on hand at the time of this report.

My first interaction with Chief James McCann of the Lorain City Police revolved around a civil rights violation that occurred over one of his officers denying entry to Rocking on the River to my service animal. I start with this incident because the chief made a statement in that email (dated 08/04/2021) where he said:

*“I take all complaints seriously, but understand, I cannot be involved in every aspect of this department or I wouldn’t need a command staff. Please take your time and send me a well written email detailing your complaint and include date and time and officers names if you know them. Take care.”* (Exhibit 1)

This statement will be very important in establishing motive and intent as we progress in the report so it is being stated now for that reason.

Moving forward to around March 21<sup>st</sup> where I Aaron C Knapp made contact with Chief McCann and the Lorain Mayor Jack Bradley and others via email where I was criticizing the departments shutting down the Lorain City Facebook Pages comments and their handling of the incident at West 27<sup>th</sup> street being inappropriate. In the Chiefs response to me he stated things like:

*“LPD cannot react to an incident on social media until we properly investigate that incident or we would be accused of being reckless. As Chief, I am well-aware that a government agency operating a*

*government social media page is subjugated to legal and constitutional constraints with regards to page management. This is not, nor will it ever be an issue for me. What is at issue is that the public is under no obligation to post honest and informed content. Again, this is not an issue for me; however, harm to the reputation and, in extreme cases physical well-being, of Lorain Police and City of Lorain employees, as well as to the organizations themselves can and has resulted from the misinformation and inaccurate posts on these social media pages. I have personally been the recipient of threats against myself, my family, and my property. Though I am confident in my abilities to protect myself and my family, I am not ok with the LPD social media accounts being used to convey these communications, or to spread the misinformation via public comment that serves as a basis for these threats. To be clear, I am willing and ready to stand in front a Federal Judge to state my case.”*

*(Exhibit 2) As well as “At this time, we have not been able to find any case law that specifically addresses the issue concerning our social media account and the actions we took to calm things down during our administrative investigation. There is, however, specific case law that does address deleting an individual’s comments and or deleting or blocking an individual. If you have specific case law that deals with LPD’s social media management decisions, I would be happy to review it. Additionally, courts have stated as has the ACLU, that off topic comments can be removed from a post. In other words, if there is a post about a basketball game, a comment that talks about a football game can be deleted. This is of course very time consuming.” (Exhibit 2).*

I would be remiss in pointing out that if he is well aware of the policies governing social media pages why does he need me to provide case law? But as you will see I did provide said case law in subsequent emails, per his request (Exhibit3). Also sharing with me he had received “death threats” is a law enforcement matter that should have been an ongoing investigation I should not be privy to.

On April 10<sup>th</sup> I received the following email response from James McCann in response to a complaint about someone contacting my employer to the mayor. The statement will be important as to motive and knowledge later in this report in which Chief McCann wrote:

*“If someone called your place of employment in their official capacity from the Lorain Police Department, they were not authorized to make any such phone call or notification. If you have proof of this accusation and a name of the employee, please forward that to me and it will be investigated. If it can be determined that a member of the police department in their official capacity called your employer, I will address it. You filed your complaint with the US Attorney’s Office, not with the Lorain Police Department. The matter is in their hands.” (Exhibit 2)*

On May 8<sup>th</sup> I received a response from chief McCann that stated the following:

***“First, I will first address your email from May 7, 2023 at 0800 hours:***

*I feel the need to help you understand what a Public Record actually is: According to the Ohio Revised Code a "Public record" means any document regardless of physical form including an electronic record, created or received by or coming under the jurisdiction of any public office, which serves to document the activities of the office.*

*You have not asked for any public records in your email, you have asked for legal advice which we do not give. Your questions should be directed to your attorney.*

*Second, I will address the complaint you filed dated May 8, 2023:*

*There is no violation of law and we are within our rights to release the information. The complaint will not be investigated.*

*It is your right to file a law suit (s), but I would strongly suggest you speak to your attorney and ask him to explain the consequences of filing frivolous law suits and the potential repercussions that can come from them.”*

*“No one here believes a simple forwarded email with no additional comment is a public record, but I will also include that as a PDF.” (Exhibit 4)*

On 06/24/2023 James McCann sent an email correspondence to Aaron Knapp and CC'd the Executive Officer AJ Mathewson the following:

**“Mr. Knapp:**

*Below are answers to you questions:*

*Ok. Well at minimum I would think I would have access to the new policy that was read to me via phone about entry into City Hall. As it is policy it shouldn't be restricted.*

*The Lorain Police Department is not in charge of the security protocols for city hall nor do we make the policy for city hall. The Safety/Service Director is in charge of city hall.*

*And for the record I'm not sure how access to public lobby videos would be privy to protection under this law. That being said can you give me a time frame on when they will be available? As you have 30 days to complete your investigation of the Lt. Placing his hands on me I assume I'll receive them then?*

*You are entitled to your opinion. During an active criminal or active administrative investigation, we believe video evidence is not a public record until the investigation is completed. If you disagree with us, you have that right. You also have the right to file whatever action you desire. Just to be clear, the 30 day deadline is an internal policy that I set as a general completion goal and may be extended at any time depending on operations, complexity of the investigation, vacations and the like.*

*Are you planning on charging him with a crime? Because as I read here as I am the subject of the video I have a right to have access to his body worn cameras regardless of your investigation into the LT.s actions.*

*The administrative investigation is ongoing. Again, we believe video evidence is not a public record until the investigation is completed.”*

The last statement about the administrative investigation being “ongoing” and “not public record until completed” is also very important as later this very report was sent to a civilian via email PRIOR to the investigation being completed.

On or around late May Chief McCann filed a complaint against my State License to Practice Social Work in late May on Behalf of the Lorain Police Department for signing LSW to my emails and stating I was an “Officer of the Court” on May 9<sup>th</sup> contact (Exhibit 5) I felt it was inappropriate for myself and the chief to have continued contact and I sent him several emails asking him to cease all contact with me. On June 21, 2023 I sent the following email to the chief in response to his continued email communications after I had asked him to stop. The following is the email sent on 06/21/2023 where I ask the Chief to stop all communication with me:

*“Please I will ask you once again not to email me. If you wish to communicate with me I’d appreciate it if you would place said communication into writing and mail it to me.*

*I’m not sure why my requests to records would be subject to a response from the Chief.*

*If you are referring to the State investigation into my license I see no law preventing me from having that email as you are not that agency and you did send it. But if you wish to hold off until the board is done by all means do so.*

*As captain Mathewson reviewed those policies with me and read them to me over the phone the department obviously received the memo on security. Therefore it’s part of internal records and was sent via email to at least two separate captains who read it verbatim to me. So I’m not sure why you’re being so secretive about all of this stuff?*

*But in the future, if you have to email me, I would please request you have Captain Mathewson respond. He has been respectful and responsive and I really think it’s a VERY bad idea for both of us to have continued conversation. So please let the officers do their jobs and respond to me. I’m trying to follow the appropriate procedures here and that requires I send my emails to the appropriate people.*

*You make it a wonderful day as well.*

*Aaron Christopher Knapp” (Exhibit 6)*

The Chief responded with:

*Mr. Knapp:*

*Thank you for your response. Email is my chosen form of communication to reply to you and all the public information requests I receive from everyone so this is what you get. You get the response from me because your requests are not the type of requests that our records employees handle and I will be the only one to respond to all your request from now on. Our records employees do not have access to email records, video or other administrative files so the requests are all forwarded to my office.*

*It's great that Captain Mathewson reviewed the city hall policy with you, however, the policy is not ours to release to the public. The policy was issued by the Safety/Service Director and that is whom you need to request it from. If I/we were trying to be secretive about the policy, I wouldn't have told you where to request it from.*

*Finally, you don't get to demand who to talk to at Lorain PD, I get to make those decisions, so I will be the only one communicating with you from this department in the future.*

*Have a great day!*

If we refer back to the beginning of this report the statements the chief made are very important here 2 years later...

*"I take all complaints seriously, but understand, I cannot be involved in every aspect of this department or I wouldn't need a command staff. Please take your time and send me a well written email detailing your complaint and include date and time and officers names if you know them. Take care." (Exhibit 1).*

His chosen form of communication does not matter. I was sending my emails to the "Lorain Complaints email" and Captain Mathewson had already been designated my contact point so why the change?

Either way I asked him to stop and he refused to stop.

***"Section 2917.21 | Telecommunications harassment.***

***Ohio Revised Code/Title 29 Crimes-Procedure/Chapter 2917 Offenses Against the Public Peace (5)***  
***Knowingly makes the telecommunication to the recipient of the telecommunication, to another person at the premises to which the telecommunication is made, or to those premises, and the recipient or another person at those premises previously has told the caller not to make a telecommunication to those premises or to any persons at those premises; ... (C)(1) Whoever violates this section is guilty of telecommunications harassment. (2) A violation of division (A)(1), (2), (3), (5), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), or***

*(11) or (B) of this section is a misdemeanor of the first degree on a first offense and a felony of the fifth degree on each subsequent offense."*

SO, under this law the first response on 6/21/2023 would be offense number one. There were at minimum two plus more responses buried in the chain of emails once he was asked to cease electronic communication with me. I have emails from August 1<sup>st</sup> and August 16<sup>th</sup> that I didn't reply to from the chief. That would make the second two offenses Felonies in the 5<sup>th</sup> degree, each.

All of this started over the Chief refusing to remove protected public information from the Lorain Police Department Website. After reporting this to numerous individuals who agreed juvenile court documents and pictures of juveniles, especially those not subject to arrest, are not permitted online. I wrote an official complaint to the department asking them to remove the offending documents but they refused and to date the Mayor of Lorain Jack Bradly and the Chief claim they have the right to post juvenile information publicly online. Not to mention the teacher's names and protected FERPA documents they have posted to boot. Here is the kicker, those are not my kids and as such I cannot sue civilly on behalf of the parents. But as this is a matter of public concern, I can advocate to get the information removed as it is still illegally online unredacted. My statement is If the Chief believes he has the rights to share the Hildreth's information publicly why wouldn't he share my child's information?

Fast Forward to current and Chief James McCann submitted over 61 pages of emails, complaints, confidential administrative screens, address, phone number, last 4 of social, child's name, everything via unsecured and unredacted public email to Tim Wietzel the Juvenile Court Administrator. (Exhibit 7) in the first email he says "***Tim keep this close to the vest as this is still under investigation***". So is Tim Wietzel a police officer or a prosecuting attorney? Does he have access to Lorain Police records on call and should he receive documents from the City of Lorain's Police Chief, illegally, as they contained witness information as well as MY information and under the law I am considered a protected individual as I am working as a Social Worker in juvenile justice. SO, sharing all my private information was illegal under the following laws:

Section 149.43 | Availability of public records for inspection and copying.

Ohio Revised Code/Title 1 State Government/Chapter 149 Documents, Reports, and Records

(A) As used in this section:

(1) "Public record" means records kept by any public office, including, but not limited to, state, county, city, village, township, and school district units, and records pertaining to the delivery of educational services by an alternative school in this state kept by the nonprofit or for-profit entity operating the alternative school pursuant to section 3313.533 of the Revised Code. "Public record" does not mean any of the following:

(h) Confidential law enforcement investigatory records;

(p) Designated public service worker residential and familial information;

(v) Records the release of which is prohibited by state or federal law;

(2) "Confidential law enforcement investigatory record" means any record that pertains to a law enforcement matter of a criminal, quasi-criminal, civil, or administrative nature, but only to the extent that the release of the record would create a high probability of disclosure of any of the following:

(a) The identity of a suspect who has not been charged with the offense to which the record pertains, or of an information source or witness to whom confidentiality has been reasonably promised;

(b) Information provided by an information source or witness to whom confidentiality has been reasonably promised, which information would reasonably tend to disclose the source's or witness's identity;

(7) "Designated public service worker" means a peace officer, parole officer, probation officer, bailiff, prosecuting attorney, assistant prosecuting attorney, correctional employee, county or multicounty corrections officer, community-based correctional facility employee, designated Ohio national guard member, protective services worker, youth services employee, firefighter, EMT, medical director or member of a cooperating physician advisory board of an emergency medical service organization, state board of pharmacy employee, investigator of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation, emergency service telecommunicator, forensic mental health provider, mental health evaluation provider, regional psychiatric hospital employee, judge, magistrate, or federal law enforcement officer.

(k) Information, that does not constitute a confidential law enforcement investigatory record, that could identify a person who provides sensitive or confidential information to the department of rehabilitation and correction, the department of youth services, or a law enforcement agency when the disclosure of the

person's identity or the information provided could reasonably be expected to threaten or endanger the safety or property of the person or another person;

(l) Personal information of a person who is not arrested, cited, charged, or issued a written warning by a peace officer;

#### Section 2921.01 | Offenses against justice and public administration general definitions.

(A) No public servant, under color of the public servant's office, employment, or authority, shall knowingly deprive, or conspire or attempt to deprive any person of a constitutional or statutory right.

(B) Whoever violates this section is guilty of interfering with civil rights, a misdemeanor of the first degree.

#### Section 2921.03 | Intimidation.

(A) No person, knowingly and by force, by unlawful threat of harm to any person or property, or by filing, recording, or otherwise using a materially false or fraudulent writing with malicious purpose, in bad faith, or in a wanton or reckless manner, shall attempt to influence, intimidate, or hinder a public servant, a party official, or an attorney or witness involved in a civil action or proceeding in the discharge of the person's the duties of the public servant, party official, attorney, or witness.

(B) Whoever violates this section is guilty of intimidation, a felony of the third degree.

(C) A person who violates this section is liable in a civil action to any person harmed by the violation for injury, death, or loss to person or property incurred as a result of the commission of the offense and for reasonable attorney's fees, court costs, and other expenses incurred as a result of prosecuting the civil action commenced under this division. A civil action under this division is not the exclusive remedy of a person who incurs injury, death, or loss to person or property as a result of a violation of this section.

#### Section 124.01 | Department of administrative services - personnel definitions.

(A) "Civil service" includes all offices and positions of trust or employment in the service of the state and in the service of the counties, cities, city health districts, general health districts, and city school districts of the state.

(B) "State service" includes all offices and positions in the service of the state and the counties and general health districts of the state. "State service" does not include offices and positions in the service of the cities, city health districts, and city school districts of the state.

And again, as the Chief himself stated, in regards to the investigation concerning city hall, "**Mr Knapp**

*Due to an ongoing Administrative Investigation, the records you have requested are not currently subject to disclosure, as such records are confidential law enforcement investigatory records, pursuant to R.C.149.43(A)(1)(h). Your request is here by denied." (Exhibit 6)*

Also, when Chief McCann sent the 61 plus documents (Exhibit 7) to Tim Weitzel he was utilizing email to not only commit retaliation:

***Section 2921.05 | Retaliation.***

***Ohio Revised Code***

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***Title 29 Crimes-Procedure***

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***Chapter 2921 Offenses Against Justice and Public Administration***

***(F) No officer or employee of the state or any of its political subdivisions shall knowingly release, disseminate, or make available for any purpose involving employment, bonding, licensing, or education to any person or to any department, agency, or other instrumentality of the state or of any of its political subdivisions any information or other data concerning any arrest, taking into custody, complaint, indictment, information, trial, hearing, adjudication, or correctional supervision, the records of which have been sealed pursuant to section 2151.356 of the Revised Code and the release, dissemination, or making available of which is not expressly permitted by this section. Whoever violates this division is guilty of divulging confidential information, a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.***

***(A) No person, purposely and by force or by unlawful threat of harm to any person or property, shall retaliate against a public servant, a party official, or an attorney or witness who was involved in a civil or criminal action or proceeding because the public servant, party official, attorney, or witness discharged the duties of the public servant, party official, attorney, or witness.***

***(B) No person, purposely and by force or by unlawful threat of harm to any person or property, shall retaliate against the victim of a crime because the victim filed or prosecuted criminal charges.***

***(C) Whoever violates this section is guilty of retaliation, a felony of the third degree.***

He also continued his telecommunications harassment of Mr. Knapp through another individual which is a violation of:

***Section 2917.21 | Telecommunications harassment.5) Knowingly makes the telecommunication to the recipient of the telecommunication, to another person at the premises to which the telecommunication is made, or to those premises, and the recipient or another person at those premises previously has told the caller not to make a telecommunication to those premises or to any persons at those premises;***

***(10) Knowingly incites another person through a telecommunication or other means to harass or participate in the harassment of a person;***

(When he sent the email to Tim Wietzel)

(C)(1) Whoever violates this section is guilty of telecommunications harassment.

(2) A violation of division (A)(1), (2), (3), (5), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), or (11) or (B) of this section is a misdemeanor of the first degree on a first offense and a felony of the fifth degree on each subsequent offense.

This part is key. I lost my job. It cost me approximately 12,800.00 in salary (that's not counting benefits and finding new work).

Read this part carefully and look at what those dollar amounts do to the charges:

***3) Except as otherwise provided in division (C)(3) of this section, a violation of division (A)(4) of this section is a misdemeanor of the first degree on a first offense and a felony of the fifth degree on each subsequent offense. If a violation of division (A)(4) of this section results in economic harm of one thousand dollars or more but less than seven thousand five hundred dollars, telecommunications harassment is a felony of the fifth degree. If a violation of division (A)(4) of this section results in economic harm of seven thousand five hundred dollars or more but less than one hundred fifty thousand dollars, telecommunications harassment is a felony of the fourth degree. If a violation of division (A)(4) of this section results in economic harm of one hundred fifty thousand dollars or more, telecommunications harassment is a felony of the third degree.***

Now as I will attach all exhibits to this report, I will also include the other laws that may be applicable to the report and/or crime and I will expect that any questions will be asked and answered during the investigation into the matter.

It should be noted that upon receipt of the emails Tim did not ***“keep it close to his vest”*** he acted on it shortly after without verifying that Mr. Knapp was a GAL and under the Lorain Courts own website was considered a “Officer of the Court” he had Mr. Knapp’s ability to contract with the Courts terminated for supposedly “misrepresenting the court” (exact same thing McCann stated) and also shared this

information with other employees in the Court, such as Tim Green of Voices for Children and instructed him to not speak to me or allow me to volunteer with the courts. Again, more illegal actions on evidence that arguably was “Fruits of the Forbidden Tree” and should have been immediately reported to the courts once received from the chief.

GAL volunteers complete 30 hours of pre-service training, which includes four classroom sessions (30 hrs) and courtroom observations. All GALs are screened, interviewed and a criminal background check through the Web-Check System is completed. The Judges administer an oath and the volunteers are then recognized as Officers of the Court. In addition, there is a continuing 12 hours of education required annually.

It is misconduct and grounds for discipline for guardian ad litem to:

Violate or attempt to violate the rules or statutes governing guardian’s ad litem or an appointment order issued pursuant to them, or to knowingly assist or induce another to do so, or do so through the acts of another; Engage in conduct that violates the applicable rules of conduct for guardian’s ad litem in another jurisdiction; Commit any criminal or unlawful act that reflects adversely on the guardian ad Litems honesty, trustworthiness, or fitness as guardian ad litem; Engage in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation; Have allegations of abuse or neglect against him or her substantiated by the Maine Department of Health and Human Services; Fail to maintain compliance with the requirements for placement on the roster of guardian’s ad litem; In the performance of guardian ad litem duties, by words or conduct, manifest bias or prejudice based upon race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status; Willfully violate an order imposing discipline under the guardian ad litem rules, or to willfully fail to comply with a subpoena validly issued under the rules; or knowingly fail to respond to a lawful demand from a disciplinary authority, except that the guardian ad litem is not required to disclosure information otherwise protected by applicable rules relating to confidentiality; or Fail to comply with the conflict of interest or mandatory disclosure requirements of in the guardian ad litem rules.

It should be noted that the Social Worker Board found I acted ethically. (exhibit 8).

It should be noted the Ohio Department of Unemployment found I acted appropriately and did NOT violate ORC (exhibit 9).

Laws to reference:

Confidential law enforcement investigatory records (“CLEIRS”) are not considered public records pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 149.43(A)(1)

The exemptions of public records being public servant information as well as Witness information

Also attached will be (Exhibit 10) Mr. Knapps response to the Lorain Police Departments Complaint with attachments.

Section 2151.14 | Duties and powers of probation department - records - command assistance.

Ohio Revised Code/Title 21 Courts-Probate-Juvenile/Chapter 2151 Juvenile Court

(D)(1) In accordance with division (D)(2) of this section, subject to the limitation specified in division (D)(4) of this section, and in connection with a disposition pursuant to section 2151.354 of the Revised Code when a child has been found to be an unruly child, a disposition pursuant to sections 2152.19 and 2152.20 of the Revised Code when a child has been found to be a delinquent child, or a disposition pursuant to sections 2152.20 and 2152.21 of the Revised Code when a child has been found to be a juvenile traffic offender, the court may issue an order requiring boards of education, governing bodies of chartered nonpublic schools, public children services agencies, private child placing agencies, probation departments, law enforcement agencies, and prosecuting attorneys that have records related to the child in question to provide copies of one or more specified records, or specified information in one or more specified records, that the individual or entity has with respect to the child to any of the following individuals or entities that request the records in accordance with division (D)(3)(a) of this section:

(a) The child;

- (b) The attorney or guardian ad litem of the child;
- (c) A parent, guardian, or custodian of the child;
- (d) A prosecuting attorney;
- (e) A board of education of a public school district;
- (f) A probation department of a juvenile court;
- (g) A public children services agency or private child placing agency that has custody of the child, is providing services to the child or the child's family, or is preparing a social history or performing any other function for the juvenile court;
- (h) The department of youth services when the department has custody of the child or is performing any services for the child that are required by the juvenile court or by statute;
- (i) The individual in control of a juvenile detention or rehabilitation facility to which the child has been committed;
- (j) An employee of the juvenile court that found the child to be an unruly child, a delinquent child, or a juvenile traffic offender;
- (k) Any other entity that has custody of the child or is providing treatment, rehabilitation, or other services for the child pursuant to a court order, statutory requirement, or other arrangement.

(2) Any individual or entity listed in divisions (D)(1)(a) to (k) of this section may file a motion with the court that requests the court to issue an order as described in division (D)(1) of this section. If such a motion is filed, the court shall conduct a hearing on it. If at the hearing the movant demonstrates a need for one or more specified records, or for information in one or more specified records, related to the child in question and additionally demonstrates the relevance of the information sought to be obtained from those records, and if the court determines that the limitation specified in division (D)(4) of this section

does not preclude the provision of a specified record or specified information to the movant, then the court may issue an order to a designated individual or entity to provide the movant with copies of one or more specified records or with specified information contained in one or more specified records. (Grand Jury was conducted allowing access to the records for the purposes of the report)

(3)(a) Any individual or entity that is authorized by an order issued pursuant to division (D)(1) of this section to obtain copies of one or more specified records, or specified information, related to a particular child may file a written request for copies of the records or for the information with any individual or entity required by the order to provide copies of the records or the information. The request shall be in writing, describe the type of records or the information requested, explain the need for the records or the information, and be accompanied by a copy of the order.

(b) If an individual or entity that is required by an order issued pursuant to division (D)(1) of this section to provide one or more specified records, or specified information, related to a child receives a written request for the records or information in accordance with division (D)(3)(a) of this section, the individual or entity immediately shall comply with the request to the extent it is able to do so, unless the individual or entity determines that it is unable to comply with the request because it is prohibited by law from doing so, or unless the requesting individual or entity does not have authority to obtain the requested records or information. If the individual or entity determines that it is unable to comply with the request, it shall file a motion with the court that issued the order requesting the court to determine the extent to which it is required to comply with the request for records or information. Upon the filing of the motion, the court immediately shall hold a hearing on the motion, determine the extent to which the movant is required to comply with the request for records or information, and issue findings of fact and conclusions of law in support of its determination. The determination of the court shall be final. If the court determines that the movant is required to comply with the request for records or information, it shall identify the specific records or information that must be supplied to the individual or entity that requested the records or information.

(c) If an individual or entity is required to provide copies of one or more specified records pursuant to division (D) of this section, the individual or entity may charge a fee for the copies that does not exceed the cost of supplying them.

(4) Division (D) of this section does not require, authorize, or permit the dissemination of any records or any information contained in any records if the dissemination of the records or information generally is prohibited by any provision of the Revised Code and a specific provision of the Revised Code does not specifically authorize or permit the dissemination of the records or information pursuant to division (D) of this section.

The above clearly shows that while the Police had access to the documentation from the school as well as the Juvenile court due to an Order Generated by the Grand Jury that required those entries to turn the documents over for purpose of the investigation being conducted it CLEARLY did not give the Lorain Police the right to publicly disseminate the records to Facebook and beyond. After reading the response and seeing the unredacted documentation I felt I had a duty and obligation to report that to the appropriate people and that was the Clerk of the Courts, The Sheriff of the County (The actual protector of the court records) and the Lorain Police the agency that had posted them.

It feels like the Police Department is upset that I added my professional “titles” on my complaint. It also feels like they are possibly not upset about my titles at all and are maybe trying to protect their carefully constructed narrative? It also really feels a bit retaliatory in how they are going about silencing their critics.

Also please refer to:

Section 2151.356 | Sealing of juvenile court records.

Ohio Revised Code/Title 21 Courts-Probate-Juvenile/Chapter 2151 Juvenile Court

(A) The records of a case in which a person was adjudicated a delinquent child for committing a violation of section 2903.01, 2903.02, or 2907.02 of the Revised Code shall not be sealed under this section.

(B)(1) The juvenile court shall promptly order the immediate sealing of records pertaining to a juvenile in any of the following circumstances: ...

Section 2151.357 | Response respecting sealed records - index - limited inspection.

Ohio Revised Code/Title 21 Courts-Probate-Juvenile/Chapter 2151 Juvenile Court

(A) If the court orders the records of a person sealed pursuant to section 2151.356 of the Revised Code, the person who is subject of the order properly may, and the court shall, reply that no record exists with respect to the person upon any inquiry in the matter, and the court, except as provided in division (D) of this section, shall do all of the following:

...

(2) Any entry regarding a sealed record in the index of sealed records shall not contain either of the following:

(a) The social security number of the person who is subject of the sealed record;

(b) The name or a description of the act committed.

(E) Inspection of records that have been ordered sealed under section 2151.356 of the Revised Code may be made only by the following persons or for the following purposes:

(1) By the court;

I hereby affirm to the best of my knowledge the above statements are true. I wish to file criminal charges against Chief McCann as he was not acting under color of law when he committed the acts of harassment nor was he acting under color of law when he released all the information to my contract holder.

I also wish charges be brought against Tim Wietzel because although he received the emails apparently unrequested, he did act on the knowledge contained within them and as such continued chief McCanns harassment of Mr. Knapp. He also then forwarded the information to Tim Grenn (or at least made him aware) who then stated I could not volunteer as a GAL for “the reason(s) [plural] you were told you were unable to contract with the court.” Which is also retaliation and conspiracy.

These types of behaviors of individual public servants are counterintuitive and are not legal. If you see something say something, well I am saying something.

Please feel free to follow up with any questions.

A handwritten signature consisting of a stylized 'A' inside a circle, followed by a 'K'.

11/05/2023

Aaron C Knapp LSW, CDCA, CANs Assessor

I was instructed by Rick, the Mayors chief of staff, to email you about calling me on the Civil Rights violation committed by a Lorain city officer at rockin on the River Friday night. As I've attempted to contact you via phone and your officers and dispatch refuses to give me a supervisor or put me in touch with you I have minimal hope this will get my desired call back.

My number is 216-659-9899 thank you in advance!

## RE: Urgent

From: McCann, James - Chief (jim\_mccann@cityofflorain.org)

To: a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com

Date: Wednesday, August 4, 2021 at 10:51 AM EDT

Good Morning:

I spoke with Sgt. Morris about your phone call. He gave you some direction on how to proceed and according to him, you were unwilling to listen. I will not go back and forth with you via email or on the phone. For the sake of closure and for me to understand your complaint, please take some time to send me an email detailing everything. Once I receive that, I will review it and determine if follow up is necessary with our Internal Affairs Division.

We strive to always improve our service, but in this instance, our officers were working for a private entity who had total control of the rented property. If they made an incorrect decision, I will get you the necessary information to contact the private company.

I take all complaints seriously, but understand, I cannot be involved in every aspect of this department or I wouldn't need a command staff. Please take your time and send me a well written email detailing your complaint and include date and time and officers names if you know them. Take care.

Chief Jim McCann

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp [mailto:a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com]

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 4, 2021 10:20 AM

**To:** McCann, James - Chief

**Subject:** Re: Urgent

Also a Civil Rights Violation Lawsuit, as suggested by your sergeant, it would only cost the city and county money and it doesn't help the situation. The most common ways is to address it to a supervisor, and handle it in a non punitive manner. I feel like all this fighting me on taking a report and then being rude is highly counter productive. I'm trying to improve my community not be a problem.

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, Ohio State University, School of Social Work**

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On Aug 4, 2021, at 09:34, Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com> wrote:

I received a call from a supervisor at Lorain city police and was unable to get resolution and was spoken to in a rude manner. Is it really this hard for a citizen and tax payer to get some decent communication with a law enforcement officer?

Just one nice person, that's all I'm asking for, someone who will listen to my concerns and not belittle me and my issues.

Please!

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, Ohio State University, School of Social Work**

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On Aug 4, 2021, at 08:53, Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com> wrote:

Sorry this got kicked back due to email address. Resending.

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, Ohio State University, School of Social Work**

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On Aug 4, 2021, at 08:46, Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com> wrote:

I was instructed by Rick, the Mayors chief of staff, to email you about calling me on the Civil Rights violation commuted by a Lorain city officer at rockin on the River Friday night. As I've attempted to contact you via phone and your officers and dispatch refuses to give me a supervisor or put me in touch with you I have minimal Hope this will get my desired call back.

My number is 216-659-9899 thank you in advance!

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, Ohio State University, School of Social Work**

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TRANSMISSION IN ERROR, PLEASE IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THE SENDER AND DELETE THE COPY YOU RECEIVED.

## RE: Update

From: McCann, James - Chief (jim\_mccann@cityoflorain.org)  
To: a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com; jack\_bradley@cityoflorain.org  
Cc: oh09mk.outreach@mail.house.gov; jacob\_morris@cityoflorain.org  
Date: Tuesday, March 21, 2023 at 01:01 PM EDT

Mr. Knapp:

We are working with legal to review all our options concerning our social media accounts. I have also asked the Lorain County Prosecutor's office to review the entire incident at 126 W. 27<sup>th</sup> St., because in my view, this provides an external review of our actions. Once we receive that review and our Administrative Investigation is completed, it has always been our position to either restore commenting or delete our social media altogether. Social media has proven to be very time consuming and very difficult to manage. I believe our limited resources are better committed elsewhere. I have not made a final decision either way at this time.

I believe I have been one of the most transparent Police Chiefs in Lorain County and I have ALWAYS welcomed criticism from our citizens in Lorain, as they sometimes provide the best feedback to improve our services. Unfortunately, there was too much misinformation being posted about the 27<sup>th</sup> St. incident, which caused our social media to be hijacked by people from out of state and this caused the management of these accounts to become impossible.

LPD cannot react to an incident on social media until we properly investigate that incident or we would be accused of being reckless. As Chief, I am well-aware that a government agency operating a government social media page is subjugated to legal and constitutional constraints with regards to page management. This is not, nor will it ever be an issue for me. What is at issue is that the public is under no obligation to post honest and informed content. Again, this is not an issue for me; however, harm to the reputation and, in extreme cases physical well-being, of Lorain Police and City of Lorain employees, as well as to the organizations themselves can and has resulted from the misinformation and inaccurate posts on these social media pages. I have personally been the recipient of threats against myself, my family, and my property. Though I am confident in my abilities to protect myself and my family, I am not ok with the LPD social media accounts being used to convey these communications, or to spread the misinformation via public comment that serves as a basis for these threats. To be clear, I am willing and ready to stand in front a Federal Judge to state my case.

Many people, to include you, made up your mind about the 27<sup>th</sup> St incident after only seeing a portion of one video and not allowing LPD to respond with the totality of all events leading up to the specific incident. This doesn't seem impartial, at least in my opinion. Again, the public is free to form their own opinions, regardless of accuracy or partiality. When misinformation or lack of information creates harm, I cannot stand by idly while the social media accounts that LPD manages are used to spread outright lies by way of comments and attachments from uninformed people. You claim to be an educated social worker, but one would think with your claim of being educated, you would have the ability and the "want" to get all the facts before you make assumptions or even a decision regarding what was right and wrong.

At this time, we have not been able to find any case law that specifically addresses the issue concerning our social media account and the actions we took to calm things down during our administrative investigation. There is, however, specific case law that does address deleting an individual's comments and or deleting or blocking an individual. If you have specific case law that deals with LPD's social media management decisions, I would be happy to review it. Additionally, courts have stated as has the ACLU, that off topic comments can be removed from a post. In other words, if there is a post about a basketball game, a comment that talks about a football game can be deleted. This is of course very time consuming.

Finally, Marcy Kaptur is NOT our Congressional Representative. The whole of Lorain County is within the 5<sup>th</sup> Congressional District and she represents the 9<sup>th</sup> district. Also, FOIA applies to records created by federal agencies and does not cover records held by state and local government agencies. In the spirit of cooperation and per your improper FOIA request, all communications between myself and the Law Department fall under attorney client privilege and you are not entitled to that information. It is my understanding that your improper FOIA request for information has been satisfied through our Records Department.

Semper Paratus!

***Chief Jim McCann***  
Lorain Police Department  
100 W. Erie Ave.  
Lorain, Ohio 44052  
Office: 440-204-2103  
Fax: 440-204-2519

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 21, 2023 7:30 AM

**To:** Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>  
**Cc:** McCann, James - Chief <Jim\_McCann@cityoflorain.org>; Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur <oh09mk.outreach@mail.house.gov>  
**Subject:** Update

I've had 0 response from the chief, I've filed a complaint, but Lorain Police continues to keep comments on their Facebook OFF, in violation of the First Amendment. I have begun the process of drafting my filing for opening a civil lawsuit to FORCE them into compliance. I've reached out to local news stations and a story should be coming out soon.

Make it a wonderful day!

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW**

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To Chief Jim McCann,

First let me start by saying I really appreciate the response although I regret it had to be after I contacted our Mayor twice about this matter. I will attempt to address each point you made in your response in the order in which you addressed them.

1. While all of this started over the incident at West 27<sup>th</sup> St my concern is the closing off of the comments being unconstitutional. I spoke with Lt. Morris and voiced my concerns that the comments that had previously been open and commented on should stay open. It is my interpretation of current case law that by shutting down comments on posts that you already had open for comment you violated the First Amendment. And while I can appreciate your want to investigate this matter it is of no concern to me in this particular matter. I did not write you about the Police actions that day I wrote, called, and commented about the closing off of a Constitutionally Protected, traditionally public forum that I was participating in first amendment protected speech in. The content of my speech is not to be judged nor should it unless it falls under certain areas such as threats, instigating violence, or narrowly defined hate speech. I would agree though if you feel you cannot manage the page you should shut it down. To my knowledge that is an option but leaving previously commented on posts shut off is the problem. In my initial contacts I even stated if you turned those

comments back on, I would be satisfied. But Then the Page suddenly opened comments previous to the 15<sup>th</sup> of January which seemed strange but it was a step in the right direction. In the end its about the Facebook forum being protected not investigating the actions at W 27<sup>th</sup> street.

2. I'm not suggesting you aren't the "most transparent chief" I didn't know the previous one. Hijacked, unmanageable, none of these things mattered once you opened the page up as a community Public Relations page the Department obligated itself to this "criticism" and the First Amendment protects all citizens not just those from Lorain Ohio.
3. I cannot say what people would or would not accuse the Police of but speaking of investigating the Department dumped an entire history of citizens address with pictures of gun shots and reports to go with it in a google drop on the LORAIN CITY SCHOOLS YouTube as well as on Facebook. It looks like the Department had investigated A LOT and as far as I was informed by other city officials the individual who lived there and caused these previous crimes has since become incarcerated and is currently a resident of the State of Ohio, correct? So, if you were scared of being called reckless why did you release all the information onto social media before you completed your investigation? *"As Chief, I am well-aware that a government agency operating a government social media page is subjugated*

*to legal and constitutional constraints with regards to page management.” If that is the case, we would NOT be having this discussion. You state “harm to the reputation...” You are not reputation enforcement and your reputation is what you and your officers gain, both positive and negative, through community interactions. If you think your department and employees’ reputations are getting sullied, that sounds like hurt feelings, and we know that the government has no feelings. You are public servants and as such are by law subjecting yourselves to public criticism and public praise.*

*“I have personally been the recipient of threats against myself, my family, and my property.” This is CRIMINAL and its my understanding you have remedies under the law. You should contact the Police Department and report local violators or the Federal Bureau of Investigations for out of State violations to protect yourself and your family. I would never condone such types of activities. But just because those CRIMINALS committed a crime and made terrorist threats doesn’t mean I lose my rights as well. And TO BE CLEAR I would hope you are ready to defend any actions you have undertook under the Office of Police Chief of the City of Lorain as you do so under Color of Law and I would hope you don’t go around making decisions you’re not willing to back up, but that doesn’t mean you are*

correct either. I am glad you want to protect your employees and staffs reputations as well as the rights that you and your family have to live free without threats of violence or harm. But none of those trump the First Amendment, if anything it only re-enforces our need for protections like the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2nd Amendments as well as the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and all the amendments really.

4. In your response you state: *“Many people, to include you, made up your mind about the 27th St incident after only seeing a portion of one video and not allowing LPD to respond with the totality of all events leading up to the specific incident. This doesn’t seem impartial, at least in my opinion. Again, the public is free to form their own opinions, regardless of accuracy or partiality. When misinformation or lack of information creates harm, I cannot stand by idly while the social media accounts that LPD manages are used to spread outright lies by way of comments and attachments from uninformed people. You claim to be an educated social worker, but one would think with your claim of being educated, you would have the ability and the “want” to get all the facts before you make assumptions or even a decision regarding what was right and wrong”.*

For the record I have NOT made up my mind by only seeing a portion of one video. I watched ALL the videos released by your agency and the people at the address. I read ALL the reports you put out and based on that plus my

own knowledge and experience I came to a logical educated conclusion. And while it has no place in this letter, I will say this, your officers missed their shot, the timing was off and once they were told to leave, they should have left and got their warrant. If they had waited, they get their chance again, legally, when the juveniles leave private property. I am not arguing if the residents in that house deserve to be profiled or watched. I am not arguing your Officers or the ATF did anything wrong (In this letter/complaint). Did I offer opinions on line, yes, but that doesn't mean I have made up my mind about ANYTHING. Yes, I made a "*claim of being educated*" [SARCASM NOTED] and yes, I would love all the facts. I thought reading the dossier you put online was enough to educate me but sure I never would want to make any assumptions. I also wouldn't want to shut down reasonable conversations on a public forum I opened to try and get that point across and then close it with no explanation. You put the information out there on Facebook then got mad when people didn't just see it your way. Government officials may have no obligation to open the social media account up for public comment, **but if they do**, they cannot discriminate as to which views get to be expressed in those comments. And that's ok as well, you have a right to be mad, but the Facebook page has no feelings not does the Lorain Police Department. You want to make this about the incident on 27<sup>th</sup> St. and

I am simply stating you violated my First Amendment rights by stopping the conversation.

5. AS far as case law goes I supplied it in my official complaint but I will once again provide it here for your convenience.

Knight First Amendment Institute V Trump (2019), The Second Circuit issued its decision in July 2019, upholding the district court ruling. The Second Circuit determined that Trump used his Twitter to conduct official government business, and therefore, he cannot block Americans from the account on the basis of their political views. The Knight ruling has been cited as an important development in the use of social media as a public forum, and the tendency of government officials to try to block access to that forum or delete past communications.

Davison V Randal (2019) Status: Decided on January 7, 2019. A panel of the Fourth Circuit unanimously held that the “interactive component” of a local government official's Facebook page constituted a public forum and that the official engaged in unconstitutional viewpoint discrimination by banning Davison from that forum.

Swanson V Tillbrook/Griffin (2022) Swanson sued Griffin and Otero County Records Custodian Sylvia Tillbrook alleging that since Griffin's Facebook

page was a public forum, that Griffin had violated the First Amendment by engaging in viewpoint discrimination

Packingham v. North Carolina, in which Justice Anthony Kennedy described social media as "*the modern public square*" and as one of the most important places for the exchange of views.

Cohen v. California, 403 U.S. 15, 19-21 (1971). This Court held, early in the case, that the interactive comment section of the State Police's Face book page is a designated public forum. Profanity usually doesn't justify governmental action against speech in a public forum. Doc. 60 at 2 & Doc. 97 at 2-3

Biden v. Knight First Amendment Institute at Columbia University, 141 S. Ct. 1220 (2021) [I cannot find a summary of this newer case]

City of Houston, Texas v. Hill, 482 U.S. 451, 461 (1987) "the First Amendment protects a significant amount of verbal criticism and challenge directed at police officers."

Garcia v. City of Trenton, 348 F.3d 726, 728-29 (8th Cir. 2003) "*an adverse action that would chill a person of ordinary firmness from continuing in the activity.*"

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas ruled that the Arkansas State Police unlawfully used Facebook's content

moderation tools to censor speech on the department's Facebook page. The agency set Facebook's profanity filter (which deletes comments if they contain certain objectionable words) to the strongest available setting and blacklisted a custom set of words they selected, including "pig," "copper," and "jerk." "[B]ut people are free to say those words," wrote Chief United States District Judge D.P. Marshall Jr., in the court's opinion. "The First Amendment protects disrespectful language."

Playing Devil's advocate, I have found some research on this matter as well: The primary approach an agency has in this scenario is to have a policy, carefully vetted by legal counsel, that sets forth what comments are authorized and what are not. For example, the policy can specify that obscene, defamatory, and other similar types of comments are not permitted. The policy can also specify that comments have to relate to the matter originally posted (in the example above, the officer's promotion). But that policy itself presumably must be designed to satisfy the stringent demands of forum analysis, including that the policy be "viewpoint-neutral," and the agency must be able to justify its restrictions on certain types of comments in a way that will satisfy forum analysis requirements. The 2015 Walker decision, described above, is important because it offers agencies a possible

way out of the strictures of forum analysis in the maintenance of government social media accounts. With government speech, the government has significant latitude in the message it conveys. **If what is at issue is not a forum, but instead government speech, the government has substantial authority to limit the message being conveyed.** Government speech is an alternative way of viewing the scenario: it asks the Court to view an agency's social media site not as the hosting of speech by members of the public (subject to certain rules), but instead the government itself speaking, by effectively selecting comments/posts to offer to the public (and choosing not to offer others).

So, under the Walker decision above I agree you could have the right as an agency to restrict posts and comments. But the problem is that wasn't what the department chose to do originally. My understanding is under the Walker decision the department would be correct **IF**

- 1) The department had always made the page about posting facts and information and **had NEVER allowed comments.**
- 2) Never posted the entire scenario online for public comment, thereby inviting the public criticism

3) Had in place a legally vetted social media policy that clearly defined what could and could not be posted on the page (that was posted for public review)

4) Had never utilized the page for any other purpose or as a forum to do anything beyond provide basic public information.

I am not an attorney so you would obviously want to consult with one because I am unable to give legal advice. I can only act in accordance with my own legal rights, on the first amendment claim alone. But I would be worried that if we were speaking hypothetically and say a public official discontinued comments on a public forum based off of possible “*harm to the reputation and, in extreme cases physical well-being, of Lorain Police and City of Lorain employees, as well as to the organizations themselves can and has resulted from the misinformation and inaccurate posts on these social media pages*”. That could be viewed as retaliation and as such could be considered problematic as “*An act taken in retaliation for the exercise of a constitutionally protected right is actionable under § 1983 even if the act, when taken for a different reason, would have been proper.*” See *DeLoach v. Bevers*, 922 F.2d 618, 620 (10th Cir.1990) (quoting *Matzker v. Herr*, 748 F.2d 1142, 1150 (7th Cir.1984)). Moreover, “[t]he unlawful intent inherent in such a retaliatory action places it beyond the scope of [an official's]

*qualified immunity if the right retaliated against was clearly established.”*

*DeLoach, 922 F.2d at 620.* But again, I’m not an attorney so I am unaware if that is the case nor am I able to provide legal advice.

FINALLY, I only sent the email to Marcy Kaptur out of a connection I formed with her while working on Veterans issues in the State of Ohio. I do realize she is no longer our local representative but as I follow all State and Local politics, I like to keep people in the loop as Ohio is a small community. And as she was our representative for many years, and could be again based on how we moved districts around unconstitutionally and required the Ohio Supreme courts involvement, so that was merely for her information. But I appreciate the attempt to inform me of our current congressional districts representative, its Bob Latta, but I wasn’t trying to involve his office (or Congresswoman Kaptur) officially which is why I didn’t specifically mention them in my email requests.

I am unsure what you mean by “inappropriate FOIA request”? If referring to the form I used it was the only one you had on the website to request information. I realize it had the old Chiefs name on it but it was what the department offers to the public on the outdated website the department currently has up. If you were referring to me asking for communications between my government officials as attorney/client protected I would argue

only direct communications between you and your “lawyer” are covered and as such any emails to anyone who isn’t the Police Departments lawyer would be accessible under a FOIA request. Such information could include and emails between you and Lt. Morris in regards to the Facebook situation, any emails and communications with officers about the Facebook page, and policy letters or memos in regards to the Facebook page. To my knowledge none of these are protected documentation under the attorney client privilege and by law you can annotate any names or personal information.

In Conclusion I would have always been satisfied if you had left the posts, you previously opened for comment opened. I would have appreciated an earlier response with less snarkiness and a little respect but I suppose that was too much to ask as well. To be clear I am only concerned about the First Amendment and the fact you closed off comments on posts you previously opened and engaged in conversation with the public on only to close them off when you didn’t like what was said. As far as whatever garbage fire your department has gotten themselves into over at that house that’s not really my concern, as you pointed out, that’s a matter for the prosecutor’s office to decide. The government has no feelings, your police page is a government page, I argue it too has no feelings and you could choose to just ignore the comments and go about your day instead of being sad and then turning off

comments. Its just a bad look, but to each their own, but again this is just one citizens opinion sprinkled in with some case law.

Insiste Firmiter!

Aaron C Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "AK". The "A" is a stylized block letter, and the "K" is a cursive letter, enclosed within a small circle.

## Public records request

From: Mathewson, A.J. (aj\_mathewson@cityoflorain.org)

To: a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com

Date: Wednesday, March 22, 2023 at 12:38 PM EDT

Mr. Knapp;

I have received your amended public records request, see below. A search was conducted for any requested emails with none being located. There are no memos or written correspondence regarding your request. Thank you.

*“Apologies, it’s a Public records Request, or “Sunshine Act” request. Your Chief pointed out it isn’t a FOIA. And I agree all communication about a legal matter would be covered by attorney client privilege so I’ll amend my request to include any and all emails between the chief of police and staff to include Lt Morris, any memos or policies that may have been distributed and any communication in general between anyone who ISNT a licensed lawyer in Ohio. So if the Legal department replied and it wasn’t an attorney consult I’d also request that documentation as well or any emails between the Mayor and the Chief ONLY In regards to JUST the Facebook closing. I don’t care about anything involving the incident at West 27th street as that’s a matter between the citizens at that address and the police department and I have no desire to get information on that incident, just to be clear.”*

Captain A. J. Mathewson  
Executive Officer  
Lorain Police Department  
100 W. Erie Ave.  
Lorain Ohio 44052  
440-204-2139

## (No Subject)

From: Margaret-Ann Adorjan (margaretann.adorjan@cswb.ohio.gov)

To: a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com

Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 at 12:35 PM EDT

Dear Mr. Knapp,

The Board has received a complaint against your social worker license. The complaint centers around concerns regarding violations of OAC 4757-5-02 (A) (1) & (2).

- It is alleged you used your credentials as an LSW in your personal capacity filing complaints against the Lorain Police Department.

Please provide a detailed written explanation as to the above concerns. Provide as much information as you deem pertinent to assist the Board in understanding what has occurred and why it occurred.

In addition, please also include answers to the following questions:

- Are you currently practicing as an LSW?
  - Who is your employer? Who is your supervisor?
- Do you pass out cards to potential human trafficking victims as part of your job duties as a social worker? Or in your personal capacity as a private citizen?
- Based on the signature line and confidentiality disclaimer in your email signature, do you use your personal Yahoo email account to conduct professional business as a social worker?
- Can you please provide screenshots/evidence of the Chief of Police friending and following you on Facebook?
- Can you please elaborate on the discussion with your employer after the Mayor contacted them?
- Can you provide the Dash and Body CAMs evidence related to the incident on March 31, 2023 with the detective in the parking lot at 4000 Oberlin Avenue?
- Can you clarify your statement that you are "a duly licensed officer of the court"?
  - Have you contacted the parents related to the juvenile records posted online by the Lorain Police Department?
  - Is this matter related to your social worker role in a professional capacity?

This written explanation is due no later than **Friday, June 9, 2023**. You can e-mail the statement to my email address or fax to the fax number below; whichever is most convenient for you. After I receive your written statement, we may schedule a time to speak via video conference call.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 614.644.0222 or at [m.adorjan@cswb.ohio.gov](mailto:m.adorjan@cswb.ohio.gov) Thank you for your cooperation in this investigation.

Sincerely,



Margaret-Ann Adorjan, Investigator  
Counselor, Social Worker and Marriage & Family Therapist Board  
77 South High Street, 24th Floor, Room 2468  
Columbus, Ohio 43215-6171  
614.644.0222  
614.728.7790 (Fax)  
[www.cswmft.ohio.gov](http://www.cswmft.ohio.gov)

-The Board is always interested in customer service comments. Please contact Brian Carnahan at [brian.carnahan@cswb.ohio.gov](mailto:brian.carnahan@cswb.ohio.gov) to send an email regarding the service you have received.

If you have received this email in error please notify me at [margaretann.adorjan@cswb.ohio.gov](mailto:margaretann.adorjan@cswb.ohio.gov) or the Board's general email at [cswmft.info@cswb.ohio.gov](mailto:cswmft.info@cswb.ohio.gov). Please note that any views or opinions presented in this email represent those of the Board to the best of the sender's knowledge unless otherwise stated as a personal opinion.

## Re: Record requests

From: Aaron Knapp (a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com)  
To: jim\_mccann@cityoflorain.org  
Cc: aj\_mathewson@cityoflorain.org; rey\_carrión@cityoflorain.org  
Date: Wednesday, June 21, 2023 at 09:50 AM EDT

Please I will ask you once again not to email me. If you wish to communicate with me I'd appreciate it if you would place said communication into writing and mail it to me.

I'm not sure why my requests to records would be subject to a response from the Chief. If you are referring to the State investigation into my license I see no law preventing me from having that email as you are not that agency and you did send it. But if you wish to hold off until the board is done by all means do so. As captain Mathewson reviewed those policies with me and read them to me over the phone the department obviously received the memo on security. Therefore it's part of internal records and was sent via email to at least two separate captains who read it verbatim to me. So I'm not sure why you're being so secretive about all of this stuff? But in the future, if you have to email me, I would please request you have Captain Mathewson respond. He has been respectful and responsive and I really think it's a VERY bad idea for both of us to have continued conversation. So please let the officers do their jobs and respond to me. I'm trying to follow the appropriate procedures here and that requires I send my emails to the appropriate people.

You make it a wonderful day as well.

### **Aaron Christopher Knapp**

NOTICE: THIS ELECTRONIC MESSAGE TRANSMISSION CONTAINS INFORMATION WHICH MAY BE CONFIDENTIAL OR PRIVILEGED. THE INFORMATION IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL(S) OR ENTITY(IES) NAMED ABOVE. IF YOU ARE NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, PLEASE BE AWARE THAT ANY DISCLOSURE, COPYING, DISTRIBUTION, OR USE OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS INFORMATION IS PROHIBITED. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION IN ERROR, PLEASE IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THE SENDER AND DELETE THE COPY YOU RECEIVED.

On Jun 21, 2023, at 08:52, McCann, James - Chief <Jim\_McCann@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

Mr. Knapp:

I spoke with the state investigators this morning and the investigation is still ongoing, therefore, the records you have requested are not currently subject to disclosure, as such records are confidential law enforcement investigatory records, pursuant to R.C. 149.43(A)(1)(h). Your request is hereby denied.

Have a great day!

**Chief Jim McCann**

Lorain Police Department

100 W. Erie Ave.

Lorain, Ohio 44052

Office: 440-204-2103

Fax: 440-204-2519

---

**From:** Lorain PD Records Request <LPDRecordsRequest@cityoflorain.org>

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 21, 2023 6:49 AM

**To:** McCann, James - Chief <Jim\_McCann@cityoflorain.org>

**Subject:** FW: Record requests

Thank you,  
Lorain Police Records  
100 W Erie Ave.  
Lorain, Ohio 44052  
440-204-2114

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp [a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com]

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 21, 2023 6:25 AM

**To:** Lorain PD Records Request

**Subject:** Re: Record requests

Also I need a copy of the letter sent to my board making a complaint against my licensing, I assume it was the chief, but the State Board said it was "The Lorain Police". I will need a copy of that and I will need you to find it..if it's in the chiefs sent folder it's subject to request. Any department emails or anything transmitted on county and city devises is public record.

Thank you and make it a wonderful day!

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW**

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On Jun 20, 2023, at 15:20, Aaron Knapp <[a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com](mailto:a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com)> wrote:

Ok. Well at minimum I would think I would have access to the new policy that was read to me via phone about entry into City Hall. As it is policy it shouldn't be restricted.

And for the record I'm not sure how access to public lobby videos would be privy to protection under this law. That being said can you give me a time frame on when they will be available? As you have 30 days to complete your investigation of the Lt. Placing his hands on me I assume I'll receive them then?

Are you planning on charging him with a crime? Because as I read here as I am the subject of the video I have a right to have access to his body worn cameras regardless of your investigation into the LT.s actions.

I suppose if you wish to continue to deny the request I will just file a writ of mandamus because to my knowledge their is no criminal proceedings keeping you from releasing body worn footage of something I am the subject of.

Just to be clear:

(H)(1) Any portion of a body-worn camera or dashboard camera recording described in divisions (A)(17)(b) to (h) of this section may be released by consent of the subject of the recording or a representative of that person, as specified in those divisions, only if either of the following applies:

- (a) The recording will not be used in connection with any probable or pending criminal proceedings;
- (b) The recording has been used in connection with a criminal proceeding that was dismissed or for which a judgment has been entered pursuant to Rule 32 of the Rules of Criminal Procedure, and will not be used again in connection with any probable or pending criminal proceedings.

(2) If a public office denies a request to release a restricted portion of a body-worn camera or dashboard camera recording, as defined in division (A)(17) of this section, any person may file a mandamus action pursuant to this section or a complaint with the clerk of the court of claims pursuant to section 2743.75 of the Revised Code, requesting the court to order the release of all or portions of the recording. If the court considering the request determines that the filing articulates by clear and convincing evidence that the public interest in the recording

substantially outweighs privacy interests and other interests asserted to deny release, the court shall order the public office to release the recording.

Make it a wonderful day!

**Aaron Christopher Knapp**

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On Jun 20, 2023, at 14:36, Lorain PD Records Request <[LPDRecordsRequest@cityoflorain.org](mailto:LPDRecordsRequest@cityoflorain.org)> wrote:

**Mr Knapp**

Due to an ongoing Administrative Investigation, the records you have requested are not currently subject to disclosure, as such records are confidential law enforcement investigatory records, pursuant to R.C. 149.43(A)(1)(h). Your request is hereby denied.

Thank you,  
Lorain Police Records  
100 W Erie Ave.  
Lorain, Ohio 44052  
440-204-2114

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp [a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 6:40 AM  
**To:** Lorain PD Records Request  
**Subject:** Re: Record requests

Can you please confirm receipt of my request for Body Cam and lobby footage of the incident at City hall between Lt Swanger and myself?

Also confirm that you received my request for a copy of the new trespassing policy's for city hall that effectively requires appointments for publicly accessible areas?

I feel like I get responses to only the stuff you "don't have" or "can't provide" (like dispatch calls and letters sent by the chief) but nothing about the important stuff I actually need to file my civil rights and assault claim against Lt Swanger. So please acknowledge receipt of my request and understand I'm on the clock so let's do this in the time required by your policy (I've read it).

I've asked a few times now with 0 acknowledgment. Last I checked that wasn't policy either?

Thank you!

Make it a wonderful day!

**Aaron Christopher Knapp**

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On Jun 19, 2023, at 09:52, Aaron Knapp <[a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com](mailto:a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com)> wrote:

I would think it would be in the sent file of his email. But that's fine, I really don't need it. Just wanted to see it as it was the subject of a news story, I really appreciate the response and will consider this request closed.

You were very courteous and professional and I appreciate it!

Make it a wonderful day!

**Aaron Christopher Knap**

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On Jun 19, 2023, at 09:42, Lorain PD Records Request <[LPDRecordsRequest@cityoflorain.org](mailto:LPDRecordsRequest@cityoflorain.org)> wrote:

Chief

I have no copies of this letter sir

Fred

Thank you,  
Lorain Police Records  
100 W Erie Ave.  
Lorain, Ohio 44052  
440-204-2114

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp [a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 16, 2023 6:51 AM  
**To:** Lorain PD Records Request  
**Subject:** Record requests

Please could you also provide the letter the chief sent to the counsel about lack of support on the Facebook page? As it's now public record I'd like to request a copy of it.

Make it a wonderful day!

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW**

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**From:** Mccann, James - Chief  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 12, 2023 1:19 PM  
**To:** 'Tim.Weitzel@lcfc.org' <Tim.Weitzel@lcfc.org>  
**Subject:** FW: Aaron Knapp Incident #23-18590

EMAIL 1 OF3

Tim:

This incident is still under investigation so it needs to held close to the vest until its completed.

***Chief Jim McCann***

Lorain Police Department

Lorain, Ohio 44052

Office: 440-204-2103

Fax:440-204-2519



# LORAIN POLICE DEPARTMENT

## VICTIM/ WITNESS STATEMENT

Officer ID #	Date	Time	Report #
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VICTIM/ WITNESS:

Name	5 (,r W iu!A,c-, MATR881	(AUX)	Address	W FREE AVE
City	1-O	State	OH80	Zip Code 44052
DOB	DECEMBER 26, 1994	SSN Last 4	ID# 3758	Phone#

I, Sfur: wJuμ.- /v>Ir'f\$'k l .gvx do hereby make the following statement of my own free will and accord:

WHILE MANNING THE SECURITY CHECKPOINT ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF CITY HALL, AT APPROXIMATELY 1000 ON JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2003, A MALE ENTERED THE MAIN DOORS OF CITY HALL. THIS SUBJECT WAS LATER IDENTIFIED AS AARON KWAPP. I OBSERVED AUXILIARY OFFICER MIKE PROUT ENGAGE VERBALLY WITH THE SUBJECT, ASKING HIM TO EMPTY HIS POCKET OF ALL METAL OBJECTS AND PLACE THEM IN THE BASKET TO GO THROUGH THE X-RAY MACHINE. OFFICER PROUT ALSO INQUIRED WHAT BROUGHT HIM IN TO CITY HALL. THE MALE STATED HE WAS HERE TO SEE THE POLICE RECORDS, LAW DEPARTMENT, PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE AND 7TH FLOOR. OFFICER PROUT STATED TO GO TO THE LAW DEPARTMENT AND 7TH FLOOR, AN APPOINTMENT IS REQUIRED. THE SUBJECT THEN REQUESTED TO PLACE HIS WALLET IN THE BASKET. I INFORMED HIM ALL WALLETS MUST GET SCANNED THROUGH THE X-RAY DUE TO PERSONS HAVING "CREDIT CARDS (V.I.P., M.R., ETC.)". HE THEN BEGAN TO GET ANGRY. LT HODGE THEN STRIPPED HIM.

L-1 1U JJ. 11, T

I-T 1-J.C. WEVR- THROUGH

T 1..T 1"IA,;AA

AT 11:15 ON HIS SHOULDER THE MALE ALSO SAID HE WAS FREEDOM OUT WHEN OFFICER PROUT PRODUCED AN EXAMPLE OF A "CREDIT CARD KNIFE" TO SHOW HIM WITH WE SCAN WALLETS. LT SWANGER THEN ESCORTED HIM OUT AFTER TELLING HIM IF HE HAS NO BUSINESS HERE HE CAN LEAVE. THEN LATER, SGT CARREON CAME OUT TO TALK TO THE MALE CONCERNING THE OFFICER COMPLAINT.

Signature: LAW -1 #3758 Date / Time: 01-JUN-2003 Report #: 1606

**From:** Mccann, James - Chief  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 12, 2023 1:29 PM  
**To:** 'Tim.Weitzel@lcfct.org' <Tim.Weitzel@lcfct.org>  
**Subject:**

EMAIL2OF3

***Chief Jim McCann***

Lorain Police Department  
Lorain, Ohio 44052  
Office: 440-204-2103  
Fax:440-204-2519



## How to Initiate a Citizen Complaint

Trust between the police and the community is essential to effective law enforcement. It is critical that a police department establish a relationship of trust and confidence with its community and deliver public safety services in a fair and impartial manner. In order to nurture and preserve that relationship, public confidence must be maintained in the ability and willingness of the Police Department to investigate and properly adjudicate allegations of misconduct made against its employees. Retaliation of any kind by an Lorain Police Department Employee against a complainant that files a citizen complaint will not be tolerated and should be immediately be reported to the Office of Professional Standards.

The Citizen Complaint form should be completed whenever an employee of the Lorain Police Department has allegedly acted in an improper manner. This can include, but is not limited to alleged illegal, unethical, or unprofessional conduct.

Whenever possible, the Citizen Complaint form should include as much information as possible, to include the identity of all persons involved in the alleged incident including the officer(s), witnesses; the specific behavior of the department employee and/or nature of the alleged misconduct; the date, time, and location of the incident occurred. The Citizen Complaint Form should be thoroughly completed and returned to the Lorain Police Department within 30 days of receipt. Your concerns will be investigated, and you will be informed in writing of the outcome of the investigation.

Substantiated allegations can lead to serious consequences including verbal and/or written reprimands, suspension, and even termination of an employee. The Lorain Police Department takes complaints against employees seriously and as noted above, will thoroughly investigate allegations of misconduct. Complaints that are found to be intentionally false and/or malicious may result in criminal and/or civil liability on the part of the complainant.

Completed Citizen Complaint forms may be returned to the Lorain Police Department in person, or mailed to the Lorain Police Department, Office of Professional Standards, 100 W. Erie Avenue, Lorain, Ohio 44052. Citizen complaint forms may also be emailed to: [Lorpolicocomplaints@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Lorpolicocomplaints@cityoflorain.org).

If you have any questions or need any assistance in filing your complaint, please contact the Office of Professional Standards at (440) 204-2107.

Very Truly Yours,

**JAMES McCANN**  
**Chief of Police**

**From:** Mccann, James - Chief  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 12, 2023 1:29 PM  
**To:** 'Tim.Weitzel@lcfct.org' <Tim.Weitzel@fcfct.org>  
**Subject:**

EMAIL3 OF3

***Chief Jim McCann***

Lorain Police Department  
100 W. Erie Ave.  
Lorain, Ohio 44052  
Office: 440-204-2103  
Fax:440-204-2519

# Complete Details For 22-39

## Minor Complaint

Complaint Type: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor	Category: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Formal Citizen Complaint	Occurred On Duty: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Case No.: 22-30424	Report Form: <u>H-o w C o m-p-l-a-i-n-tW a s R e p o r t e-d</u>	Racial: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Date Occurred: 9/7/2022	Taken By: Gelenius, Kyle	Date Reported: 9/7/2022
Location Occurred: Fairless Park	District/Area: 4	Video Available: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes Body Camera

Complainant: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complainant: Knapp, Aaron C.	Date Of Birth: 9/26/1973	Male	Race: J White
Complainant's Address: J4220 Talbot Ln, Lorain OH 44055	Email Address: Ja4xbeaverman@yahoo.com		
Home Phone: <input type="checkbox"/>	Business Phone: <input type="checkbox"/>	Cell Phone: (216) 659-9899	
Complainant Satisfaction: unknown	Satisfaction Comments: <input type="checkbox"/>		
Case Assignment: 11111 Date Assigned: 9/7/2022	Days Case Due In: 30	I Date Due: 10/7/2022	Date Completed: 9/19/2022
Assigned To: J Angello, Tabitha I Current Complaint Disposition: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exonerated			

Summary: U Entered on 10/3/2022 8:51:46 AM by GELENIUS. Officers Exonerated.						
Type Of Complainr			Description		Complaint Disposition	
Complaint#: 1 Violation of Department Policy/Procedure			320 Lexipol Policy - Stadards of Conduct		Exonerated	
Complaint#: 2 Violation of Standards of Conduct			03.07 Competent Performance		Exonerated	
Officer#: 1	Name: J Inchaurregui, Narciso	ID Number: 14025	Rank: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer	Division: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patrol	Shift: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3rd Shift	Supervisor: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Halsey, Bryant
				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disposition: Exonerated	Action Taken: None	On Alert: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes Camera: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
Officer#: 2	Name: J Trujillo, Carlos	ID Number: 13887	Rank: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer	Division: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patrol	Shift: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3rd Shift	Supervisor: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Halsey, Bryant
				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disposition: Exonerated	Action Taken: None	On Alert: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes Camera: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes

Narrative: IA-22-39.



# LORAIN POLICE DEPARTMENT

## CITIZEN COMPLAINT FORM

Office of Professional Standards

100 WESTERIE AVENUE • LORAIN, OHIO 44052

PHONE: (440) 204-2107 • FAX (440) 204-2557

E-MAIL: LORPOLICECOMPLAINTS@CITYOFLORAIN.ORG

<input type="checkbox"/> EMPLOYEE COMPLAINT	<input type="checkbox"/> DEPARTMENT COMPLAINT	LPD INCIDENT#
COMPLAINANT INFORMATION		
DATE: 05/08/2023	NAME: Aaron C Knapp	REPORTING PARTY NAME: ANONYMOUS
ADDRESS: 4220 Talbott Ln	SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: ####-##-0986	DATE OF BIRTH: /26/1973
PRIMARY PHONE: 216-659-9899	E-MAIL ADDRESS: 44xbeaverman@yahoo.com	
NATURE OF COMPLAINT: Violation of ORC 2152.71 and 2151.358	DATE OF INCIDENT: 04/12/2023	TIME OF INCIDENT: unknown
LOCATION OF INCIDENT: Lorain Police Department Website	EMPLOYEE(S) INVOLVED: (Names, Badge #s, Cruiser #s) Chief Mccann and Internal Affairs	
WITNESS NAME:	WITNESS ADDRESS:	WITNESS PHONE:
WITNESS NAME:	WITNESS ADDRESS:	WITNESS PHONE:

The following demographic information is voluntary and not required. However it may assist with identifying potential patterns and/or trends:

Gender:  Male  Female      Race/Ethnicity:  American Indian/Alaska Native  Asian  Black/African American  
 Other  Other  Hispanic/Latino  Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander  White/Caucasian

Do you have a disability in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)?  Yes  No

Were you arrested?  Yes If yes, for what reason?

Did you require medical attention?  No  Yes If yes, what medical facility?

Will you sign a medical release form?  No  Yes  N/A

NARRATIVE: (In your own words, explain what happened, WHERE and WHO was involved.)

On 04/12/2023 The Lorain Police Department released a media Statement on its official page. In the statement it was "defending" its actions over an incident between Officers and a citizen on W. 27th Street. After a 153 page investigation the department found that the officer involved violated Department Policy by speaking disrespectfully to the citizen. It did also find that the adult involved "Marv Hildith" had apparently lied about her child's attendance in school. The department then, in clear violation of ORC 2151.358 and ORC 2152.71, released Juvenile Court



# LORAIN POLICE DEPARTMENT CITIZEN COMPLAINT FORM

OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS  
100 WEST ERIE AVENUE • LORAIN, OHIO 44052  
PHONE: (440) 204-2107 • FAX (440) 204-2557  
E-MAIL: LORPOLICECOMPLAINTS@CITYOFLORAIN.ORG

records and attendance records from Black River Prep which displayed the juveniles court records, date of birth, attendance records as well as photographs. The department had access to these documents through a Grand Jury supeona and the law clearly states from a recent revision that while it gives Law Enforcement access to these protected court documents it clearly states this doesnt allow dissimilation of said documents to the public. Juvenile court records are protected under the above stated ORC and school documents and attendance are protected by FERPA. To date I have reported this to JD Tomlinson (County Producutor), the Clerk of the County Courts where the court records are maintained and to Captain Ashdown of the Lorain county Sherriffs Deptment and yet the records remain online in clear violation of the Ohio Revised Code. As a duly licenced officer of the court and haveing been sworn to protect and uphold the ORC and the Juvenile Court rules I am officially requesting you remove the offending documents from our Tax Payer funded website as required by law or at minimum redact the offending information from the public report. The law states clearly in its revision to allow law enforcement access to court documents that it is not intended to circumvent privacy laws in regards to releasing the information to the general public. As I have now tried every way possible to get you to comply with the law my next step will be to notify the parents you released the documentation (I believe I am legally obligated) online for public dissimilation.

(Continue on back or attach additional pages if necessary)

Completed forms can be faxed, mailed or e-mailed to:	Lorain Police Department Office of Professional Standards 100 W. Erie Avenue, Lorain, Ohio 44052 Phone: (440) 204-2107 • FAX: (440) 2557 E-mail: LORPOLICECOMPLAINTS@CITYOFLORAIN.ORG
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Ohio Revised Code 2921.15 (B) "No person shall **knowingly** file a complaint against a peace officer that alleges that the peace officer engaged in misconduct in the performance of the officer's duties **if the person knows that the allegations are false**. Violation of this section is a misdemeanor of the 1<sup>st</sup> degree." I understand that by signing this complaint, that if a subsequent investigation determines that I knowingly made false allegations of misconduct against a peace officer, I may be prosecuted criminally.

I certify that the forgoing statement is true and correct and that no threats, promises or inducements have been made to me regarding my statement/ complaint (If under age 18, signature of parent or guardian required):

Reporting Party Signature:	Received by:	Date: 05/08/2023
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# LORAIN POLICE DEPARTMENT

## VICTIM/ WITNESS STATEMENT

Officer ID#	Date	Time	Report#
-------------	------	------	---------

### VICTIM/ WITNESS:

Name	Michael J Palmer	Tr:	Address	5< 1	111, 501
CJty	Grafton, OH	State	(71)	Zip Code	44028-1011
DOB	02/03/55	SS La	s t 4	Year	11 1/4 3G<b Phone#
					110-Y-1-L-1C.7]

I, dtchJ J 1/2c, An.r/ Tr

do hereby make the following statement of my own free will

and accord:

I was posted at the Second floor check point when the downstairs security D.C. requested assistance with someone. Myself and LT. Santiago went down and I made contact trying to figure out what the issue was. The gentleman kept getting louder and more mad that he had to take his belt off and put his wallet in the bucket. I then tried to tell him why we had this process and he kept saying it was all a lie and we dont have a reason or right to scan his wallet and stated he doesnt ever take his wallet out at the airport. At this time I was about 4ft from him and showed him a folded credit card knife from my own wallet. At this point he raised his voice and got closer to me. I took a step to the side of the machine for a barrier when LT. Swanger put himself between me and him. I took a step back and let LT Swanger handle the situation at that point. I then spoke with the officers downstairs about why he was so irritated where they said it was ok to do with his wallet and him needing a App to go above the 1st floor. After he was out of the building I returned to the second floor for the remainder of my shift.

Signature	<u>Michael J Palmer</u>	Date / Time	6-1-23	15415
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# LORAIN POLICE DEPARTMENT

## **VICTIM/ WITNESS STATEMENT**

j Officer ID #

j Date

Time

Report#

### **VICTIM/ WITNESS:**

Name	Mc.Millod Hodge
City	Lorain
DOB	7-12-80

Address	100
State	Ohio
last4	#3318
U. S. Postage	Zip Code
Phone#	

44052

I, M d,-:c \ b\adsc,  
and accord:

do hereby make the following statement of my own free will

On 1 June at or around 1000 am an individual later known as (Aaron Knopp) entered City Hall to go through the checkpoint when he began yelling at one of my officers about not putting his wallet through the X-ray machine. I intervened to see what the problem was and he got more agitated with me. I tried to tell him that the X-ray machine wouldn't hurt his credit cards but he still was getting loud with me. At that time I called LT. Swanger down to help with the situation and he radioed to LPD Dispatch to send a unit to help. At that time LT. Swanger came out to assist and the individual became extremely agitated when the officer placed his hand on him to lead him away from the checkpoint to conduct the interview. At that time the individual began yelling "get your hands off me" LT Swanger tried to calm him down but the individual was not listening. Ptnr Palmer tried to tell Knopp why we scan wallets by taking out a credit card knife and he raised his hands and yelled "hey what are you doing" I tried to also explain to him that we check everyone's wallets, but again he didn't want to hear what I was saying. LT Swanger escorted Mr Knopp out of the building and advised him if he didn't have business here

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-1,  $\triangleleft_{1, \text{CA}}$   $\text{co} \dots \text{1a.} : A ($

### Date/Time

158

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Page \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

# Complete Details For 23-20

## Minor Complaint

<b>E-foH@PDI</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Type:</u> Minor <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Case No.:</u> 23-10731 <u>Date Occurred:</u> 3/31/2023 <u>Location Occurred:</u> Oberlin Ave./ Tower Blvd.		<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Category:</u> Formal Citizen Complaint <u>-How Complaint Was Reported:</u> Comp Form <u>Taken By:</u> Gelenius, Kyle <u>District/Area:</u> J 3	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Occurred:</u> On Duty <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Racial:</u> No <u>Date Reported:</u> 4/3/2023	<b>Video Available</b> <b>No</b> <b>Camera Not Indicated</b>
<b>Complainant:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Complainant:</u> Knapp, Aaron <u>Complainant's Address:</u> 4220 Talbot Ln, Lorain OH 44055 <u>Home Phone:</u> <u>Business Phone:</u> <u>Complainant Satisfaction:</u> N/A		<u>Date Of Birth:</u> 9/26/1973 <u>Sex:</u> Male <u>Race:</u> JWhite <u>Address:</u> a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com <u>Cell Phone:</u> (216) 659-9899 <u>Satisfaction Comments:</u>		
<b>Case Assignment:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Date Assigned:</u> 4/3/2023 <u>Assigned To:</u> Gelenius, Kyle		<u>Days Case Due In:</u> 30	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Date Due:</u> 5/3/2023	<u>Date Completed:</u> <b>4/11/2023</b>
<b>Summary:</b> Entered on 4/11/2023 9:51:31 AM by GELENIUS. Complaint was withdrawn at the request of the complainant.				
<u>Type Of Complaint</u> <b>Complaint#:</b> 1 <u>304</u> <b>Complaint#:</b> 2 <u>320</u>		<u>Description</u> <u>Competent Performance</u> <u>Standards of Conduct</u>		<u>Complaint Disposition</u> <u>Dropped On Request Of Com</u> <u>Dropped On Request Of Com</u>
<b>Officer#:</b> 1 <u>Sedivy, Mathew E.</u>	<u>Name</u> <u>ID Number</u> <u>Rank</u>	<u>Division</u> <u>Detectives</u>	<u>Shift</u> <u>1st Shift</u>	<u>Supervisor</u> <u>Vrooman, Ryan</u>
<u>On Alert Camera</u> <u>Yes</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>No</u> <u>Disposition:</u> Dropped On Request Of Co <u>Action Taken:</u> None				

# Complete Details For 23-22

## Minor Complaint

<b>E-htHNI</b> I Type:j Minor		j Category:j Formal Citizen Complaint		Occurred:j On Duty	
I Case No.:j		How Complaint Was Reported:j Comp Form		Racial:j No	
Date Occurred:j 2/26/2023		I Taken By:j Mccann, James		Date Reported:j 3/17/2023	
Location Occurred:j 100 West Erie Avenue		District/Area:j 2		Video Available No Camera Not Indicated	
<b>Complainant</b> J Complainant:j Knapp, Aaron		Date Of Birth:j 9/26/1973		Male	
Complainant's Address:j 4220 Talbot Ln., Lorain OH 44055		Email Address:j a4beaverman@yahoo.com			
Home Phone:j		Business Phone:j		Cell Phone:j (216) 659-9899	
Complainant Satisfaction:j Not Satisfied		Satisfaction Comments:j			
<b>Case Assignment</b> Date Assigned:j 4/12/2023		Days Case Due In:j 30		I Date Due:j 5/12/2023	Date Completed:j 4/19/2023
I Assigned To:j Gelenius, Kyle		Current Complaint Disposition:j [Exonerated]			
Summary:j Entered on 4/12/2023 2:40:27 PM by GELENIUS.					
Type Of Complaint		Description		Complaint Disposition	
Complaint#: 1 Name	ID Number	Rank	Division	Shift	Supervisor
Complaint#: 2					On Alert Camera
Complaint#: 3					
Officer#: 1 IN/A (Department Complaint)	Not Stated	Not Entered	Not Stated	Yes I No	
303	Know and Obey Laws and Organizational Directi	Disposition Exonerated	Exonerated	Action Taken: None	
338	Community Relations		Exonerated		
339	Department Use of Social Media		Exonerated		



## Complete Details For 23-29

### Minor Complaint

<u>I Case No.:</u> 23-18590		<u>J Category:</u> Formal Citizen Complaint		<u>I Occurred:</u> On Duty			
<u>Date Occurred:</u> 6/1/2023		<u>I Taken By:</u> Gelenius, Kyle		<u>I Racial:</u> No			
<u>Location Occurred:</u> 200 W. Erie Avenue		<u>District/Area:</u> 2		<u>Date Reported:</u> 6/5/2023			
<b>Complainant</b>		<u>J Complainant:</u> Knapp, Aaron		<u>Date Of Birth:</u> 9/26/1973 <u>I Sex:</u> Male <u>Race:</u> JWhite			
<u>Complainant's Address:</u> 4220 Talbot Ln, Lorain OH 44055		<u>Email Address:</u> J a4beaverman@yahoo.com					
<u>Home Phone:</u> J		<u>Business Phone:</u> J		<u>Cell Phone:</u> (216) 659-9899			
<u>Complainant Satisfaction:</u> unknown		<u>Satisfaction Comments:</u>					
<b>Case Assignment</b>		<u>J Date Assigned:</u> 6/5/2023	<u>Days Case Due In:</u> 30	<u>I Date Due:</u> 7/5/2023			
<u>Assigned To:</u> Gelenius, Kyle		<u>Current Complaint Disposition:</u> JIPending					
<u>J Summary:</u> Entered on 6/26/2023 3:18:55 PM by GELENIUS.							
<u>Type Of Complaint:</u>		<u>Description</u>		<u>fo_1_nplaiH Disposition</u>			
Complaint #: 1	303	Know and Obey Laws and Directives		Pending			
Complaint #: 2	304	Competent Performance		Pending			
Complaint #: 3	320	Standards of Conduct		Pending			
<u>Name</u>	<u>ID Number</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Shift</u>	<u>Supervisor</u>	<u>On Alert Camera</u>	
Officer#: 1	Auxiliary Officers	Not Stated	Not Entered	Not Stated	Malick, James	Yes    I    No	
			Disposition: Pending		Action Taken: Pending		
Officer#: 2	Swanger, Larry	802	Lieutenant	Patrolffrafic	Not Stated	Middlebrooks, Corey	Yes    I    No
			Disposition: Pending		Action Taken: Pending		
<u>Narrative:</u> IIA-23-29							



# LORAIN POLICE DEPARTMENT

## CITIZEN COMPLAINT FORM

0Hic: o; 1.;()FE\SJONA L STAND.\{ ")S

100 WEST ERIE AVENUE • LORAIN, OHIO 44052

PHONE: (440) 204-2107 • FAX (440) 204-2557

E-MAIL: LORPOLICECOMPLAINTS@CITYOFLORAIN.ORG

DEPARTMENT USE ONLY	
COMPLAINT RECEIVED BY:	DATE:
ASSISTING EMPLOYEE:	
COMPLAINT METHOD: <input type="checkbox"/> IN PERSON <input type="checkbox"/> BY PHONE <input type="checkbox"/> MAIL <input type="checkbox"/> E-MAIL <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (DESCRIBE)	
COMPLAINT TYPE (TO BE COMPLETED FOR COMPLAINTS ONLY): <input type="checkbox"/> MINOR COMPLAINT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MAJOR COMPLAINT <input type="checkbox"/> DEPARTMENT OR ANONYMOUS COMPLAINT	
ACKOWLEDGEMENT / DISPOSITION OF COMPLAINT	
CHIEF OF POLICE AND/OR EXECUTIVE CAPTAIN:	DATE:
ASSIGNED SUPERVISOR:	ASSIGNED DATE:
SUPERVISOR COMMENTS:	
DISPOSITION: <input type="checkbox"/> Resolved (No further action required) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See Supervisor Report Internal Affairs Investigation IA#	

Complaint D Inquiry D Admin. Review Received on 9-6-22 by E-mailDivision Assigned to/by: Patrol Detectives D Support Services D O.P.S. Supervisor assigned Lt. Angelo on 9-7-22 and dueDate Incident Occurred 9-7-22 Related Incident#, (if applicable) 22-30424Primary Complainant Aaron KnappSecondary Complainant(s)   ,;I<.T  '.ljoPrimary Employee(s) Involved   .  rc,JbSecondary Employee(s) Involved ofL: XracJaqvl'l'BJf/i L.=!.==:::::==:::J

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[11] SEP/192022 ,  
A /  
By VrJjT.JI f,tl(t,1tl.5

Source of Complaint	Type of Complaint	Disposition	Action Taken
[8J Citizen	D <i>Criminal Conduct</i>	D <i>Not Sustained</i>	<b>p;vone</b>
0 <i>External Agency</i>	[8J <i>Standards of Conduct</i>	<i>xonerated</i>	D <i>Counsel/Training</i>
, D <i>Within Agency</i>	D <i>Use of Force</i>	D <i>Unfounded</i>	D <i>Written warning</i>
[8J <i>Safety Director</i>	[8J <i>Violation of Policy/Procedure</i>	D <i>Sustained</i>	D <i>Letter of Reprimand</i>
	D <i>Wrongful Arrest/Citation</i>	D <i>Other Misconduct</i>	D <i>Suspension</i>
	D <i>Internal Personnel Conflict</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Demotion</i>
			D <i>Terminated</i>

s/Investigating Supervisor J.....\r:-'9;;e'-.-:::..Date Completed <;,-\5, -53s/Endorsing Supervisor J\.- -r' O::)g.+t::y<:v.-, . . . .Date Endorsed C\...'2.c}-n.., .Comments See Investigative reportReviewed and approved by [Signature] 3/21/2022Complainant Advised Of Outcome On q' ---- O - z Z,, By f/tlJt(),5 Method JtComplaint# aa.,3'1 Entered In Data Base on    by F- utR'/11VJ  
(To be filled in by the Office of Professional Standards)



# LORAIN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Jim Mccann | Chief of Police

HONOR • RESPECT\$ PUBLIC SERVICE

September 20, 2022

Mr. Aaron Knapp  
4220 Talbot Lane  
Lorain, Ohio 44055

**COPY**

**RE: Officer Complaint**  
Internal Investigation #2022-039

Dear Mr. Knapp:

This is to inform you that the investigation associated with the complaint you filed against Officers Trujillo and Inchaunegui has been completed. Lt. Angello handled the investigation into this matter, which was reviewed and endorsed by Executive Captain Mathewson.<sup>1</sup>

The Lorain Police Department prides itself on providing professionally competent police services to the Citizens of Lorain. We are sorry you felt the encounter you had recently with the Lorain Police Department was not handled properly. However, after reviewing all recordings and documents associated with your complaint the investigation found no wrongdoing on the part of our officers.

When a law enforcement agency receives a report of a missing person, officers are required to determine whether or not foul play or suspicious circumstances exist, notwithstanding the fact that the missing person has been found. Furthermore, when a law enforcement agency receives a report of a missing person, especially one who is a child under the age of eighteen years of age, investigative steps as deemed appropriate by the law enforcement agency shall be taken to locate the missing person, to include contacting the missing child's parent and/or guardian.

Ultimately, the police have a responsibility to ensure that the reported missing child is safe and well and has been provided the opportunity to disclose any relevant issues as to why they went missing. Moreover, officers investigating a report of a missing child must be confident that there are no extenuating circumstances that would lead to a person being arrested or charged with the offense of child endangering.<sup>2</sup> Lt. Angello determined that your complaint does not rise to a degree where the

<sup>1</sup> A copy of Lt. Angello's investigation can be obtained through a public records request, in accordance with Ohio Revised Code § 149.43.

<sup>2</sup> Ohio Revised Code §2919.22.

From: McCann, James - Chief  
Sent: Thursday, July 13, 2023 9:22 AM  
To: 'Tim.Weitzel@lcfct.org' <Tim.Weitzel@lcfct.org>  
Subject: FW: Aaron Knapp

Chief Jim Mccann  
Lorain Police Department  
100 W. Erie Ave.  
Lorain, Ohio 44052  
Office: 440-204-2103  
Fax: 440-204-2519

-----Original Message-----

From: Carreon, Marty <[Marty\\_Carreon@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Marty_Carreon@cityoflorain.org)>  
Sent: Monday, June 26, 2023 7:07 AM  
To: McCann, James - Chief <[Jim\\_McCann@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Jim_McCann@cityoflorain.org)>  
Subject: RE: Aaron Knapp

Chief,

I dealt with him on a ongoing neighbor complaint between him and the guy that lives behind him on Talbot. Then I talked to him when he wanted to file a complaint against Lt Swanger at City Hall. In the circumstance he was refusing to place his wallet on the conveyer for Auxiliary Officers. He then became argumentative when they told him he needed to make an appointment. After awhile Aux. Officers asked that he be removed. Lt Swanger escorted him out of City Hall. He then wanted to file an Officer Complaint against Lt Swanger. At the time he changed his mind on filing a complaint, but I learned he did the complaint days later. He also has sent me several emails , some concerning his cameras (from the neighbor complaint) and some code of ethics stuff. He is persistent on everything and appears to have some mental health difficulties.

Respectfully,

Sgt Carreon

**Gelenius, Kyle**

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 2, 2023 12:42 PM  
**To:** Lorain PD Records Request  
**Subject:** Re: Bodycam Footage

Disregard the above request. I have no need for the footage nor do I wish to prolong the issue.

Make it a wonderful Day.

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA(p)**  
**NASW Member ID: 886836612**

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On Sunday, April 2, 2023 at 09:43:53 AM EDT. Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverrnan@yahoo.com> wrote:

ff I need to fill an "OFUCIAL REQUEST FORM" 1 will but your old one has the old chiefs name and isn't lip to date.  
I would like all Body and Dash Cam footage and Any documentation from Narcotics Officer Scdivy's Vehicle and Bod Cam from 03/31/2023 for the hours of 1945-2015. This 30 111inute window of that footage should reveal any interactions I had with the officer on that night.

Please let me know if you need any more information or an "OFFICAL" request.

Thank You and Make it a Wonderful J)ay!

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA(p)**  
**NASW Member ID: 886836612**

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**Gelenius, Kyle**

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 3, 2023 3:50 PM  
**To:** Gelenius, Kyle  
**Subject:** Re: Officer Complaint

Thank you for letting me know.  
Make it a wonderful day!

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW**

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On Apr 3, 2023, at 12:57, Gelenius, Kyle <Kyle\_Gelenius@cityofflorain.org> wrote:

Mr. Knapp,

The Lorain Police Department's Office of Professional Standards is in receipt of your complaint {submitted on 4-2-23) and then your request to withdraw the complaint. It is been documented in our systems as IA-23-20 (inquiry). **Disposition: Complaint withdrawn at the request of complainant.** We consider the matter closed.

Regards,

*Sgt. Kyle Gelenius, m.s.*

Internal Affairs Investigator | Reconstructionist  
**Office of Professional Standards**

P: 1i4U20:l.2ID7 | E: [Kyle\\_Gelenius@cityofflorain.org](mailto:Kyle_Gelenius@cityofflorain.org)  
<image001.png>

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**From:** AaronKnapp[mailto:a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 2, 2023 12:41 PM

**To:** Gelenius, Kyle <[Kyle\\_Gelenius@cityofflorain.org](mailto:Kyle_Gelenius@cityofflorain.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: Officer Complaint

In Hindsight I wish to officially withdraw this complaint. I just want to be left alone.  
Can we make that happen (unless I commit a crime obviously)?

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA{p}**  
**NASW Member ID: 886836612**

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On Sunday, April 2, 2023 at 09:40:50 AM EDT, Aaron Knapp [a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com](mailto:a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com) wrote:

Can you please confirm receipt of this complaint. And Also Id like to follow up on the previous complaint I filed on First Amendment Violations by the departments Facebook Page.

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA{p}**  
**NASW Member ID: 886836612**

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From: McCann, James - Chief  
Sent: Thursday, July 13, 2023 9:23 AM  
To: 'Tim.Weitzel@lcfct.org' <Tim.Weitzel@lcfct.org>  
Subject: FW: Aaron Knapp

Chief Jim McCann  
Lorain Police Department  
100 W. Erie Ave.  
Lorain, Ohio 44052  
Office: 440-204-2103  
Fax: 440-204-2519

-----Original Message-----

From: Urbin, Daniel <[Daniel\\_Urbin@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Daniel_Urbin@cityoflorain.org)>  
Sent: Sunday, June 25, 2023 8:22 PM  
To: McCann, James - Chief <[Jim\\_McCann@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Jim_McCann@cityoflorain.org)>  
Subject: Re: Aaron Knapp

Chief,

On Tuesday, June 13, 2023, I was called to his residence for the behind neighbors dog(4219 Norfolk) getting into his yard. When I arrived Mr. Knapp advised the neighbors already came to pick up the dog and that there was no confrontation. Mr. Knapp advised he had a "change of heart" after seeing the state that the dog was in, saying it was emaciated and underfed. He said he called the dog warden about it I believe. Mr. Knapp would go on to say he "doesn't want to be that guy" and tried to cancel us before we got there. He said he would try to avoid calling us in the future about it because he now feels bad for the dogs. Mr Knapp was courteous with me, as I with him. I told him I could still make a report documenting the incident, which he declined. Call #23-20217. There was no difficulty with Mr. Knapp, however given his statements I believed it to be worth while.

Respectfully,  
Ofc. Urbin #4096

**Gelenius, Kyle**

---

**From:** Gelenius, Kyle  
**Sent:** Monday, April 3, 2023 7:02 PM  
**To:** McCann, James - Chief  
**Subject:** Knapp Complaint (IA-23-20 / Withdrawn)  
**Attachments:** Knapp Complaint IA-23-20.pdf

<b>Tracking:</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Delivery</b>
	McCann, James - Chief	Delivered: 4/3/2023 1:02 PM

Attachment is for your review and information.

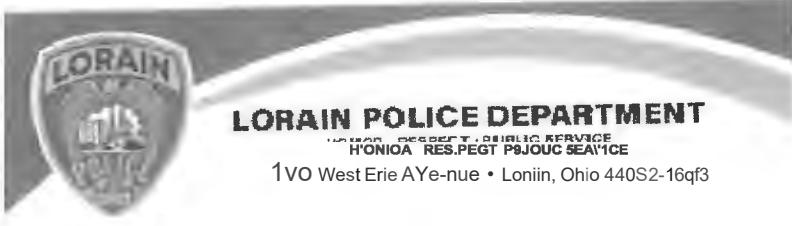
V/R,

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**Office of Professional Standards**

440.204.2107 | E: [Kyle\\_Gelenius@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Kyle_Gelenius@cityoflorain.org)



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**Gelenius, Kyle**

---

**From:** Mccann, James - Chief  
**To:** Gelenius, Kyle  
**Sent:** Monday, April 3, 2023 1:03 PM  
**Subject:** Read: Knapp Complaint (IA-23-20 / Withdrawn)

Your message

To: Mccann, James - Chief  
Subject: Knapp Complaint (IA-23-20 / Withdrawn)  
Sent: Monday, April 03, 2023 1:01:50 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

was read on Monday, April 03, 2023 1:02:56 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

**Gelenius, Kyle**

---

**From:** Microsoft Outlook  
**To:** McCann, James - Chief  
**Sent:** Monday, April 3, 2023 1:02 PM  
**Subject:** Delivered: Knapp Complaint (IA-23-20 / Withdrawn)

**Your message has been delivered to the following recipients:**

McCann, James - Chief (Jim.McCann@dtvoflorain.org)

Subject: Knapp Complaint (IA-23-20 / Withdrawn)

**Gelenius, Kyle**

---

**From:** Sedivy, Matthew  
**Sent:** Monday, April 3, 2023 12:19 PM  
**To:** Gelenius, Kyle  
**Attachments:** 23-10731.docx

Attached memo

**Gelenius, Kyle**

---

**From:** Microsoft Outlook  
**To:** Aaron Knapp  
**Sent:** Monday, April 3, 2023 12:57 PM  
**Subject:** Relayed: RE: Officer Complaint

**Delivery to these recipients or groups is complete, but no delivery notification was sent by the destination server:**

Aaron Knapp (a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com)

Subject: RE: Officer Complaint

On Sunday, April 2, 2023 at 09:40:50 AM EDT, Aaron Knapp [a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com](mailto:a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com) wrote:

Can you please confirm receipt of this complaint. And Also I'd like to follow up on the previous complaint I filed on First Amendment Violations by the departments Facebook Page.

**;aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA(p)**

**NASW Member ID: 886836612**

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## Gelenius, Kyle

---

**From:** Gelenius, Kyle  
**Sent:** Monday, April 3, 2023 12:57 PM  
**To:** 'Aaron Knapp'  
**Subject:** RE: Officer Complaint

Mr. Knapp,

The Lorain Police Department's Office of Professional Standards is in receipt of your complaint (submitted on 4-2-23) and then your request to withdraw the complaint. It is been documented in our systems as IA-23-20 {inquiry}.

**Disposition:** Complaint withdrawn at the request of complainant. We consider the matter closed.

Regards,

*Sgt. Kyle Gelenius, m.s.*

Internal Affairs Investigator | Reconstructionist

## Office of Professional Standards

P: 440 204.2107 | E: [Kyle\\_Gelenius@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Kyle_Gelenius@cityoflorain.org)



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**From:** Aaron Knapp [mailto:[a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com](mailto:a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com)]  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 2, 2023 12:41 PM  
**To:** Gelenius, Kyle <[Kyle\\_Gelenius@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Kyle_Gelenius@cityoflorain.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: Officer Complaint

In Hindsight I wish to officially withdraw this complaint. I just want to be left alone.  
Can we make that happen (unless I commit a crime obviously)?

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA(p)**  
**NASW Member ID: 886836612**

NOTICE: THIS ELECTRONIC MESSAGE TRANSMISSION CONTAINS INFORMATION WHICH MAY BE CONFIDENTIAL OR PRIVILEGED. THE INFORMATION IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL(S) OR ENTITY(IES) NAMED ABOVE. IF YOU ARE NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, PLEASE BE AWARE THAT ANY DISCLOSURE, COPYING, DISTRIBUTION, OR USE OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS INFORMATION IS PROHIBITED. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION IN ERROR, PLEASE IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THE SENDER AND DELETE THE COPY YOU RECEIVED.

## CAD Narrative

03/31/2023: 19:53:10 jrsmith Narrative: WHITE IMPAL



# Incident Report



Print Date/Time: 04/03/2023 12:47

Login ID: kgelenius

Lorain Police Department

ORI Number: OH0470500

Incident: 2023-00010731

Incident Date/Time:	3131/2023 7:52:58 PM	Incident Type:	Traffic Stop
Location:	OBERLIN AVE I TOWER BLVD LORAIN OH 44053	Venue:	LORAIN
Phone Number:		Source:	Officer Initiated
Report Required:	No	Priority:	Medium
Prior Hazards:	No	Status:	In Progress
LE Case Number:		Nature of Call:	

## Unit/Personnel

Unit	Personnel
LO172	3231-Sedivy

## Person(s)

No.	Role	Name	Address	Phone	Race	Sex	DOB
	Involved	KNAPP, AARON CHRISTOPHER	4220 TALBOT LN LORAIN OH 44055	(216)659-9899	White	Male	09/26/1973

## Vehicle(s)

Role	Type	Year	Make	Model	Color	License	State
Involved Vehicle						636ZBB	OH

## Disposition(s)

Disposition	Count	Unit	Date/Time
Advised			3/31/2023 7:56:48 PM

## Property

Date	Code	Type	Make	Model	Description	Tag No.	Item No.

**Gelenius, Kyle**

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 2, 2023 12:41 PM  
**To:** Gelenius, Kyle  
**Subject:** Re: Officer Complaint

In Hindsight I wish to officially withdraw this complaint. I just want to be left alone.  
Can we make that happen (unless I commit a crime obviously)?

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA(p)**  
**NASW Member ID: 886836612**

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On Sunday, April 2, 2023 at 09:40:50 AM EDT, Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com> wrote:

Can you please confirm receipt of this complaint. And Also Id like to follow up on the previous complaint I filed on First Amendment Violations by the departments Facebook Page.

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA(p)**  
**NASW Member ID: 886836612**

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**Gelenius, Kyle**

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 2, 2023 9:41 AM  
**To:** Gelenius, Kyle  
**Subject:** Officer Complaint  
**Attachments:** LPD-NEW-Department-Complaint-Form complete.pdf; page 2.pdf

Can you please confirm receipt of this complaint. And Also Id like to follow up on the previous complaint I filed on First Amendment Violations by the departments Facebook Page.

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA(p)**  
**NASW Member ID: 886836612**

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1-888-373-7888

NATIONAL  
HUMAN  
TRAFFICKING  
RESOURCE CENTER

Human traffickers use violence, threats, and debt bondage to force people to work or sell sex against their will. We have helped thousands of people find safety and services.

Contact the National Human Trafficking Resource Center

at

Do you want to sell sex? Are you under 18, but are trapped and afraid to leave?  
Have you been forced to have sex in sexual acts with someone in exchange for favors/rent/money?  
Were you tricked into selling sex thinking you would be doing something different?

Are you under the age of 18 and is someone pressuring you to sell sex?  
Do you have a debt to someone that you can't pay off?  
Has anyone threatened to hurt you, your family, or friend if you refused to sell sex?  
Is anyone physically or sexually abusing you?  
Has anyone taken sexual photos of you to post online?  
Does anyone take all or part of the money that you earn?  
Is someone holding your passport or identification cards for you?

Please see attached photos below and make it a Wonderful Day!!!!



Aaron C Knapp LSW, CDCA(p), CANs Assesor

something to that effect}. During this whole conversation he kept saying that he wasn't going to share his "opinion about what I was there for, but if I am frequenting that business (massage parlor} I have a good idea what you're here for" (again maybe not an exact quote but very close}. So, saying that statement more than once doesn't FEEL like he is "keeping his opinion to himself" and perhaps he should learn to do a better job and practice keeping his opinion to himself. It should be noted this stop comes directly after I had a conversation with the Mayor about the police violating the pt amendment on their Facebook page, after your Chief of Police attempted to "Chill my Freedom of Speech" by befriending and following me on Facebook (Requests were rescinded but I have pictures}, and 2 hours after the Mayor found my place of Employment my BOSS contacted me to tell me my job might be in jeopardy if I continued my Freedom of Speech efforts in my off duty hours, all of which sound A LOT like RETALIATION. Under 1983 Laws any form of retaliation could cause an officer to lose qualified immunity and be personally liable under civil laws.

In closing I will attach the pictures mentioned above below for your records and would hope that Officer Sedivy will receive an OFFICIAL reprimand about how he speaks to citizens in his VOLENTARY encounters. It should be noted I eventually activated my Dash and Body CAMs to record the incident and then moved down to the Huntington Parking lot (since I bank there} to complete my phone calls and emails in order to alleviate Officer Sedivy's suspicion and get him to stop harassing me. As ALL my recent interactions with your department have been like this lately and your officers cannot seem to be respectful in any way I am hereby giving notice that I will not speak to any officer unless required by law in any consensual encounters moving forward and I officially will invoke the 5<sup>th</sup> amendment during all future encounters. I am out here trying to serve the community and I cannot have Law Enforcement HARRASING me everywhere I go. I will be requesting all body camera footage of the incident and would appreciate it if your department would stop whatever vendetta you have against me as I find it strange that I have had so many interactions with your department as a law-abiding citizen.

(Continued)

It should be noted that the Officer eventually stated that he was suspicious because I was going to a particular business (massage parlor) and said "I will keep my opinions to myself, but if you're visiting that business...but I'll keep my opinions to myself." It should be noted that not ALL Massage parlors are offering sexual favors and all of them by law state they don't on the door and walls.

As I stated above, I am disabled and require regular massages to stay healthy enough to work. I also realize as a Social Worker these are high traffic hubs for sex trafficking. As such I carry a Human Trafficking card in my wallet to hand out to any "worker" who offers service to me. I recognize the difficulty in shutting down these places and the "massage therapist" offering services is a VICTIM and not a CRIMINAL (it's the owner/madam you want) so by offering them the card as a tip they have an opportunity to escape that life. It is clear under recent laws and attempts to shut these places down that Law Enforcement is unable to effectively stop the activity as it all happens in private. It should also be noted I had gone here before and NOT offered sexual services so I wanted to return for that reason alone. If your Officer suspects that is happening here I would suggest doing some more investigation or send in someone who doesn't look like a cop to investigate (I do so often I feel like they assume I am a cop trying to bust them and not a Social Worker trying to help). If I were to engage in receiving services, I would not only be subject to criminal charges but would lose my license and ability to practice in this state as a Social Worker, and that's 100% not on my list of things to do.

Bottom line is the narcotics officer apparently thought I was soliciting sexual favors from a business that was closed and proceeded to ask me for identification. And when I refused, he ran my license plate to get my information. I stated at the time that under the 4<sup>th</sup> amendment he has the right to randomly run plates as they are PUBLIC but doing so when he wasn't on a legitimate traffic stop and in order to circumvent the laws on identification in Ohio felt shady. When it came back "clean" I stated "now you know who I am does that alleviate your concerns?" his response was "No, I don't know that is you" (or



LORAIN POLICE DEPARTMENT  
CITIZEN COMPLAINT FORM  
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS  
100 WEST ERIE AVENUE • LORAIN, OHIO 44052  
PHONE: (440) 204-2107 • FAX (440) 204-2557  
E-MAIL: LORPOLICECOMPLAINTS@CITYOFLORAIN.ORG

time he pulled next to me. I rolled my passenger window down and he began to question me about what I was doing and why I was there on the prope,rt
It should be noted I was watching a video of Law Enforcement, in another town, violate a citizens rights and assault the citizen on a youtube video as
the officer pulled up (for context on my mindset). The Officer, later ID'd as Narcotics Officer Sedivy, questioned me and asked what I was doing and why
I was sitting there in the lot, all as I quietly continued viewing my phone (as this was a consensual encounter and not a traffic stop). I answered a couple
of questions about my time frame and why I want leaving till 8, but as they involved confidential client information I was intentionally vague during our VOLUN
ARY conversation as I cannot release client details. I can say I had a client having some issues and was waiting on communications from different parties,
whom are all involved in the matter (including Probation), to contact me in return. For the record NONE of this was any of the officers business and was
considered PROTECTED under HIPPA and FERPA and I was under NO obligation to disclose to him. It was at this point the Officer asked me for my Iden it
Mind you I had committed NO CRIME and the Officer had NO RAS that I had, was about to, or was in the commission of a crime and therefore had NO reaso
to LEGALLY ID me in the State of OHIO, so I refused (politely) to provide identification asking him "Do you suspect me of committing a crime?" or have
RAS that I have or am about to commit a crime? And the Officer stated "No" "but you don't want to provide identification to alleviate my susp
icions". I as
what his suspicion was and he stated the "lady in the business was yelling at you and then you went to your car and I was checking on you." At this pon
The officer went to the rear of my vehicle and ran my vehicle licence plate, just to remind anyone reading this was a CONSENSUAL conversation
and in no way was an ACTUAL TRAFFIC stop and I was under NO LEGAL obligation to answer ANY questions to dispel the officers "suspicion". (See at Jc
hed pag,
(Continue on back or attach additional pages if necessary)

Completed forms can be faxed, mailed or e-mailed to:	Lorain Police Department Office of Professional Standards 100 W. Erie Avenue, Lorain, Ohio 44052 Phone: (440) 204-2107 • FAX: (440) 2557 E-mail: LORPOLICECOMPLAINTS@CITYOFLORAIN.ORG
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Ohio Revised Code 2921.15 (B) "No person shall knowingly file a complaint against a peace officer that alleges that the peace officer engaged in misconduct in the performance of the officer's duties if the person knows that the allegations are false. Violation of this section is a misdemeanor of the 1<sup>st</sup> degree." I understand that by signing this complaint, that if a subsequent investigation determines that I knowingly made false allegations of misconduct against a peace officer, I may be prosecuted criminally.

I certify that the forgoing statement is true and correct and that no threats, promises or inducements have been made to me regarding my statement / complaint (If under age 18, signature of parent or guardian required):

Reporting Party Signature:	Received by:	Date: 04/02/2022 RP
<p>Lt RAFIN J SOURCE DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS 100 W. ERIE AVENUE LORAIN, OHIO 44052</p>		



# LORA.LIN, POLICE DEPARTMENT CITJZEN COMPLAINT FORM

OFMCE OF PROFESSIONAL STANOUHJS

100 WEST ERIE AVENUE • LORAIN, OHIO 44052

PHONE: (440) 204-2107 • FAX (440) 204-2557

E-MAIL: LORPOLICECOMPLAINTS@CITYOFLORAIN.ORG

DEPARTMENT USE ONLY	
COMPLAINT RECEIVED BY:	OP5
DATE: 1.1.3 - 7 0	
ASSISTING EMPLOYEE:	
COMPLAINT METHOD: <input type="checkbox"/> IN PERSON <input type="checkbox"/> BY PHONE <input type="checkbox"/> MAIL <input type="checkbox"/> E-MAIL <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (DESCRIBE)	
COMPLAINT TYPE (TO BE COMPLETED FOR COMPLAINTS ONLY): IN OR COMPLAINT 0 MAJOR COMPLAINT <input type="checkbox"/> DEPARTMENT OR ANONYMOUS COMPLAINT	
ACKOWLEDGEMENT / DISPOSITION OF COMPLAINT	
CHIEF OF POLICE AND/OR EXECUTIVE CAPTAIN:	DATE:
ASSIGNED SUPERVISOR: Cu cttli"l-1- — Gerrnivs	ASSIGNED DATE: 4- 3-23 Afrl'h , itWh r' Cc/r1111"il!,!Ji: I f
DISPOSITION: <input type="checkbox"/> Resolved (No further action required) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See Supervisor Report <input type="checkbox"/> Internal Affairs Investigation IA# 13 - /P	

fv1E[rJ]EDW1E
lf1 APR 03 2023
By OP5



# LORAIN POLICE DEPARTMENT CITIZEN COMPLAINT FORM

OFFICE OF PHO:H:SSION.tl STI:MDJ iUJS

100 WEST ERIE AVENUE • LORAIN, OHIO 44052

PHONE: (440) 204-2107 • FAX (440) 204-2557

E-MAIL: LORPOLICECOMPLAINTS@CITYOFLORAIN.ORG

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1/1t!hrle,W11

EMPLOYEE COMPLAINT		DEPARTMENT COMPLAINT	LPDINCIDENT# 61.,3- /tJ73
COMPLAINANT INFORMATION <input type="checkbox"/>			
DATE: 04/02/2023	TIME: 0830	REPORTING PARTY NAME: Aaron C Knapp	ANONYMOUS
ADDRESS: 4220 Talbot Ln Lorain Ohio 44055	SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: ###-##-0986	DATE OF BIRTH: 09/26/1973	
PRIMARY PHONE: 216-659-9899	E-MAIL ADDRESS: a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com		
NATURE OF COMPLAINT: Inappropriate behavior in uniform	DATE OF INCIDENT: 03/31/2023	TIME OF INCIDENT: 1950-200	
LOCATION OF INCIDENT: 4000 Oberlin Avenue Lorain Ohio 44055	EMPLOYEE(S) INVOLVED: (Names, Badge #s, Cruiser #s) Officer Sedivy, Lorain Police Narcotics Division		
WITNESS NAME: None	WITNESS ADDRESS:	WITNESS PHONE:	
WITNESS NAME: None	WITNESS ADDRESS:	WITNESS PHONE:	
The following demographic information is voluntary and not required. However it may assist with identifying potential patterns and/or trends:			
Gender: <input checked="" type="radio"/> Male <input type="radio"/> Female	Race/Ethnicity: <input type="radio"/> American Indian/Alaska Native <input type="radio"/> Asian <input type="radio"/> Black/African American <input type="radio"/> Other <input type="radio"/> Other <input type="radio"/> Hispanic/Latino <input type="radio"/> Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander <input checked="" type="radio"/> White/Caucasian		
Do you have a disability in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No I am 40 percent service connected to my Military Service and 100% Non service connected due to injuries outside of military service.			
Were you arrested? <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes If yes, for what reason? _____			
Did you require medical attention? <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes If yes, what medical facility? _____			
Will you sign a medical release form? <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> N/A			
NARRATIVE: (In your own words, explain <b>WHAT</b> happened, <b>WHERE</b> and <b>WHO</b> was involved.)			
On 3/31/2023 I pulled into the business parkinglot at 4000 Oberlin ave. and attempted to enter a business. Said business had the door locked so I			
went to leave. The Owner opened the door and stated "come back later" and re-entered the business. It should be noted I saw others in the lot on arrival			
including a Law Enforcement SUV which may or may not have been marked (I think it was unmarked) that left the lot shortly after I pulled in. I stayed in			
my vehicle answering work emails and watching videos online. I noticed the Officer return to the lot a couple of times and drive through and on the secon,			



*Detective Bureau*

## MEMORANDUM

**Date:** 4/3/2023

**To:** Kyle Gelenius  
Sergeant

**From:** Matthew Sedivy  
Detective

**Subj:** INCIDENT 2023-10731

A R : 1!3  
By oP.S(>Jt. 0//Jff/J

On March 31st, 2023 I was working an overtime detail from 1900-2300 hours. One of the primary focuses of the detail is human trafficking. Based on my knowledge and experience I am familiar with several locations in the City of Lorain where human trafficking is suspected/ known. One of those locations is a massage parlor located at 4000 Oberlin Avenue (Golden Relax Massage).

In 2019 while assigned to the Lorain Police Narcotics Unit, I assisted in an investigation which included the massage parlor located at 4000 Oberlin Avenue in Lorain. The investigation involved multiple state and federal agencies and resulted in several indictments for promoting prostitution.

Following the investigation in 2019 the massage parlor was not open for some time, however over the last few months' members of the Lorain Police Narcotics Unit have observed numerous males going into and leaving massage parlor.

While working the detail at approximately 1952 hours, I spoke with Aaron Knapp who was sitting in his vehicle in the parking lot of the business. Prior to contact with Aaron I observed him speaking to a female from the business in the parking lot. After their verbal exchange the female went back inside the massage parlor and Aaron got into his vehicle.

Aaron remained sitting in his vehicle in the parking lot for over ten minutes. Unsure of what had occurred between Aaron and the female massage employee I pulled into the parking lot, parked in a parking spot, exited my vehicle, greeted, and spoke with Aaron while standing outside his front passenger window.

During the approximately three-minute encounter with Aaron, I asked general investigatory questions relevant to my detail. Aaron declined my request to see his driver license therefore I had dispatch check the vehicle's license plate via LEADS.

Aaron did not have any warrants and his driver's license was valid. I mentioned to him my knowledge of the massage parlor's history and reminded him he was free to leave at any time while speaking with him. Ultimately, Aaron ended up leaving and I also left continuing on my detail.



# Lorain P.O. Complaint/Internal Investigation Data Form

# IA-23-20

Complaint  Inquiry  Admin. Review Received on 4-3-23 by Sgt. Gelenius

Division Assigned to/by: Patrol  Detectives  Support Services  O.P.S.

Supervisor assigned Sgt. Gelenius on 4-3-2023 and due 5-3-2023

Date Incident Occurred 3-31-2023 Related Incident#, (if applicable) 2023-10731

Primary Complainant Aaron Knapp

Secondary Complainant(s)       

Primary Employee(s) Involved Det. Matt Sedivy

Secondary Employee(s) Involved       

Source of Complaint	Type of Complaint	Disposition	Action Taken
Citizen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Criminal Conduct</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not Sustained</i>	<i>None</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> External Agency	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Standards of Conduct</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Exonerated</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Counsel/Training</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Within Agency	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Use of Force</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Unfounded</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Written warning</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Safety Director	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Violation of Policy/Procedure</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Sustained</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Letter of Reprimand</i>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Wrongful Arrest/Citation</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Other Misconduct</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Suspension</i>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Internal Personnel Conflict</i>	<i>Cc;)'1plttin f- w,#,dr1Ttlv'J1.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Demotion</i>
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Terminated</i>

s/Investigating Supervisor Sgt. Mpp. Gelenius 2481 Date Completed 4-11-23

s/Endorsing Supervisor Chief S. Johnson Date Endorsed 4-11-23

Comments Cbrnple./YJf- wi-fhpf(lfM'n q+ Y"ffvl'Jf or- #iL  
CuW,()/ttingnf: Pef. Sa/iVV WttJ CovnJ/ed hy Syt Vfbfl11t#-1  
-rht1f- he nttrird -Jv witJr1 "1 bodV-Cttnt#I// when Con  
S-frflef e11{//(UWJ/l1f, cul'1 durnin'J CD'11#1crwif11 ci-fic ns.

Complainant Advised Of Outcom On r/jA- By \_\_\_\_\_ Method \_\_\_\_\_

Complaint# 3 z.. Q Entered In Data Base on I-/f-ZJ by S. f. Gt!t'l'!VJ

(To be filled in by the Office of Professional Standards)

# Complete Details For 23-20

## Minor Complaint

<b>Complaint</b>	Type: <input type="checkbox"/> Minor  <input type="checkbox"/> Case No.: 23-10731  Date Occurred: 3/31/2023  Location Occurred: Oberlin Ave./ Tower Blvd.	Category: <input type="checkbox"/> Formal Citizen Complaint  <u>How Complaint Was Reported:</u> Comp Form  Taken By: Gelenius, Kyle	Occured: <input type="checkbox"/> On Duty  <input type="checkbox"/> Racial: No  Date Reported: 4/3/2023  District/Area: 3	<b>Video Available</b>  No <b>Camera Not Indicated</b>																																			
<b>Complainant</b>	Complainant: Knapp, Aaron  Complainant's Address: 4220 Talbot Ln, Lorain OH 44055	Date Of Birth: 9/26/1973	Sex: <input type="checkbox"/> Male	Race: <input type="checkbox"/> White																																			
	Home Phone: <input type="checkbox"/>	Business Phone: <input type="checkbox"/>	Cell Phone: <input type="checkbox"/> (216) 659-9899																																				
	Complainant Satisfaction: N/A	Satisfaction Comments: <input type="checkbox"/>																																					
<b>Case Assignment</b>	J. <input type="checkbox"/> Date Assigned: 4/3/2023	Days Case Due In: <input type="checkbox"/> 30	. <input type="checkbox"/> Date Due: 5/3/2023	Date Completed: <input type="checkbox"/> 4/11/2023																																			
	Assigned To: <input type="checkbox"/> Gelenius, Kyle <input type="checkbox"/> Current Complaint Disposition: <input type="checkbox"/> Dropped <b>On Request Of Com</b>																																						
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Summary: <input type="checkbox"/> Entered on 4/11/2023 9:51:31 AM by GELENIUS. Complaint was withdrawn at the request of the complainant.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Type Of ComplainL</th> <th colspan="3">Description</th> <th colspan="2">Complaint Dispositiu</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Complaint#:</td> <td>1 <input type="checkbox"/> 304</td> <td colspan="3"><u>Competent Performance</u></td> <td colspan="2"><u>Dropped On Request Of Com</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Complaint#:</td> <td>2 <input type="checkbox"/> 320</td> <td colspan="3">Standards of Conduct</td> <td colspan="2">Dropped On Request Of Com</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Officer#:</td> <td>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Sedivy, Mathew E.</td> <td>ID Number <input type="checkbox"/> 3231</td> <td>Rank <input type="checkbox"/> Officer</td> <td>Division <input type="checkbox"/> Detectives</td> <td>Shift <input type="checkbox"/> 1st Shift</td> <td>Supervisor <input type="checkbox"/> Vrooman, Ryan</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td colspan="5">Disposition: <input type="checkbox"/> Dropped On Request Of Co <input type="checkbox"/> Action Taken: <input type="checkbox"/> None</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>						Type Of ComplainL	Description			Complaint Dispositiu		Complaint#:	1 <input type="checkbox"/> 304	<u>Competent Performance</u>			<u>Dropped On Request Of Com</u>		Complaint#:	2 <input type="checkbox"/> 320	Standards of Conduct			Dropped On Request Of Com		Officer#:	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Sedivy, Mathew E.	ID Number <input type="checkbox"/> 3231	Rank <input type="checkbox"/> Officer	Division <input type="checkbox"/> Detectives	Shift <input type="checkbox"/> 1st Shift	Supervisor <input type="checkbox"/> Vrooman, Ryan		Disposition: <input type="checkbox"/> Dropped On Request Of Co <input type="checkbox"/> Action Taken: <input type="checkbox"/> None					<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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# LORAIN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Jim Mccann | Chief of Police

HONOR RESPECT" PUBLIC SERVICE

September 7, 2022

**COPY**

Mr. Aaron Knapp  
4220 Talbot Lane  
Lorain, Ohio 44055

**RE: Officer Complaint**  
Internal Investigation IA# 2022-039

Dear Mr. Knapp:

This is to inform you that the Lorain Police Department Office of Professional Standards is in receipt of the complaint that you recently filed. Lt. Angello has been assigned to conduct a thorough and impartial investigation of the allegation(s) outlined in your complaint. She may be contacting you for additional information.

In accordance with our policy, you will be notified once the investigation is concluded, along with the disposition. If you have any questions regarding this matter, you may contact me at (440) 204-2107 or [Kyle\\_Gelenius@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Kyle_Gelenius@cityoflorain.org).

Sincerely,

Sgt. **K. I. Gelenius, M.S.**  
Investigator  
Office of Professional Standards  
Lorain Police Department

## **POSSIBLE DISPOSITIONS**

**Exonerated**- If the alleged act occurred, but the action was lawful and proper.

**Not Sustained**- If there is insufficient evidence to either prove or disprove the allegation.

**Sustained**- If the allegation is supported by sufficient evidence and the action violates either criminal law, the Department's Standards of Conduct, or other written directives. If the incident has two or more allegations and at least one of the allegations is sustained it may be classified as "partially sustained."

**Unfounded**- The allegation was demonstrably false or there is no credible evidence to support the complaint.

**Other Misconduct**- If the investigation reveals sufficient evidence to indicate other infractions not based in the original complaint.

**Withdrawn**- If the complainant withdraws the complaint prior to the completion of the investigation and no further action is required.



**Gelenius, Kyle**

---

**From:** Gelenius, Kyle  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 7, 2022 8:48 AM  
**To:** 'Aaron Knapp'  
**Cc:** Angello, Tabitha  
**Subject:** RE: Complaint Form  
**Attachments:** Notification of complaint Knapp.pdf

Mr. Knapp,

We received your complaint. The matter is under review. Please see attachment.

Regards,

s;,-;t. *K1* , *Pl.>*

*internal .A;Ji.tirs Inie;;;tigf<.-ito1. I-?econstructioni.:-+t*

**fftce of rofesstional tanbars**

440.204.2107 | [Kyle\\_Gelenius@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Kyle_Gelenius@cityoflorain.org)



Warning: This communication with its contents may contain confidential and/or legally privileged information. It is solely for the use of the intended recipient(s). Unauthorized interception, review, use, distribution or disclosure is prohibited and may violate applicable laws including the Electronic Communications Privacy Act. If you are not the intended recipient, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT ANY DISSEMINATION, DISTRIBUTION, OR COPY OF THIS COMMUNICATION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. Please contact the sender and destroy all copies of the communication. Permission to forward or distribute anything from this communication to any non-law enforcement contacts must be sought thru the originator/originating agency of the information contained herein.

**From:** Aaron Knapp [mailto:[a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com](mailto:a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 6, 2022 8:18 PM  
**To:** Gelenius, Kyle  
**Subject:** Complaint Form

Please see and respond to attached.  
Make it a wonderful day!

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA(p)**  
**NASW Member ID: 886836612**

NOTICE: THIS ELECTRONIC MESSAGE TRANSMISSION CONTAINS INFORMATION WHICH MAY BE CONFIDENTIAL OR PRIVILEGED. THE INFORMATION IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL(S) OR ENTITY(IES) NAMED ABOVE. IF YOU ARE NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, PLEASE BE AWARE THAT ANY DISCLOSURE, COPYING, DISTRIBUTION, OR USE OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS INFORMATION IS PROHIBITED. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION IN ERROR, PLEASE IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THE SENDER AND DELETE THE COPY YOU RECEIVED.

Make it a wonderful day!

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA(p)**  
**NASW Member ID: 886836612**

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----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** 1\aron Knapp <[a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com](mailto:a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com)>  
**To:** [1orpolicecomplaints@cityofflorain.org](mailto:1orpolicecomplaints@cityofflorain.org) <[1orpolicecomplaints@cityofflorain.org](mailto:1orpolicecomplaints@cityofflorain.org)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 7, 2022 at 05:43:57 AM EDT  
**Subject:** Re: Complaint Fo1·m

According to the law after being notified the child was found, by myself the father of the reporter, your depanment should have ended. Please show me what law required your officers to order a citizen to take them to the home of the child?

**(H)** A missing child's parents, parent who is the residential parent and legal custodian, guardian, or legal custodian, or any other persons responsible for the care of a missing child, immediately shall notify the law enforcement agency with which they filed the missing child report whenever the child has returned to their home or to their care, custody, and control has been released if the missing child was the victim of an offense listed in division (A)(h) of this section, or otherwise has been located. *Upon such notification or upon otherwise learning that a missing child has returned to the home <f, or to the care, custody, and control of the missing child's parents, parent who is the residential parent and legal custodian, guardian, legal custodian, or other person responsible for the missing child's care, has been released if the missing child was the victim <fan offense listed in division (A)(3)(b) of this section, or otherwise has been located, the law enforcement agency involved promptly shall integrate the fact that the minor is no longer a missing child into the national crime information center computer and shall inform any school that was notified under division (D) if this section that the minor is no longer a missing child.*

and upon "Ordering" me to take them to the child's home ...

## Section 2921.45 | Interfering with civil rights.

(A) No public servant, under color of the public servant's office, employment, or authority, shall knowingly deprive, or conspire or attempt to deprive any person of a constitutional or statutory right.

(B) Whoever violates this section is guilty of interfering with civil rights, a felony of the first degree.

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA(p)**  
**NASW Member ID: 8868366-12**

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On Tuesday, September 6, 2022 at 08:17:41 PM EDT, Aaron Knapp <[a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com](mailto:a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com)> wrote:

Please see and respond to attached.

---

Gelenius, **Kyle**

**From:** Mccann, James - Chief  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 7, 2022 8:52 AM  
**To:** Gelenius, Kyle  
**Subject:** FW: Complaint Form

***Chief Jim McCann***

Lorain Police Department  
100 W. Erie Ave.  
Lorain, Ohio 44052  
Office: 440-204-2103  
Fax: 440-204-2519

**From:** Washington, Sanford  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 7, 2022 8:43 AM  
**To:** Aaron Knapp  
**Subject:** RE: Complaint Form

Good Morning,

I will contact Chief Jim Mccann regarding this complaint to have him follow up on the information you provided.

**SatIflJtd W{1,jfwUJhm /jx.**  
Safety/Service Director  
City of Lorain  
Office: (440)204-2060  
Cell: (440)752-6648

**From:** Aaron Knapp [mailto:[a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com](mailto:a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com)]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 7, 2022 5:48 AM  
**To:** Washington, Sanford  
**Subject:** Fw: Complaint Form

again review email below.  
Make it a wonderful day!

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA(p)**  
**NASW Member ID: 886836612**

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---

**Gelenius, Kyle**

**From:** Mccann, James - Chief  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 7, 2022 8:41 AM  
**To:** Gelenius, Kyle  
**Subject:** FW: A Knapp Complaint Form  
**Attachments:** Aaron Knapp Complaint Form 9-6-22.pdf

***Chief Jim McCann***

Lorain Police Department  
100 W. Erie Ave.  
Lorain, Ohio 44052  
Office: 440-204-2103  
Fax: 440-204-2519

**From:** Washington, Sanford  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 7, 2022 8:25 AM  
**To:** Mccann, James - Chief  
**Cc:** Soto, Rick; Bradley, Jack  
**Subject:** A Knapp Complaint Form

Good Morning Chief,

I received this complaint form completed by Aaron Knapp yesterday. I'm not sure if you received this information but I do believe it does need to be followed up. Let me know what you can find out.

*Sanf, cvtd W liinghm')It.*  
Safety/Service Director  
City of Lorain  
Office: (440)204-2060  
Cell: (440)752-6648



# Incident Report



Print Date/Time: 09/07/2022 07:41  
Login ID: kgelenius

Lorain Police Department  
ORI Number: OH0470500

Incident: 2022-00030424

Incident Date/Time:	9/6/2022 7:08:14 PM	Incident Type:	Missing Person
Location:	2321 FAIRLESS DR LORAIN OH 44055	Venue:	LORAIN
Phone Number:		Source:	911
Report Required:	No	Priority:	High
Prior Hazards:	No	Status:	In Progress
LE Case Number:		Nature of Call:	

## Unit/Personnel

Unit	Personnel
LO106	4036-Sanchez
LO112	4096-Urbin
LO131	4079-Robinson
LO152	4146-Nimon
LO156	4025-Inchaurregui 3887-Trujillo
LO32	4166-Gerace

## Person(s)

No.	Role	Name	Address	Phone	Race	Sex	DOB
	Involved	CLARITY					

## Vehicle(s)

Role	Type	Year	Make	Model	Color	License	State
------	------	------	------	-------	-------	---------	-------

## Disposition(s)

Disposition	Count	Unit	Date/Time
Assistance Rendered /		LO32	9/6/2022 7:16:42 PM
No Report			9/6/2022 7:27:03 PM
Checks OK			

## Property

Date	Code	Type	Make	Model	Description	Tag No.	Item No.
------	------	------	------	-------	-------------	---------	----------

## CAD Narrative

09/06/2022 : 19:26:58 jrsmith Narrative: JUV AT 4113 TALBOT CHECKS OK  
09/06/2022: 19:24:47 rgnagy Narrative: OUT ON TALBOT CONFIRMING CHILD WAS LOCATED  
09/06/2022: 19:18:16 jrsmith Narrative: FATHER IS AT CORNER FAIRLESS/CHARLESTON  
09/06/2022: 19:16:11 rgnagy Narrative: CHILD LOCATED  
09/06/2022: 19:16:01 jrsmith Narrative: JUV WALKED HOME WITH ANOTHER ADULT-  
09/06/2022 : 19:13:22 jrsmith Narrative: MOTHER OF JUV IS AT HOME BUT BABYSITTER CANNOT GET AHOOLD OF HER  
09/06/2022 : 19:13:02 jrsmith Narrative: 6 YR OLD DOES NOT KNOW HER WAY HOME  
09/06/2022: 19:12:37 jrsmith Narrative: LAST SEEN THE JUV ON THE SWINGS  
09/06/2022 : 19:11:48 jrsmith Narrative: BABYSITTER WAS AT GRABBING HER SHOES AND THE CHILD WALKED OFF  
09/06/2022: 19:10:37 jrsmith Narrative: COMP IS THE 13YR OLD BABYSITTER  
09/06/2022: 19:10:12 jrsmith Narrative: 6 YR OLD ZIALO- BLUE SHIRT PINK PANTS RAINBOW SLIPPERS

## Gelenius, Kyle

**From:** Aaron Knapp [a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 7, 2022 5:44 **AM**  
**To:** Gelenius, Kyle  
**Subject:** Re: Complaint Form

According to the law after being notified the child was found, by myself the father of the reporter, your department should have ended. Please show me \what law required your officers to order a citizen to take them to the home of the child?

(H) A missing child's parents, parent who is the residential parent and legal custodian, guardian, or legal custodian, or any other persons responsible for the care of a missing child, immediately shall notify the law enforcement agency with which they filed the missing child report whenever the child has returned to their home or to their care, custody, and control, has been released if the missing child was the victim of an offense listed in division (A)(3)(b) of this section, or otherwise ha:s been located. *Upon such notification or upon otherwise learning that a missing child has returned to the home of, or to the care, custody, and control of the missing child's parents, parent who is the residential parent and legal custodian, guardian, legal custodian, or other person responsible for the missing child's care, has been released if the missing child was the victim of an <del>ense listed in division (A)(3)(b) of this section, or otherwise has been located, the law enforcement agency involved promptly shall integrate the fact that the minor no longer is a missing child into the national crime information center computer and shall inform any school that was notified under division (D) of this section that the minor is no longer a missing child.*

and upon "Ordering" me to take them to the child's borne ...

## **Section 2921.45 | Interfering with civil rights.**

(A) No public servant, under color of the public servant's office, employment, or authority, shall knowingly deprive, or conspire or attempt to deprive any person of a constitutional or statutory right.

(B) Whoever violates this section is guilty of interfering with civil rights, a misdemeanor of the first degree.

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA(p)**  
**NASW Member ID: 886836612**

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On Tuesday, September 6, 2022 at 08:17:41 PM EDT, Aaron Knapp [a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com](mailto:a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com) wrote:

Please see and respond to attached.  
Make it a wonderful day!

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA(p)**  
**NASW Member ID: 886836612**

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# IQ, RAIN POLICEDEPARIME, NT CIT'IZE.N COMP'LAIANT FORM

OH! i: OF PROfESS!OMJL ;TANfMRDS

100 WEST ERIE AVENUE• LORAIN, OHIO 44052

PHONE: (440) 204-2107 • FAX (440) 204-2557

E-MAIL: LORPOLICECOMPLAINTS@CITYOFLORAIN.ORG

## DEPARTMENT USE ONLY

COMPLAINT RECEIVED BY: *tr, ffdfJi/* DATE: *'1-fo l'?.-*

ASSISTING EMPLOYEE: *M*

COMPLAINT METHOD:

IN PERSON  BY PHONE  MAIL, --MAIL  OTHER (DESCRIBE)

COMPLAINT TYPE (TO BE COMPLETED FOR COMPLAINTS ONLY):

INOR COMPLAINT

MAJOR COMPLAINT

DEPARTMENT OR ANONYMOUS COMPLAINT

## ACJ:(QWLEJ)EMENT / DISPOSITION OF COMPlAINT

CHIEF OF POLICE AND/OR EXECUTIVE CAPTAIN: DATE:

ASSIGNED SUPERVISOR:

*lt. An.>el lo*

ASSIGNED DATE:

*'1- 7- 7, 2...*

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS:

*S P,e(lv rr*

DISPOSITION:  further action required) ee Supervisor Report ernal Affairs Investigation IA# *aa.851*  
Resolved (No *If*

*full ml rED W fffm  
ill] SEP 07 2022*

---

**Gelenius, Kyle**

**From:** Aaron Knapp [a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 6, 2022 8:18 PM  
**To:** Gelenius, Kyle  
**Subject:** Complaint Form  
**Attachments:** complaint form completed..pdf

Please see and respond to attached.  
Make it a wonderful day!

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA(p)**  
**NASW Member ID: 886836612**

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# LORAIN POLICE DEPARTMENT

## CITIZEN COMPLAINT FORM

OFFICE OF PROHSSION, 'L STANDARD.,,

100 WESTERIE AVENUE• LORAIN, OHIO 44052

PHONE: (440) 204-2107 • FAX (440) 204-2557

E-MAIL: LORPOLICECOMPLAINTS@CITYOFLORAIN.ORG

EMPLOYEE COMPLAINT  DEPARTMENT COMPLAINT LPDINCIDENT# **aa-Jo&.JJ.**

### COMPLAINANT INFORMATION

DATE: 09/06/2022	TIME: 1830hrs-1930hrs	REPORTING PARTY NAME: Aaron C Knapp LSW,BSW,CDCA(p)	ANONYMOUS
ADDRESS: 4220 Talbot Ln		SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: N/A	DATE OF BIRTH: 09/26/1973
PRIMARY PHONE: 216-659-9899		E-MAIL ADDRESS a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com	
NATURE OF COMPLAINT: Inappropriate behavior in uniform		DATE OF INCIDENT: 09/06/2022	TIME OF INCIDENT:
LOCATION OF INCIDENT: Fairless Park		EMPLOYEE(S) INVOLVED: (Names, Badge #s, Cruiser #s) Unknown	
WITNESS NAME:	WITNESS ADDRESS:	WITNESS PHONE:	
WITNESS NAME:	WITNESS ADDRESS:	WITNESS PHONE:	

The following demographic information is voluntary and not required. However it may assist with identifying potential patterns and/or trends:

**Gender:**  Male  Female **Race/Ethnicity:**  American Indian/Alaska Native  Asian  Black/African American  
 Other  Other Hispanic/Latino  Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander  White/Caucasian

**Do you have a disability in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)?**  Yes  No

**Were you arrested?**  No  Yes If yes, for what reason? \_\_\_\_\_

**Did you require medical attention?**  No  Yes If yes, what medical facility? \_\_\_\_\_

**Will you sign a medical release form?**  No  Yes  N/A

**NARRATIVE:** (In your own words, explain **WHAT** happened, **WHERE** and **WHO** was involved.)

I've had over 8 interactions with officers from the Lorain Police Department and in all of those interactions I have never been spoken too in an appropriate

or respectful manner. I will list the other incidences in parting but tonights incident occurred as follows. My child walked to the park with a younger child

who was 6. The 6 year old walked home from the park and didn't tell my daughter so my daughter contacted 911 on her cell phone. At the same time try

to contact me. I saw the minor child, who is our neighbor, walk home and spoke to her. I then went to get my child from the park who informed me she

on the phone with 911. I advised the operator of what had occurred and she asked that I stay and inform officers of what had occurred. I stayed and told

s



1, RAIN-POL:1, c-E'-oe-PART-'M-E-NT

# CITIZEN COMPLAINT FORM

Office Of PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

**100 WEST ERIE AVENUE • LORAIN, OHIO 44052**

**PHONE: (440) 204-2107 • FAX (440) 204-2557**

E-MAIL: LORPOLICECOMPLAINTS@CITYOFLORAIN.ORG

the officers the child had walked home and was at her mothers home and that I had personally witnessed this. They responded by saying "we cant tak, YOUR word for it." and told me to take them to the child. They said the law required them to "SEE" the child and that my "word" wasnt good enough. SO I did as I was "ordered" and took them to the child's residence. When I contacted dispatch after to make a complaint I was greeted with more hostility and told again "we cant take the word of some quv"...its a "6 year old child". At this point the dispatcher had not asked but I am a mandated reporter and a Social Worker so normally my word is good enough but in this case it wasnt. The Dispatcher took my name and number before hanging up on me when I advised him that if I asked for a supervisor it was the law, or at minimum its Lorain Police Policy, to which he said it wasnt and then hung up the phone. On your website it states that "A supervisor will be contacted to address your concerns. If a supervisor is not immediately available, the dispatcher will take your name and phone number, and have a supervisor contact you as soon as possible" it doesnt state that you will be rude and hang up on the caller. I understand that the Officers have an obligation to investigate and protect but being rude to bystanders then forcing said bystander to lead them somewhere isnt really in that mandate. Also I dont see where Officers and Dispatchers being rude or refusing to contact a supervisor fits into the Department's Mission Statement to the public? Again your website says "...treating citizens in a manner which is courteous, helpful, and responsive. We believe integrity is the basis for community trust and we set high standards for personal and professional conduct of all our employees." I cant see how hanging up on a citizen who calls the number you list as the number to call and voice concerns complies with these values. And lets say for brevity that the other encounters are similar in nature. Bottom line is your officers are extremely rude and unprofessional in their interactions with the public. Id like some training for the officers. Id be willing to bet I get no call back from a supervisor on back or attach additional pages if necessary) tonight and I dont believe this complaint will be taken seriously as previous complaints have verbally fallen on deaf ears.	
<b>Completed forms can be faxed, mailed or e-mailed to:</b>	<b>Lorain Police Department Office of Professional Standards</b> 100 W. Erie Avenue, Lorain, Ohio 44052 Phone: (440) 204-2107 • FAX: (440) 2557 E-mail: <b>LORPOLICECOMPLAINTS@CITYOFLORAIN.ORG</b>

Olio Revised CodG 19%1,H (B) "1'-IR pers on s\_hall **kl to h1gly** file a complaint against a peace q:ficer that alleg&s that the peace officer engaged in misconduct in ih performance Of th ufficer's duties **if the person knows that .th.e 11Hegations aie false.** \l!biation of this section is a misdeme.anor of the t<sup>11</sup> degree." I understand that by sig1i1:1g this complaint, hat ifa subseq\_uent investigation d tem)nes that I knowingly made false allegations of misconduct against a peace officer, I may be prosecuted criminally.\*

I certify that the foregoing statement is true and correct and that no threats, promises or inducements have been made to me regarding my statement / complaint (If under age 18, signature of parent or guardian required):

Reporting Party Signature:	Received by:	Date:
1(a)	<b>LOF: IAIN POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFICER OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS</b> <b>100 WERIE AVE</b> <small>MAIN</small>	09/06/2022

9. It should be noted that Mr. Knapp requested to speak with a supervisor at which time his information was provided to Lt. Angello. Lt. Angello contacted Mr. Knapp on the same day of the incident. I spoke to Mr. Knapp at great length about his concerns. Mr. Knapp conveyed nothing additional in this investigation that was not listed in his written complaint, except the fact that he did speak with a supervisor and later thanked Lt. Angello for listening and felt his issue was resolved.
10. In summary, as a social worker, Mr. Knapp should know it is not uncommon for officers to follow up to ensure the safety of a child. There is a responsibility on the police to ensure that a missing child in this case a 6 year old is safe and well and has the opportunity to disclose any relevant issues as to why they went missing. Mr. Knapp's complaint does not rise to a degree where Officers displayed inappropriate behaviors as stating in the original complaint.
11. Officers Trujillo and Officer Inchaun-egui do not violate any policy or procedures during this incident and handled the matter professionally and calmly.
12. At this time, I request this investigation be closed, with the officer being exonerated.

#

5. Mr. Knapp quotes Officers responded "we can't take YOUR word for it" and "take them to the child". Officers explain they cannot take someone's word that a child is home without verifying the information Mr. Knapp was stating. Not once did the Officers tell Mr. Knapp "the law" required anything. Mr. Knapp's wording and explanation in his complaint did not match the inappropriate behavior that was being claimed.
6. Mr. Knapp then states according to the law by his word after being notified the child was found officers should have ended their contact. Mr. Knapp then provides ORC code 2901.30.

*(HJ A missing child's parents, parent who is the residential parent and legal custodian, guardian, or legal custodian, or any other persons responsible for the care of a missing child, immediately shall notify the law enforcement agency with which they filed the missing child report whenever the child has returned to their home or to their care, custody, and control, has been released if the missing child was the victim of an offense listed in division (A)(3)(b) of this section, or otherwise has been located. Upon such notification or upon otherwise learning that a missing child has returned to the home of or to the care, custody, and control of the missing child's parents, parent who is the residential parent and legal custodian, guardian, legal custodian, or other person responsible for the missing child's care, has been released if the missing child was the victim of an offense listed in division (A)(3)(b) of this section, or otherwise has been located, the law enforcement agency involved promptly shall integrate the fact that the minor no longer is a missing child into the national crime information center computer and shall inform any school that was notified under division (D) of this section that the minor is no longer a missing child.*

7. However this statute would not be meet the assumption Mr. Knapp is implying. In fact, the action required by ORC 2901.42 when a law enforcement agency receives a report of a missing person is determined based upon the age of the missing person and whether or not foul play and suspicious circumstances exist. The child reported missing is 6 years old in this case. Pursuant to ORC 2901.30, the following actions must be taken in the case of a missing child who is under eighteen (18) years of age: All reports of missing persons shall be investigated by proper agency personnel. Investigative steps deemed appropriate by the agency representative shall be taken to locate the missing person to include contacting the missing child's parent and **NOT** the reporter.
8. Mr. Knapp then explains in his complaint that although he did **not** inform anyone but he is a mandated reporter and a social worker. He states normally his word is good enough but not in this case. As a social worker, Mr. Knapp should know it is not uncommon for officers to follow up to ensure the safety of a child. There is a responsibility on the police to ensure that a reported missing child in this case a 6 year old is safe and well. Officers must be confident that there is nothing untoward that has been missed.



# LORAIN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Jim Mccann | Chief of Police

HONOR • RESPECT • PUBLIC SERVICE

## *Patrol Operations*

**Date:** 9/19/2022

**To:** Kyle Gelenius  
Sergeant

**From:** Tabitha Angello  
Lieutenant

**Subj: Officer Complaint Investigation**

**Ref:** (a) IA Investigation 2022-039

mrE®rEDWrEfm  
ill SEP1 2022  
By OPS - S t.6iltniv5

1. On September 7, 2022, I was assigned IA-22-039 by Sgt Gelenius with the complainant listed as Aaron Knapp. Mr. Knapp completed a Citizen Complaint Fonn on September 6, 2022 with the following information summarized:
2. In Mr. Knapp's narrative he explains his daughter had walked to Fairless Park with a 6 year old child. The 6 year old left the park and Mr. Knapp's daughter was unable to locate the 6 year and called 911. Mr. l(napp had observed the 6 year old at her residence and went to Fairless Park to get his child and learned she was on the phone with 911. He was asked to stay on scene and explain to officers what had occurred. He explained the "missing" child was at home and he had witnessed the child there.
3. Viewing body cam footage, Mr. Knapp spoke with Officers Trujillo and Inchaurregui and advised the child was home. Officer Trujillo inquired where home was and Mr. Knapp stated on Talbot lane but the address was unknown. Mr. Knapp was then asked if he could take Officers to the location to check if the child was in fact there. He paused for a moment and asked "Whyyyy? He was explained the reason being is to verify the 6 year old was in fact home and no longer missing. An unknown female, who possible could be Mr. Knapp's daughter, tells him to get in the car because she was bleeding and lifts her leg up. Knapp tells officers he didn't know the address but Officers could follow him.
4. Officers then follow Mr. Knapp to 4113 Talbot Lane to confirm the safety of the 6 year old child. Mr. Knapp went to the residence and asked where the child was who came to the door with her mother. Officers made contact with mom and located the child at the residence. Confinning the child was safe after being repolied missing.



# LORAIN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Jim Mccann | Chief of Police

HONOR • RESPECT• PUBLIC SERVICE

Mr. Knapp  
September 20, 2022  
Page 2

investigating officers displayed any inappropriate behaviors, as alleged in the original complaint. Nevertheless, thank you for reaching out and voicing your concern regarding our police services.

Accordingly, based on the facts and logical persuasiveness of the evidence present in this case, the investigation found that Officers Trujillo and Inchaurregui did not commit or omit acts contrary to the mission, goals, objectives and other pertinent directives and practices of this Department. As a result, the final disposition of this complaint is Exonerated.

Sincerely,

ssss;lice, by

Sgt. K. J. Gelenius, M.S.  
Internal Affairs Investigator  
Office of Professional Standards

## POSSIBLE DISPOSITIONS

- Exonerated** - If the alleged act occurred, but the action was lawful and proper.
- Not Sustained** - If there is insufficient evidence to either prove or disprove the allegation.
- Sustained** - If the allegation is supported by sufficient evidence and the action violates either criminal law, the Department's Standards of Conduct, or other written directives. If the incident has two or more allegations and at least one of the allegations is sustained it may be classified as "partially sustained."
- **Unfounded** - The allegation was demonstrably false or there is no credible evidence to support the complaint.
- **Other Misconduct** - If the investigation reveals sufficient evidence to indicate other infractions not based in the original complaint.
- **Withdrawn** - If the complainant withdraws the complaint prior to the completion of the investigation and no further action is required.



## *Counselor, Social Worker & Marriage and Family Therapist Board*

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77 South High Street, 24th Floor, Room 2468  
Columbus, Ohio 43215-6171  
614-466-0912 & Fax 614-728-7790  
<http://cswmft.ohio.gov> & [cswmft.info@cswb.ohio.gov](mailto:cswmft.info@cswb.ohio.gov)

July 20, 2023

Aaron Knapp  
4220 Talbot Ln  
Lorain, OH 44055-3756

Dear Mr. Knapp:

As you know, the Ohio Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board received information that you allegedly violated the ethical standards required of licensed social workers.

The Social Worker Professional Standards Committee has reviewed all the evidence obtained. The Committee did not substantiate the allegations in the complaint. The case is now closed.

If you have any questions, you can reach Margaret-Ann Adorjan at (614) 644-0222, or at [m.adorjan@cswb.ohio.gov](mailto:m.adorjan@cswb.ohio.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William L. Hegarty".

William L. Hegarty  
Deputy Director





09/20/2023 (21 calendar days after the Date Issued). If the 21st day falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, your deadline has already been extended to include the next scheduled work day. If you do not file your appeal within the 21-day calendar period, include a statement with the date you received the determination and your reason for filing late. If your appeal is late due to a physical or mental condition, provide certified medical evidence that your condition prevented you from filing within the 21-day period. In order for your appeal to be considered timely, it must be received/postmarked no later than 21 calendar days after the ending date of the physical or mental condition. If unemployed, claimants should continue to file weekly claims for benefits while the determination is under appeal by visiting the agency's website at <https://unemployment.ohio.gov> or call the ODJFS office listed above. For additional information, claimants may review the **Workers Guide to Unemployment Compensation**.

Si usted no pude leer esto, llame por favor a 1-877-644-6562 para una traducción.

## Allowed Application Definitions

**Benefit Year Beginning Date** - This date establishes the effective date of this application.

**Weekly Benefit Amount** - This is the amount of benefits potentially payable for a week of total unemployment. It represents fifty percent of the claimant's average weekly wage for all base period employment, not to exceed the amount specified in Section 4141.30(B), Ohio Revised Code, for the claimant's dependency.

**Dependency Class** - This designation is assigned in accordance with the schedule established by law and remains in effect for the benefit year.

Class A-1 - Indicates either that the claimant did not list any dependents or that one or more of his/her dependents has been disallowed for any of the following reasons:

- Identity of dependent(s) could not be verified;
- Amount of support contributed by the claimant does not meet requirements;
- Spouse's income exceeds requirement to qualify as a dependent;
- Child listed is not a birth child, step-child, or adopted child;
- Child listed is over 18 years of age with no physical/mental handicap.

Class A-2 - Indicates that the claimant's spouse has an overlapping benefit year with allowed dependents.

Class A-3 - Indicates that the claimant listed dependent(s), but base period wages were insufficient to qualify for a higher benefit amount.

Class B - Indicates one or two eligible dependents.

Class C - Indicates three or more eligible dependents.

**Total Benefits Payable** - This is the total amount of benefits that can be paid to the claimant during the benefit year. The total is computed by multiplying the weekly benefit amount by 20 (for the first 20 qualifying weeks in the base period), plus one times the weekly benefit amount for each additional qualifying week. Total benefits cannot exceed 26 times the weekly benefit amount.

**Employer's Amount Chargeable** - This is the amount of benefits that is potentially chargeable to each employer's account.

**Employer's Proportion Charge** - Employers are charged proportionally, based on the wages paid to the claimant by each employer during the base period. This amount is the percentage of the claimant's benefit entitlement that may be charged to each account.

**Base Period Employment History** - The base period includes the first four of the last five completed calendar quarters, prior to the benefit year beginning date. If the **Alternate Base Period** was used, the base period includes the four most recently completed calendar quarters prior to the benefit year beginning date.

**Employer Name** - All employers for whom the claimant worked during the base period are listed.

**Total Base Period Wages** - This figure reflects total earnings in the base period with the corresponding employer(s).

**Total Qualifying Weeks** - This is the number of weeks in the base period in which the claimant earned or was paid wages with the base period employers.

For additional information, employers may refer to the **Ohio Unemployment Compensation Guide**; claimants may refer to the **Workers' Guide to Unemployment Compensation**.

Si usted no puede leer esto, llame por favor a 1-877-644-6562 para una traducción.



To whom it may concern,

1. Yes, I am currently practicing as a Social Worker with Applewood Centers as a Therapist with Juvenile Justice in the Crossroads Diversion program where I see juveniles who are court remanded to treatment by the Lorain County Domestic Court.
2. My supervisor is Michelle Sims Director of Juvenile Justice.
3. I “carry a card to hand out” **[see Exhibit 15]** and if I had come in contact with a Human Trafficking Victim I would give the card to the victim, yes. I generally don’t come in contact with Human Trafficking victims but it is a question (exploitation) on the Cans assessment. I also do not have the “videos” as I withdrew the complaint and withdrew the request for the bodycam footage. If the Police wish to provide that is fine but my dashcam only stores videos for a short period and my body cam only showed me driving away so that wasn’t saved.
4. I have had the disclaimer on my email for legal reasons. I use my “personal” email for many purposes. I’ve used that email as a Per Se Litigant in my child’s custody case and as such send and receive confidential documents from that email so I utilize it often as a catch all. I utilize it in my capacity as a GAL for the county of Lorain and I do send myself Professional documents and training information to that email so it is my “everything” email. It should be noted prior to my employment at my current position this email was the email I utilized as my “advocacy email address” and was listed as my professional email on my Personal Business Cards that I had made for advocacy. So, I feel it is my “professional email” for MACRO level advocacy purposes. And as such MACRO Level advocacy, personal or professional, requires no actual supervision or specific clinical licensure other than my BSSW. I have my Licensure on my “personal email” as I believe I am mandated to the legal ethical standard in all my duties, both personal and professional, as both can affect my licensure status. SO as such I place my Licensure (**not my employer**) on my

personal email as it is **MY LICENSURE** and I am ultimately responsible for its good standing. I also feel it holds me accountable.

The Pre-Amble of the Code of Ethics for Social Workers reads:

***The primary mission of the social work profession is to enhance human well-being and help meet the basic human needs of all people, with particular attention to the needs and empowerment of people who are vulnerable, oppressed, and living in poverty.*** A historic and defining feature of social work is the profession's dual focus on individual well-being in a social context and the well-being of society. Fundamental to social work is attention to the environmental forces that create, contribute to, and address problems in living.

*Social workers promote social justice and social change with and on behalf of clients. "Clients" is used inclusively to refer to individuals, families, groups, organizations, and **communities**. Social workers are sensitive to cultural and ethnic diversity and **strive to end discrimination, oppression, poverty, and other forms of social injustice**. These activities may be in the form of direct practice, community organizing, supervision, consultation, administration, **advocacy**, social and political action, policy development and implementation, education, and research and evaluation. Social workers seek to enhance the capacity of people to address their own needs. Social workers also seek **to promote the responsiveness of organizations, communities, and other social institutions to individuals' needs and social problems**.*

*The mission of the social work profession is rooted in a set of core values. These core values, embraced by social workers throughout the profession's history, are the foundation of social work's unique purpose and perspective:*

- *service*
- *social justice*
- *dignity and worth of the person*

- *importance of human relationships*
- ***integrity***
- ***competence.***

*This constellation of core values reflects what is unique to the social work profession. Core values, and the principles that flow from them, must be balanced within the context and complexity of the human experience."*

It should be noted that this complaint centers around my advocacy on behalf of my community and as such it should be noted that all my actions are what DEFINES a Social Worker and I am PROUD to place my LSW behind those actions. It would be unethical to do otherwise. These 2 complaints span 2 incidents and neither of them are or were "personal in nature" to me. I do not personally know the family that was involved in the incident surrounding the original complaint nor do I personally know the chief of police. But through the course of my addressing issues that I feel were in direct support of my community and in advocacy and empowerment of individuals in my community who are traditionally oppressed, living in poverty, and are identified as vulnerable. It is also insinuated apparently that this action must somehow be attached to my actual day to day job to be considered Social Work but I would argue that any advocacy on Behalf of my community is Social Work and as the code Identifies "Clients" as being used "*inclusively to refer to individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities*". Until I began to advocate on behalf of my community, I was unaware of the individual plight that was faced by the Hildrith family nor to the ire that the Lorain Police would formulate based off my advocacy. During this key time some very important things occurred least of which I suddenly was being "followed" on Facebook by the Chief and Mary Hildrith (the community member involved in the incident) although neither had attempted to contact me. **[Please See Exhibit 1 & 2].** It should also be noted that Mary Hildrith's husband did message me on Facebook discussing

my advocacy as well. **[Exhibit 3 & 4]** The Lorain Police would have you believe this is a “personal issue” for me, Aaron Knapp, not a Social Advocacy issue for the LSW Aaron Knapp, but they would be incorrect. (It should also be noted the video of the above incident went viral garnering over 500k views across multiple channels and shares so this was a community matter even if it wasn’t intended to be.

5. It should be noted that I withdrew the complaint where I discussed the information about handing out cards and the incident revolving around my being parked at 4000 Oberlin rd. and per police policy, they dismissed it. So that documentation is actually a moot point but I was checking emails in the parking lot and was going to text a client’s PO from the lot **[See Exhibit 5 Text message on March 31<sup>st</sup> to Probation Officer Ryan Green (redacted) March 31<sup>st</sup> at 20:01 hrs]**. After the officer engaged with me in the parking lot and stated he had concerns and in an attempt to alleviate them, I advised the officer I would move to the parking lot one block down where I had a bank to finish my emails and phone calls. I did drive to the next lot down and finished my business before heading home. As I said in the now dismissed complaint **[See Exhibit 6]**, I thought it was very coincidental that the officer stopped me shortly after all the stuff with the chief started. It is important to note that I recognized, in hindsight, that the Officer may have had other reason for his engagement with me and I even stated in my emails to the chief I was willing to admit it was coincidental about the officer if he admitted the issue with him befriending me on Facebook also seemed suspicious. This was VERY INTIMIDATING to out of nowhere have a Police Chief and a Civil Servant show such interest in me and I believe if that wasn’t heavy on my mind when I stopped in that parking lot to check emails and text (as I was driving when the client call came in and then as shown above, I messaged the Probation Officer after but had to pull in to a lot quickly as to not break the law by being on my phone while

driving a vehicle) I would probably reacted differently to the Officer and his “reasons” to come talk to me for sitting in my car checking emails in the parking lot. I am a salaried employee so while I log hours, I am technically not hourly so if something arises and I need to email a client or a PO I do so because I am with Juvenile Justice and it is a necessity to meet the clients where they are at in Juvenile Justice. As most Social Workers tend to do I take calls and texts outside of work hours and even responded to a text tonight while on vacation so I feel like as a Social Worker you are never really “off”.

6. After I went to the mayor and told him about my interactions with Law Enforcement and the Chief of Police I arrived at work and during my Supervision my supervisor directly asked me about the very public Facebook issue I was involved in with the City Police involving my non-work hours Social Work advocacy. Rest assured I do consider my off-employment hours advocacy Social Work and as such feel my Licensure, that I earned through study and testing, is appropriately placed when I am clearly doing MACRO Level advocacy work that requires no supervision but does require a BSSW. SO, in Order to properly advocate I must at minimum identify myself as a BSSW, which I clearly was doing. When I spoke to my Supervisor I did ask if I had signed any agreements preventing off work advocacy and was told no but that they [the Lorain Police] could refuse to work with you. My supervisor advised me the back channels such as email and official complaint forms were better to utilize as they were not “public”. At that time, I deleted every public post about the First Amendment issues I had posted and any and all comments I had posted, advocating for members of my community whom I felt were not being properly represented by anyone so I did what the Code tells me to do and attempted to ***“promote the responsiveness of organizations, communities, and other social institutions to individuals’ needs and social problems.”*** And I followed up on my Official Complaint. I am unsure to date who contacted my employer (if anyone) and while the Police Department may

say they were not the people to call it is clear they filed this complaint so they are attempting to attack my employment or my licensure in order to silence me. To this point I would prefer my employer and/or supervisor not be involved in this action unless for some reason you deem my actions were inappropriate and not within the NASW Code of Ethics as the Police Chiefs frivolous complaints have already drawn enough attention to me at work (regardless of whom called my supervisor).

7. As you will see in the attachments to this email the Chief chose to respond in a direct manner to me as opposed to my complaint **[Exhibit 7 & 8]**. His emails felt more like blaming and hostile than wanting to work anything out. He and the Mayor both inquired as to my profession as well as insinuating why do I care? As Chief he failed to uphold his duty to be the example of top Law Enforcement. His responses left much to be desired, were condescending, released information about ongoing investigations, and accused the citizenry of being liars. He also took the opportunity to follow AND add me as a friend on Facebook (see previous exhibits). His actions felt as though they were meant to intimidate and later, he followed those statements up by stating I needed to know the consequences for taking legal action over a Civil Rights issue **[see Exhibit 9, 10, and 11 which contains a few emails in a chain of emails between the Chief and I]**.
8. To Clarify what I mean as a “Duly Licensed Officer of the Court” (I believe licensed should have been sworn which is what I meant in that statement) I believe that as a Guardian Ad Litem, who is sworn in as an Officer of the Court (Not to be confused with a Court Officer), and Officers of the court have legal and ethical obligations. They are tasked to participate to the best of their ability in the functioning of the judicial system to forge justice out of the application of the law and the simultaneous pursuit of the legitimate interests of all parties and the general good of society also as a Social Worker who works in Juvenile Justice as a Therapist who is contracted to the County and works within the courts, who enters through the employee entrance of the court

would be considered a "Officer of the Court" and as such I am obligated under the Ohio Revised Code to report any violations in regards to court documents being disseminated to the public at large. For reference, please refer to Section 149.43 | Availability of public records for inspection and copying. Ohio Revised Code/Title 1 State Government/Chapter 149 Documents, Reports, and Records Effective: April 7, 2023 Latest Legislation: House Bill 254 (GA 134), Senate Bill 288 (GA 134), House Bill 45 (GA 134), House Bill 558 (GA 134), House Bill 99 (GA 134), House Bill 343 (GA 134) (A) As used in this section:

(1) "Public record" means records kept by any public office, including, but not limited to, state, county, city, village, township, and school district units, and records pertaining to the delivery of educational services by an alternative school in this state kept by the nonprofit or for-profit entity operating the alternative school pursuant to section 3313.533 of the Revised Code. "Public record" does not mean any of the following:

(17) "Restricted portions of a body-worn camera or dashboard camera recording" means any visual or audio portion of a body-worn camera or dashboard camera recording that shows, communicates, or discloses any of the following:

The image or identity of a child or information that could lead to the identification of a child who is a primary subject of the recording when the department of rehabilitation and correction, department of youth services, or the law enforcement agency knows or has reason to know the person is a child based on the departments or law enforcement agency's records or the content of the recording;

(I) Personal information of a person who is not arrested, cited, charged, or issued a written warning by a peace officer.

I can cite numerous other codes requiring that these juveniles' names and information (beyond roster information for the school) if the board requests but rest assured these juvenile records are protected by law.

As the report contains protected juvenile court records and pictures of juveniles who were never arrested and charged with a crime, I don't feel comfortable sharing the actual report so please see the attached link:

<https://www.lorainpolice.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/126-W-27TH-ST-MEDIA-RELEASE-ADMINISTRATIVE-INVESTIGATION.pdf>

But as I stated in my Official Complaint these Juveniles are not my clients, my kids, nor am I a Stake Holder in the eyes of the law when it comes to these children so all I am able to do is report the potential violations to the issuing agency (Lorain Police Department) in hopes they will redact the documentation, which I clearly was doing as a community service and not for "Personal Reasons".

9. I did have one last conversation with the father in question and I provided him with the necessary resources to advocate for his child informing him I was not "his worker" and as such I could not advocate for him or his child as "individuals" but that I would continue my "community advocacy" at a MACRO level behind the scenes as the father pursued the appropriate course of actions to have the protected information removed.
10. This Matter is not related to my "Professional Capacity" at my job as a Social Worker but it is related to my Professional Licensure in so much as I am a Change Agent and Our code of ethics calls us to engage in social and political action to ensure equitable access to resources, employment, and opportunities for people to meet their basic needs and then to expand choice and opportunity for all people, especially the vulnerable, disadvantaged, and oppressed. This isn't about Personal Gain its about being a Change Agent for my Community. As a Macro

Practitioner I have taken courses in Community Change and the importance of being a change agent within the communities we live in first. The Communities I'm advocating for in my Off time are the same communities I work with during work hours. So, since I am salaried, I feel like its all relative. What makes one advocacy opportunity professional vs private?

**11. I am “accused of violating OAC 4757-5-02 (A) (1) & (2) which states:**

(A) Responsibility to clients/consumers of services as to competency:

(1) Licensees and registrants shall be able to present reliable and substantial evidence of competency in the areas in which they practice. Licensees and registrants shall not misrepresent directly, indirectly or by implication their professional qualifications such as education, specialized training, experience, or area(s) of competence. Licensees or registrants shall not use a doctorate designation in their professional capacity unless it is related to the field of mental health and is from a recognized accredited educational institution.

(2) Licensees and registrants shall practice only within the competency areas for which they are qualified by education and training. Licensees and registrants shall maintain appropriate standards of care based on their individual professional license. Standards of care shall be defined as what an ordinary, reasonable professional with similar training would have done in a similar circumstance.

So first I would state **1) Licensees and registrants shall be able to present reliable and substantial evidence of competency in the areas in which they practice. Licensees and registrants shall not misrepresent directly, indirectly or by implication their professional qualifications such as education, specialized training, experience, or area(s) of competence.**

So, I would state I am a BSSW, LSW and a CDCA (p). I have the degree and licensure to back that up along with having studied and feel competent in Community Engagement and Advocacy having taken specific courses on this area of MACRO practice. I also contract with the Juvenile Court System and I am a GAL so I do believe I have the qualifications, education, and competency in the areas I am practicing. I also have taken courses in Criminal Justice and Constitutional Criminal Procedure so these areas are also familiar to me.

The second part states:

***(2) Licensees and registrants shall practice only within the competency areas for which they are qualified by education and training. Licensees and registrants shall maintain appropriate standards of care based on their individual professional license. Standards of care shall be defined as what an ordinary, reasonable professional with similar training would have done in a similar circumstance.***

While I cannot and would not attempt to speak for or guess what another provider would do in a similar circumstance, I can tell you that I am without a doubt 100% competent in the areas of Social Advocacy within my Community and in being culturally appropriate and utilizing evidence-based practices. I believe my advocacy for my community meets the Standards of MACRO level Social Work and in as such I have my BSSW displayed as that is what I am practicing when advocating in my community. And I've never utilized Dr. in my title inappropriately.

As such I do not feel I am in any way in violation of the OAC 4757-5-02 (A) (1) & (2) and I believe this is in direct retaliation to my advocacy work within the community. It should be noted the Police did eventually re-open comments to their Facebook page, even after saying they would not do so multiple times and saying I was incorrect, and after that their Facebook comments were reopened. At that point I thanked them for their compliance with the stake holder requests and considered the matter closed, until receiving this complaint. **[See Exhibit 14].**

I utilize my Facebook page for advocacy only for the most part. The email is also utilized for advocacy because as a change agent I am always advocating for my clients in various ways. And regardless of what the Lorain Police want to acknowledge I service the citizens of Lorain just as they do and for them to attempt to go after my license after making a big show about finding out who called my work seems very retaliatory in nature. I am at a loss as to how utilizing my Professional Credentials, that I earned through education, monetary expense and testing on my emails is even considered wrong. On top of which I am still trying to figure out what exact weight my credentials have behind them?

Am I an LSW and a CDCA(p) with a BSSW? The Answer is Yes. And that's not misrepresentation. I thank you for your time and please contact me with any further questions. I would like to request a Formal Hearing with an opportunity to address these concerns in person or over zoom if it is deemed necessary. I am willing to 100% support my actions with evidence-based literature and anecdotal evidence.

I believe I have covered everything requested of me in this letter along with including numerous pieces of evidence in support of my claims. But again, I would have to say none of this is "personal" which is why I say things in my emails like "asking for a city". If necessary, I can provide copies of the juvenile justice statistics showing how like in many areas African Americans make up a large portion of the incarcerated population and how that particular demographic is my client base. I can provide evidenced based peer reviewed articles showing that my methodologies are sound. I can tell you that the individual juveniles featured in this report are the exact population I work with and while they are not my clients, they are my population and as such deserve my advocacy in all areas of life especially in their communities. I believe that is Social Work. If the Chief wants to silence his critics he will need to find a different way to silence my advocacy. To date I've had my employment and now my license threatened and in all the

emails I sent the only fear I mentioned was “committing career suicide” and yet now here we are, coincidence? Just feels like a lot of coincidences that keep requiring me to answer punitive questions about my advocacy methodology which best and evidence-based practice says is an appropriate methodology for the current situation, in my opinion.

I thank you for this opportunity to offer this statement on my behalf and please feel free to reach out with any follow up questions.

Make it a wonderful Day!



Aaron C Knapp BSSW, LSW, CDCA(p)

22:30



Jim McCann



## Jim McCann

My Face Book page & all comments are my personal opinion & don't represent any organization's opinion

**Sent you a friend request**

Respond

Message

...

Followed by 2 people

... See Jim's About Info

### Friends

### Posts

Photos



Home



Friends



Watch



Dating



Notifications



Menu

**EXHIBIT 1**

22:30



## About

### Following

[See All](#)**Long Island Audit Inc.**

New York, New York

**Lorain County Sheriff's Office****Lorain County Safe Harbor / Genesis House**

### Groups

[See All](#)**Employment Opportunities in Lorain County**

20,502 Members

A place where local, or neighboring businesses, &amp;/or group members can place/submit Employ...

**The M113 Interest Group**

23,704 Members

**Lorain county places rent only**

9,386 Members

A place for Landlords to post only.....

### Followers

[See All](#)**Jim McCann****Tracy Parker**

Van Buren ISD

**Mary J Hildreth**

Home



Friends



Watch



Dating



Notifications



Menu

19:24



NoStress Jay

Active now



I just personally want to Thank you. Although you are not choosing sides in this matter you are stating facts. When I had the meeting with the he showed us the press release video. I told him right to his face that if he released that video he would get more backlash than respect and he assured me that they wouldn't. When it comes to social media WE THE PEOPLE some how discover we have a voice. Our video has over 10 million views via youtube twitter Facebook tik tok these are platforms were they have no choice but to listen. I respect what you are doing. You see, is there racism in this world yes. Bias against police yes pro police and pro defund police yes. But when you read these comments (and trust me I've read a lot I mean atleast 10k personally) and I can honestly say that racism pro police pro defund the police white black state to state c ↓ y to country I truly believe ou.



Aa



19:25



NoStress Jay

Active now



Bias against police yes pro police and pro defund police yes. But when you read these comments (and trust me I've read a lot I mean atleast 10k personally) and I can honestly say that racism pro police pro defund the police white black state to state country to country I truly believe our CONSTITUTION 100% overrides everything I believe that no matter what side your on when it comes to our rights WE THE PEOPLE stand up together we fight together we stand up together. I've seen a lot of racist people side with us and I do believe it's because they believe more in the constitution and our rights then they do race. So again I've been watching you from day one and I will continue with no bias towards you you are doing the right thing and a hell of a good job. Your not going unnoticed that's for sure



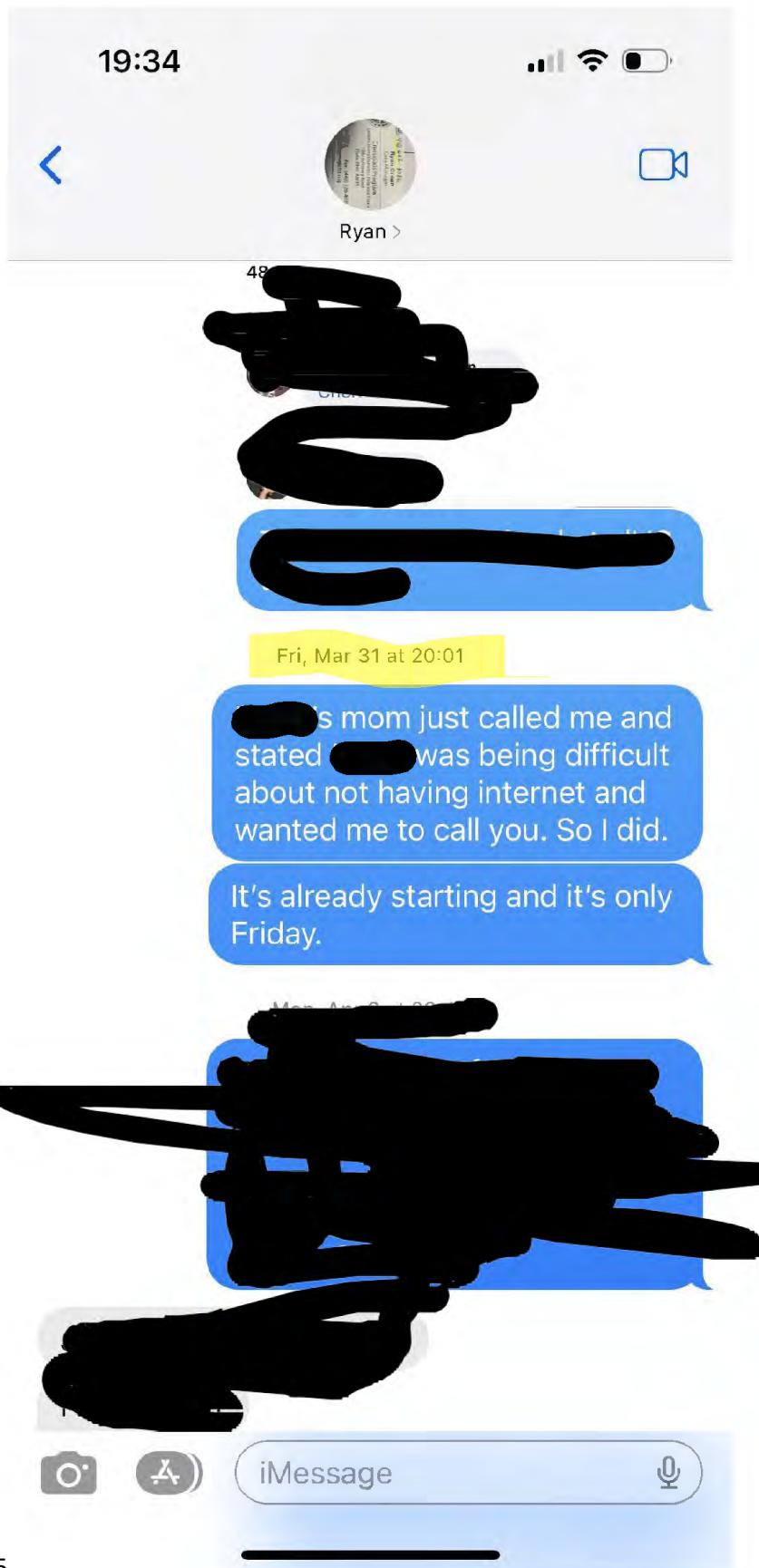
I appreciate the response and I only post in the way I do publicly because it's the way I think



Aa



EXHIBIT 4



## Exhibit 5

RE: Officer Complaint

From: Gelenius, Kyle (kyle\_gelenius@cityoflorain.org)

To: a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com

Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 at 12:57 PM EDT

**Mr. Knapp,**

**The Lorain Police Department's Office of Professional Standards is in receipt of your complaint (submitted on 4-2-23) and then your request to withdraw the complaint. It is been documented in our systems as IA-23-20 (inquiry). Disposition: Complaint withdrawn at the request of complainant. We consider the matter closed.**

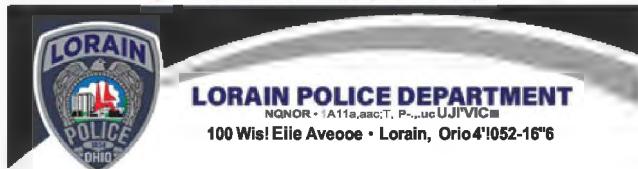
Regards,

**Sgt. Kyle Gelenius, M.s.**

Internal Affairs Investigator | Reconstructionist

**Office of Professional Standards**

P: 440.204.2107 | E: [Kyle\\_Gelenius@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Kyle_Gelenius@cityoflorain.org)



**Warning:** This communication with its contents may contain confidential and/or legally privileged information. It is solely for the use of the intended recipient(s). Unauthorized interception, review, use, distribution, or disclosure is prohibited and may violate applicable laws including the Electronic Communications Privacy Act. If you are not the intended recipient, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT ANY DISSEMINATION, DISTRIBUTION, OR COPY OF THIS COMMUNICATION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. Please contact the sender and destroy all copies of the communication. Permission to forward or distribute anything from this communication to any non-law enforcement contacts must be sought thru the originator/originating agency of the information contained herein.

**From:** Aaron Knapp [mailto:[a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com](mailto:a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com)]  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 2, 2023 12:41 PM  
**To:** Gelenius, Kyle <[Kyle\\_Gelenius@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Kyle_Gelenius@cityoflorain.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: Officer Complaint

In Hindsight I wish to officially withdraw this complaint I just want to be left alone.

Can we make that happen (unless I commit a crime obviously)?

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA(p)**

**NASW Member ID 886836612**

Mr. Knapp:

We are working with legal to review all our options concerning our social media accounts. I have also asked the Lorain County Prosecutor's office to review the entire incident at 126 W. 27<sup>th</sup> St., because in my view, this provides an external review of our actions. Once we receive that review and our Administrative Investigation is completed, it has always been our position to either restore commenting or delete our social media altogether. Social media has proven to be very time consuming and very difficult to manage. I believe our limited resources are better committed elsewhere. I have not made a final decision either way at this time.

I believe I have been one of the most transparent Police Chiefs in Lorain County and I have ALWAYS welcomed criticism from our citizens in Lorain, as they sometimes provide the best feedback to improve our services. Unfortunately, there was too much misinformation being posted about the 27<sup>th</sup> St. incident, which caused our social media to be hijacked by people from out of state and this caused the management of these accounts to become impossible.

LPD cannot react to an incident on social media until we properly investigate that incident or we would be accused of being reckless. As Chief, I am well-aware that a government agency operating a government social media page is subjugated to legal and constitutional constraints with regards to page management. This is not, nor will it ever be an issue for me. What is at issue is that the public is under no obligation to post honest and informed content. Again, this is not an issue for me; however, harm to the reputation and, in extreme cases physical well-being, of Lorain Police and City of Lorain employees, as well as to the organizations themselves can and has resulted from the misinformation and inaccurate posts on these social media pages. I have personally been the recipient of threats against myself, my family, and my property. Though I am confident in my abilities to protect myself and my family, I am not ok with the LPD social media accounts being used to convey these communications, or to spread the misinformation via public comment that serves as a basis for these threats. To be clear, I am willing and ready to stand in front a Federal Judge to state my case.

Many people, to include you, made up your mind about the 27<sup>th</sup> St incident after only seeing a portion of one video and not allowing LPD to respond with the totality of all events leading up to the specific incident. This doesn't seem impartial, at least in my opinion. Again, the public is free to form their own opinions, regardless of accuracy or partiality. When misinformation or lack of

information creates harm, I cannot stand by idly while the social media accounts that LPD manages are used to spread outright lies by way of comments and attachments from uninformed people. You claim to be an educated social worker, but one would think with your claim of being educated, you would have the ability and the "want" to get all the facts before you make assumptions or even a decision regarding what was right and wrong.

At this time, we have not been able to find any case law that specifically addresses the issue concerning our social media account and the actions we took to calm things down during our administrative investigation. There is, however, specific case law that does address deleting an individual's comments and or deleting or blocking an individual. If you have specific case law that deals with LPD's social media management decisions, I would be happy to review it. Additionally, courts have stated as has the ACLU, that off topic comments can be removed from a post. In other words, if there is a post about a basketball game, a comment that talks about a football game can be deleted. This is of course very time consuming.

Finally, Marcy Kaptur is NOT our Congressional Representative. The whole of Lorain County is within the 5<sup>th</sup> Congressional District and she represents the 9<sup>th</sup> district. Also, FOIA applies to records created by federal agencies and does not cover records held by state and local government agencies. In the spirit of cooperation and per your improper FOIA request, all communications between myself and the Law Department fall under attorney client privilege and you are not entitled to that information. It is my understanding that your improper FOIA request for information has been satisfied through our Records Department.

Semper Paratus!

***Chief Jim McCann***  
Lorain Police Department  
100 W. Erie Ave.  
Lorain, Ohio 44052  
Office: 440-204-2103  
Fax: 440-204-2519

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW**

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On Apr 10, 2023, at 22:38, Aaron Knapp <a4xbe:avermar@yahoo.com> wrote

I sent this on 03/17/2023 (see attached complaint). In your response you requested I submit case law to back up my claims, which I did, and thought I would get an official response back. Yes I did file a complaint with the US Attorneys Office (after I received no response to the attached complaint on the 16th of March). I am pretty sure they sent your department the same email that I sent me advising I have to take action in Court in order to initiate an actual civil rights complaint.

After speaking with the Mayor at his office (where I had decided I was going to back down and not go to the lawsuit stage) I work and told that they had been notified of the Facebook issues between myself and the Lorain Police. Ma11be it was the Mayor or his office. I am not sure, maybe coincidence that 2 hours after my employer was disclosed someone called? I cannot say for sure but after meeting with the mayor you stopped following me on Facebook and removed your "friend request" so I can only assume that my employer was disclosed to you when you were told that following me was a bad look?

Maybe the random stop that was conducted as I sat in a parking lot the day afterwards connected either, where I was asked to ID without having committed a crime and my License Plate was ran (to circumvent my ID refusal), but I suppose if all the back and forth up to that point had been off I'd have no cause to believe that it was someone retaliating against me. This is why we always 100 percent act polite when we interact with the public in our official duties. If I had been treated with respect from the start none of this would have happened.

Eitherway I dont really care at this point, I removed my posts about the "Hildrith incident" and was hoping you might have completed the previous "investigation into the matter" and would reopen the comments on all posts or shut the page down as you had stated in your email. In the end attached is the original form I filed on the 16th of March that I was referring to. I figured I'd get a response on Lorain Police Letter Head (as opposed to our emails) and perhaps an answer to the various pieces of case law I provided?

I don't understand why this is so hard? You must love the Constitution and our Country, if you were in the Coast Guard as well as a Police Officer? Why don't you see the danger this poses?

It just looks bad and it makes it harder to defend yourself to the public in an interview.

I am a dog with a bone when it comes to the Constitution and I respect it. I am only asking you do WHAT IS RIGHT in this matter and not force me to go file a Civil Rights Lawsuit for 401.00 dollars, to fix it. As a matter of principle I will go and pay the filing fee of 400 dollars and then ask for 1 dollar in damages to get this corrected but I don't want to. Hence why I was asking one more time for an OFFICIAL response to my initial query on 3-16-2023 along with the added specific case law I provided (at your request in your response) that you stated if I had specific case law you would review it (I also believe you and the department deserve the opportunity to respond to my official complaint outside of our email chain as I really don't think your email should be the departments "official response".

I truly believe with ALL MY HEART and with case law to back me up, you or your department or the lawyers in this matter are INCORRECT and I am willing to go to court to prove it.

file an Official Complaint initially and that was what I was hoping for an official response on soon? This was why I sent an email to the "complaint email" to ~~ck1~~ you email, but as you were the one to respond, here is ~~the response~~ **paate at 18:11** ~~E-mail~~ ~~nderulda~~

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA(p)**  
NASW Member ID: 886836612

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On Monday, April 10, 2023 at 03:28:31 PM EDT, McCann, James - Chief <jim\_mccann@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

Mr. Knapp:

If someone called your place of employment in their official capacity from the Lorain Police Department, they were not authorized to make any such phone call or notification. If you have proof of this accusation and a name of the employee, please forward that to me and it will be investigated. If it can be determined that a member of the police department in their official capacity called your employer, I will address it.

You filed your complaint with the US Attorney's Office, not with the Lorain Police Department. The matter is in their hands.

**Chief Jim McCann**

Lorain Police Department  
100 W. Erie Ave.  
Lorain, Ohio 44052  
Office: 440-204-2103  
Fax: 440-204-2519

**From:** Gelenius, Kyle <Kyle\_Gelenius@cityoflorain.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 10, 2023 7:56 AM  
**To:** McCann, James - Chief <Jim\_McCann@cityoflorain.org>  
**Subject:** FW: Update

**From:** Aaron Knapp [mailto:[a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com](mailto:a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com)]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 10, 2023 7:50 AM  
**To:** Gelenius, Kyle <[Kyle\\_Gelenius@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Kyle_Gelenius@cityoflorain.org)>  
**Cc:** Bradley, Jack <[y.@@Jilly g](mailto:y.@@Jilly g)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Update

I'm just curious if this "email" is the police department's "Official Response" on the First amendment complaint I made? I was going to let the matter go after speaking to the mayor but since someone threatened my employment from your department and followed up with harassment while I was parked randomly checking my email where an officer demanded ID (and ran my plate when I refused) I'd really like an "official" response from the department as opposed to the snarky emails your chief sent me. If you want this to be the department's official response (chiefs email) please respond accordingly as I need some form of OFFICIAL record stating you are leaving the comments turned off moving forward so I can proceed with the 1983 lawsuit. I really wanted to let this go but after being inappropriately stopped and harassed by your department since making the complaint and having my freedom of speech "chilled" by departmental actions and those of your d:iefl feel this is now the only options I have. So again consider this official notice of intent to file and please advise if an "official" response is in route or if I use the Oieefs snarky email as my official response.

I had you pull the complaint on the officer I did not a the first amendment one be pulled. And as you continue to post on the page in violation of the constitution and have failed to complete your "investigation" in a timely matter I would ask you give an appropriate public response as opposed to continuing to not respond. I provided you with the case law your chief requested so I'm curious why I can get the same courtesy. I wrote a 13 page document with Case law cited, per your request, I would think I would be entitled to a response for the free work I did advising the city on the matter. Again I'm not an attorney but I do read the law. Thank you and make it a wonderful day!

(I apologize to the mayor as I stated my last email was the "last" but since we've been CC him in on all this I figured I'd cc him again.)

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW**

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Begin forwarded message:

From: Aaron Knapp <[a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com](mailto:a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com)>  
**Date:** March 21, 2023 at 20:35:18 EDT  
To: "Bradley, Jack" <[Jack\\_Bradley.@@itvoflorain.org](mailto:Jack_Bradley.@@itvoflorain.org)>, "McCann, James - Chief" <[Jim\\_McCann@i.@@Jilly g](mailto:Jim_McCann@i.@@Jilly g)>  
Cc: Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur <[Marcy\\_Kaptur@j.@@gl.v](mailto:Marcy_Kaptur@j.@@gl.v)>  
Subject: Re: Update

Please see my attached signed response to your email.

Insiste Firmiter!

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA(p)**  
**NASW Member ID: 886836612**

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On Tuesday, March 21, 2023 at 01:01:34 PM EDT, McCann, James- Chief <[Jim\\_McCann@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Jim_McCann@cityoflorain.org)> wrote:

Mr. Knapp:

We are working with legal to review all our options concerning our social media accounts. I have also asked the Lorain County Prosecutor's office to review the entire incident at 126 W 27<sup>th</sup> St, because in my view, this provides an external review of our actions. Once we receive that review and our Administrative Investigation is completed, it has always been our position to either restore commenting or delete our social media altogether. Social media has proven to be very time consuming and very difficult to manage I believe our limited resources are better committed elsewhere. I have not made a final decision either way at this time.

I believe I have been one of the most transparent Police Chiefs in Lorain County and I have ALWAYS welcomed criticism from our citizens in Lorain, as they sometimes provide the best feedback to improve our

services. Unfortunately, there was too much misinformation being posted about the 27<sup>th</sup> St incident, which caused our social media to be hijacked by people from out of state and this caused the management of these accounts to become impossible.

LPD cannot react to an incident on social media until we properly investigate that incident or we would be accused of being reckless. As Chief, I am well-aware that a government agency operating a government social media page is subjugated to legal and constitutional constraints with regards to page management. This is not, nor will it ever be an issue for me. What is at issue is that the public is under no obligation to post honest and informed content. Again, this is not an issue for me; however, harm to the reputation and, in extreme cases physical well-being, of Lorain Police and City of Lorain employees, as well as to the organizations themselves can and has resulted from the misinformation and inaccurate posts on these social media pages. I have personally been the recipient of threats against myself, my family, and my property. Though I am confident in my abilities to protect myself and my family, I am not ok with the LPD social media accounts being used to convey these communications, or to spread the misinformation via public comment that serves as a basis for these threats. To be clear, I am willing and ready to stand in front a Federal Judge to state my case.

Many people, to include you, made up your mind about the 27<sup>th</sup> St incident after only seeing a portion of one video and not allowing LPD to respond with the totality of all events leading up to the specific incident. This doesn't seem impartial, at least in my opinion. Again, the public is free to form their own opinions, regardless of accuracy or partiality. When misinformation or lack of information creates harm, I cannot stand by idly while the social media accounts that LPD manages are used to spread outright lies by way of comments and attachments from uninformed people. You claim to be an educated social worker, but one would think with your claim of being educated, you would have the ability and the "want" to get all the facts before you make assumptions or even a decision regarding what was right and wrong.

At this time, we have not been able to find any case law that specifically addresses the issue concerning our social media account and the actions we took to calm things down during our administrative investigation. There is, however, specific case law that does address deleting an individual's comments and or deleting or blocking an individual If you have specific case law that deals with LPD's social media management decisions, I would be happy to review it. Additionally, courts have stated as has the ACLU, that off topic comments can be removed from a post. In other words, if there is a post about a basketball game, a comment that talks about a football game can be deleted. This is of course very time consuming

Finally, Marcy Kaptur is NOT our Congressional Representative. The whole of Lorain County is within the 5<sup>th</sup> Congressional District and she represents the 9<sup>th</sup> district. Also, FOIA applies to records created by federal agencies and does not cover records held by state and local government agencies. In the spirit of cooperation and per your improper FOIA request, all communications between myself and the Law Department fall under attorney client privilege and you are not entitled to that information. It is my understanding that your improper FOIA request for information has been satisfied through our Records Department.

Semper Paratus

**Chief Jim McCann**

Lorain Police Department  
100 W. Erie Ave.  
Lorain, Ohio 44052  
Office: 440-204-2103  
Fax 440-204-2519

**From:** Aaron Knapp [a4xbeaverman@v](mailto:a4xbeaverman@v) **Sent:** Tuesday, March 21, 2023 7:30 AM  
**To:** Bradley, Jack <[Jack.Bradley@W.Ofl.Omin.g](mailto:Jack.Bradley@W.Ofl.Omin.g)>  
**Cc:** McCann, James - Chief <[Jim.McCann@Q1tvlorain.org](mailto:Jim.McCann@Q1tvlorain.org)>; Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur <[ohQ9mk.outreach@mail.house.gQ.Y](mailto:ohQ9mk.outreach@mail.house.gQ.Y)>  
**Subject:** Update

I've had 0 response from the chief, I've filed a complaint, but Lorain Police continues to keep comments on their Facebook OFF, in violation of the First Amendment. I have begun the process of drafting my filing for opening a civil lawsuit to FORCE them into compliance. I've reached out to local news stations and a story should be coming out soon.  
Make it a wonderful day!

Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW

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**Re: Public records request**

From: Aaron Knapp (a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com)  
To: jim\_mccann@cityoflorain.org  
Cc: jack\_bradley@cityoflorain.org; aj\_mathewson@cityoflorain.org  
Date: Monday, May 8, 2023 at 12:31 PM EDT

I just asked whom I would serve. Usually there is an individual whom you would serve and I found out who that was this morning. I recognize there are consequences to frivolous law suits, I could be named a vexatious litigant by the State and face repercussions. I could be held liable for any "legal costs" that the city uses to defend such a law suit, if it was in fact deemed to be brought under frivolous in the eyes of the law.

I as a citizen would also love to see you do the right thing and reopen the Facebook comments.

I am also going to state that again I would prefer you follow the proper procedures set in place for my complaint dated May 8th and respond via US Mail. Please dont waste any extra money registering it just a simply response via US Mail with the reasons you believe you had the right to release Juvenile Court Records and FERPA protected School Online for the Public to consume would be fine. 1100% believe you had and HAVE every right to see those records and utilize them in your investigation, which you did, I don't believe the PUBLIC should have access to the records and simply redacting the Juveniles information serves this purpose and still allows you to utilize the report to sell your narrative.

For the RECORD I don't want to sue anyone, and if I choose to file the Lawsuit it would be for 1 dollar, I am not trying to make money or cost the tax payers (me) any money. I am merely trying to point out the violation and get you to do the right thing. I gave you a clear cut way this could be considered government speech and you ignored it. The fact you left some of the page open for comment is evidenced in that. I also feel like your attempting to use intimidation tactics (the following me on Facebook and attempting to befriend) and now "strongly suggesting" I seek legal counsel in a matter of the First Amendment, and responding directly to the complaint I filed this morning through email stating you won't even "investigate" it is just kind suspicious. This is just my opinion but it is how I see this interaction.

No-one has bothered to actually reach out or come to any solution on this matter. You could draft up a social media policy that you put out to the public explaining your new plans, you could communicate with the public about why you shut the comments off (no explanation to date), you could actually shut down ALL comments so you don't look like hypocrites (you only shut down comments from the Cleveland thin blue line badge forward). All you have to do is be nice to people. Every email you have ever sent me has been (in my opinion) rude and condescending and if this is how you speak to the public it kind of makes things clear on why your officers cannot seem to be polite on the regular. It takes nothing to address a citizens concerns without all this extra back and forth. If you claim to be transparent then put a Statement out explaining to the people how Facebook is hard and you can't manage the comments you shut it down but plan to use the original open forum as a Government speech page. And you did state in a previous email you would either re-open comments or shut the page off completely when the investigation was complete, but you didn't do either of those things, so that's why I am confused and wanted your responses to be sent via mail because email doesn't seem to be working for you.

On the matter of the May 8th complaint about documentation being released online I would prefer an actual mailed response (as stated above) within the 30 days you state will be followed on the complaint form if that's possible. As the Juvenile isn't my case, my child or my purview I wouldn't be the one addressing that issue civilly as I have no reason I was only trying to give the City a heads-up so you could redact it and not give the Hildreth family more to complain about. As you've ignored me doing it the quiet way I filed an actual internal complaint form. Regardless I won't address anything publicly as it's been made absolutely clear that it would be career suicide. I just don't understand why everything has to be so difficult? Why every interaction has to be like this? If you are the Public Face of the department why can't these interactions go less negative. Even if I came in hot it's your responsibility to de-escalate the situation and I don't really see that happening.

For example you could have stated in today's email:

"Mr. Knapp we appreciate your time and the fact that you are spending it expressing concerns about the Lorain Police Department and its Policies and Procedures. As servants of the public we recognize the importance of the public's opinion of our Law Enforcement Officers and we value your opinion. If there is anything that I as the Chief of Police can

do to assist you I would be happy to do so. I recognize you are not satisfied with our investigation into the Facebook matter and would state I am unable to provide any Legal Advice on this possible open litigation I would state that our Law Department would be the most likely individuals you would need to contact on the matter. Lastly I know you didn't inquire about the May 8th complaint you filed this morning but I wanted to let you know per Department Policy we will review your complaint and send you a response via US Mail, per our policy, within 30 days. I apologize you have had a less than pleasant experience dealing with our Department and I hope that we as public servants will make a better impression on you in our future interactions. Deepest sincerities, Chief James Mccann.

Lastly You are correct I wasn't asking for a public record and I apologize if my request sounded like I was requesting any legal advice as I was not. I was only responding to the chain of emails as there are 3 people in it I assumed would either need to be served but most defiantly would have one individual whom would accept service, such as the Law Director, Mr. Soto, but I acquired that information after I sent the email. Either way I appreciate the timely response and you also make it a wonderful day!

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA(p)**  
NASW Member ID: 886836612

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On Monday, May 8, 2023 at 11:34:16 AM EDT, Mccann, James - Chief <jim\_mccann@cityofflorain.org> wrote:

**Mr. Knapp:**

First, I will first address your email from May 7, 2023 at 0800 hours:

I feel the need to help you understand what a Public Record actually is: *According to the Ohio Revised Code a "Public record" means any document regardless of physical form including an electronic record, created or received by or coming under the jurisdiction of any public office, which serves to document the activities of the office.*

You have not asked for any public records in your email, you have asked for legal advice which we do not give. Your questions should be directed to your attorney.

Second, I will address the complaint you filed dated May 8, 2023:

There is no violation of law and we are within our rights to release the information. The complaint will not be investigated.

It is your right to file a law suit (s), but I would strongly suggest you speak to your attorney and ask him to explain the consequences of filing frivolous law suits and the potential repercussions that can come from them.

Make it a Great Day!!

22:43



Lorain Police Department

...

May 11 ·

court case Davison v. Randall ruled that Government pages are public, and will be in violation of the 4th Amendment if they censor critics on their pages. Good luck. Sic Semper Tyrannis.

1w Like Reply

3



Top fan

Aaron Knapp

It really needs to be acknowledged. Regardless of how you feel about the previous actions of the department that they did Re-open the Facebook comments and they are now in compliance with the Constitution. Since we reward good behavior I honestly believe we should acknowledge this and say good job! I know many people are upset about previous issues but as for the content of the above post it is also Law that comments that are not subject matter specific can be removed. Fair is fair. That doesn't mean you can't criticize them but be realistic. And while it may be free speech to curse certain phrases on a public forum is really bad form, just saying. Regardless I want to acknowledge that the comments are reopen and say good job.

You are commenting as a top fan!

Manage badge

Write a comment...



Home



Friends



Video



Dating



Notifications



Menu

Exhibit 14

- Do you want to leave your life, but are trapped and afraid to leave?
- Have you been forced to have sex in sexual acts with someone in exchange for favors or money?
- Were you tricked into selling sex thinking you would be doing something different?
- Are you under the age of 18 and is someone pressuring you to sell sex?
- Do you have a debt to someone that you can't pay off?
- Has anyone threatened to hurt you, your family, or friend if you refused to sell sex?
- Is anyone physically or sexually abusing you?
- Has anyone taken sexual photos of you to post online?
- Does anyone take all or part of the money that you earn?
- Is someone holding your passport or identification cards for you?