

New Iberia Police Department

IA Case # 07-2019-004

Complaint Received – June 21, 2019

Location – CID Building

Complainant – Det. Coquina Mitchell

Accused – Capt. Corey Porter

Interviewed: Det. Coquina Mitchell

Sgt. Orlando Matthews

Agt. Craig Lewis

Clerk Kirsten Broussard

Capt. Corey Porter

Alleged Violations: New Iberia Police Department General Order 113 Professional Conduct and General Order 115 Abuse of Power

Details

On Friday, June 21, 2019, at approximately 15:30hrs, I Captain Seth Pellerin, New Iberia Police Department, Professional Standards Division, received an official complaint from Detective Coquina Mitchell. This thirteen-page complaint was typed by Det. Mitchell and given to me. In the complaint, Det. Mitchell details how for several months, she, along with other employees within the Criminal Investigation Division of the New Iberia Police Department, were taking online

classes for Captain Corey Porter. Captain Corey Porter is the Captain over the Criminal Investigation Division for the New Iberia Police Department. Det. Mitchell states when she stopped taking the online classes for Captain Porter, he began to treat her differently and feels like she is being retaliated against due to her no longer taking the classes for Captain Porter. She also states that she believed Captain Porter had romantic feelings for her and when she advised him she would never be involved with a co-worker, he began to treat her differently.

On Wednesday, July 3, 2019 at approximately 08:44 hrs, I received an email from Chief Todd Dalbor authorizing me to conduct an Internal Investigation into Detective Mitchell's complaint. The authorization letter was issued within the fourteen days of receiving the complaint as stated in the Police Officers Bill of Rights, paragraph 7.

On Wednesday, July 3, 2019 at approximately 0916 hrs, I, Captain Seth Pellerin, New Iberia Police Department, Professional Standards Division, spoke with Captain Corey Porter, New Iberia Police Department, Criminal Investigation Division Captain, in my office. This conversation was recorded in its entirety, utilizing a GoPro camera positioned in my office.

I was granted permission from Chief Dalbor to utilize a GoPro camera instead of using the department's video recording system. Due to this investigation involving several employees within the Criminal Investigation Division, I was concerned with the integrity of the investigation using the department's video recording system. All involved have access to this system and would have been able to watch the interviews that were conducted. All interviews will be conducted in my office and recorded utilizing the GoPro camera during this investigation.

I advised Capt. Porter that a complaint had been filed against him and that an internal investigation had begun. Captain Porter was provided the Notification of Concern, Statement of Facts and Police Officers Bill of Rights. I read Capt. Porter his Garrity Warning which he signed indicating he understood his rights. Capt. Porter was not interviewed on this day and I told him that I would contact



him at a later date for the interview. Captain Porter asked if he could have copies of the paperwork and I advised him that I would provide him with copies.

On Wednesday, July 17, 2019, at approximately 13:41hrs, I Capt. Seth Pellerin, interviewed Det. Coquina Mitchell. This interview was conducted in my office located in the Criminal Investigation Division building. This interview was recorded in its entirety utilizing a GoPro camera that was positioned in my office. I read Det. Mitchell her Garrity Warning which she signed acknowledging that she understood her rights. Det. Mitchell was also provided her Police Officer Bill of Rights.

I began the interview by asking Det. Mitchell to identify the complaint she had typed and submitted to me. I handed Det. Mitchell the complaint and after reviewing it stated that it was the complaint that she submitted. Det. Mitchell feels that she is being treated unfairly and feels Capt. Porter is retaliating against her for several reasons.

Det. Mitchell stated that she was asked by Capt. Porter during the Thanksgiving break of 2018 to accompany him to a Saints football game in New Orleans which she declined. Det. Mitchell felt that Capt. Porter had developed personal feelings for her. She stated that on one occasion she was home and was outside away from her phone. She stated that when she checked her phone she had a missed call from him. She stated when she called him back he spoke to her like a possessive boyfriend, wanting to know why she did not answer his call. I asked her if he was calling for something work related and she told me no. She stated that when she was living with her mother, outside the city limits, she noticed Capt. Porter riding in front of her house for no apparent reason. Det. Mitchell stated that she eventually talked to Capt. Porter and advised him that she would never have a relationship with a coworker. She stated that Capt. Porter responded by telling her that one of his children was a product of an on the job relationship.

Det. Mitchell stated that sometime around August of 2018, Capt. Porter asked her for assistance with an exam he was taking for his online degree through Central Christian College. She stated that the occasional help turned into her having complete control of the assignment and his online account. Det. Mitchell stated that between August of 2018 and April 2019 she completed several online



courses for Capt. Porter. She stated that Capt. Porter installed his university program on her personal laptop so she could have access to his online courses. She stated that his assignments were due on Thursday and Sunday by midnight. She stated that she worked on his assignments both while at work and at home. Det. Mitchell stated that Records Clerk Kirsten Broussard, Agent Craig Lewis and former employee Eduardo Mendoza also assisted in his online courses.

One particular incident occurred at the store in St. Edward's housing community. On this particular evening, Det. Mitchell stated she and Sgt. Orlando Matthews were assisting narcotics agents with a vehicle stop. Det. Mitchell stated that while she was on scene, Capt. Porter arrived and stated in front of everyone that she needed to leave with him cause "they had business to take care of". Det. Mitchell stated she was embarrassed by what Capt. Porter said in front of her coworkers because it eluded that there was something going on between them which was not the case. She said the reason he was making her leave the scene was that he had a homework assignment due by midnight that he wanted her to complete. Det. Mitchell stated that Sgt. Matthews tried to explain to Capt. Porter that Det. Mitchell was working with them but she was made to leave anyway. I was able to acquire the CAD sheet for this incident. The incident (CR#19-005133) occurred on Thursday, January 17, 2019. It also shows Capt. Porter arriving on scene at 20:06 hrs.

Det. Mitchell stated that Sgt. Matthews spoke with Capt. Porter about her doing his online classes and her duties at work and it was burning her out. Det. Mitchell stated she stopped doing his online assignments when Det. Kellen Landry showed her articles where employees were terminated for doing the very thing she was doing.

Det. Mitchell detailed several events where she felt Capt. Porter spoke harshly of her in the presence of her coworkers. On one instance she and Juvenile Detective Jill Landry was showing newly added Juvenile Detective Craig Gregory, how to put together a case file when Capt. Porter walked in and spoke to her in such a rude manner asking what she was doing. Det. Mitchell said both her and Det. Jill Landry answered him, telling him they were showing Det. Gregory how to put a case file together.



On one occasion, Det. Mitchell received a call from Agt. Trevor Landry who was assigned to Patrol at the time. Agt. Landry was asking Det. Mitchell if she knew the whereabouts of a suspect they were looking for. Det. Mitchell provided Agt. Landry the information which resulted in the apprehension of the suspect. According to Det. Mitchell, Capt. Porter scolded her about giving the information to Agt. Landry and not giving it to CID personnel first.

On another occasion, an Informant who was incarcerated at the Iberia Parish Jail walked into Det. Mitchell's office. According to Det. Mitchell this informant stated that Capt. Porter told someone that they had interviewed him, and this information got back to another inmate at the jail resulting in him getting into a fight at the jail with that inmate. Det. Mitchell stated that she called Sgt. Daesha Hughes and put her on speaker phone so she could hear what this informant was saying. Det. Mitchell stated that later that evening Capt. Porter went to her office and told her someone told him that she had leaked information about an interview that she had done with the informant. Det. Mitchell stated that she felt Capt. Porter was attacking her integrity by trying to put the blame on her for the incident at the jail when she knew she did not leak any information and the same informant accused Capt. Porter of this.

Det. Mitchell also feels retaliated against by Capt. Porter for canceling her membership to World Venture Tours. World Venture Tours is a tier vacation program. Det. Mitchell stated that she had signed up under Capt. Porter's tier and when she decided that she could not afford to go, she canceled her membership which may have caused Capt. Porter's vacation to be effected.

Det. Mitchell stated to me the main incident that caused her the most concern is when Capt. Porter stated in Command Staff that she may need counseling. She feels that Capt. Porter was attempting to influence upper staff that she may be unfit for duty and was calling her mental faculty into question. Det. Mitchell denies needing any counseling and never asked anyone for help. She stated that she mourned the loss of a family who was shot and killed, but it did not affect her ability to do her job. I asked Det. Mitchell if there was anything further she would like to add and she said no. I then concluded the interview.

On Thursday, July 18 2019, at approximately 14:25hrs, I, Capt. Seth Pellerin interviewed Sgt. Orlando Matthews. Sgt. Matthews is the Sergeant in the Major



Crimes Unit of the New Iberia Police Department and also Det. Mitchell's immediate supervisor. I advised Sgt. Matthews that he was being called in today as a true witness and that he was under no jeopardy. I then read Sgt. Matthews his Garrity Warning which he signed acknowledging he understood his rights. He was also provided his Police Officer Bill of Rights. This interview was recorded in its entirety utilizing a GoPro camera positioned in my office.

I began the interview by asking Sgt. Matthews what kind of employee was Det. Mitchell. He stated she was a valuable asset to the Violent Crimes Unit due to her street knowledge and also her knowledge of the people within the city. He stated that the information Det. Mitchell receives, helps solve crimes. I then advised him that Det. Mitchell had filed a complaint against Capt. Porter in which she feels she is being retaliated against for not doing his online college courses anymore. I asked Sgt. Matthews if he was aware that Det. Mitchell was doing Capt. Porter's college assignments and he stated yes, he was aware. He stated that he witnessed her working on an assignment one day at the office. He stated that he had concerns with her doing this because it could cause problems for Capt. Porter if Det. Mitchell needed to be disciplined.

We then spoke about the incident that occurred at the store in St. Edwards. Sgt. Matthews stated that Capt. Porter arrived on scene as they were wrapping up the call. Sgt. Matthews stated Capt. Porter told Det. Mitchell to get her stuff because she needed to leave with him. Sgt. Matthews did not know why Capt. Porter was making Det. Mitchell leave with him but remembers hearing Det. Mitchell say something about having to go do a homework assignment for Capt. Porter that was due that night.

I asked Sgt. Matthews if he had any indication that Capt. Porter may have developed feelings for Det. Mitchell. He stated he wasn't sure and asked Det. Mitchell if something was going on between them which she said no.

Sgt. Matthews stated that he noticed Det. Mitchell was tired often and was getting burned out due to working her assigned cases as well as doing Capt. Porter's online college assignments. He also stated that Det. Mitchell was worried that there would be retaliation if she stopped doing Capt. Porter's assignments. After Det. Mitchell stopped doing Capt. Porter's online courses, Capt. Porter would ask Sgt. Matthews to speak with Det. Mitchell inquiring what was going on.



with her. Sgt. Mathews also stated that when Det. Mitchell canceled her World Venture Tours membership, Det. Mitchell went to him concerned that Capt. Porter was trying to ruin her career. I asked Sgt. Matthews if he thought Det. Mitchell's concerns were valid and he said yes. He stated that he spoke to Capt. Porter several times about how Det. Mitchell was feeling. Sgt. Matthews asked Capt. Porter to notify him or Lt. Leland Laseter if it was something pertaining to Det. Mitchell so they could deal with her. This request was made due to Capt. Porter saying something about Det. Mitchell's family member who was killed which upset Det. Mitchell.

Sgt. Matthews stated he did not notice any changes in Det. Mitchell's work performance or attitude which would have led him to believe she needed some counseling to deal with the death of her family member. Sgt. Matthews said he told Capt. Porter that he did not think Det. Mitchell needed and help and told Capt. Porter not to go there. He stated he was conflicted with Det. Mitchell's complaints about Capt. Porter and may be valid due to the way Capt. Porter was pushing the issue of Det. Mitchell needing help. He stated he tried to be the mediator between Det. Mitchell and Capt. Porter and said he noticed Capt. Porter being more aggressive with Det. Mitchell. Sgt. Matthews stated he had nothing further to add and the interview was concluded.

On Thursday, July 18, 2019 at approximately 14:55 hrs, I, Captain Seth Pellerin, interviewed Narcotics Agent Craig Lewis. This interview was conducted in my office and was recorded in its entirety utilizing a GoPro camera positioned in my office. I advised Agt. Lewis that he was being called as a True Witness. I read Agt. Lewis his Garrity Warning which he signed acknowledging he understood his rights. He was also provided his Police Officers Bill of Rights.

I began the interview by asking Agt. Lewis if he ever assisted Capt. Porter with his online college courses. He stated that he assisted in answering questions but never took any test or did any assignments online. I asked Agt. Lewis if he knew of any other employees who were assisting Capt. Porter with his online degree and he told me Det. Mitchell and Records Clerk Kirsten Broussard. He stated he never actually saw Ms. Broussard or Det. Mitchell doing the online courses but was aware they were doing them.



I asked Agt. Lewis about the incident at the back Store in St. Edwards. Agt. Lewis told me that they were wrapping up the investigation when Capt. Porter arrived. Agt. Lewis stated Capt. Porter arrived and told Det. Mitchell that she needed to leave with him which was odd. He stated that he later learned when he returned to the office that Det. Mitchell was made to leave because Capt. Porter needed her to do his homework assignment.

I asked Agt. Lewis if he noticed any demeanor change in Det. Mitchell and he said no. I asked him if he thought Capt. Porter had developed feelings for Det. Mitchell. He stated he never saw anything that would lead him to believe this but there were rumors. He did however notice that Capt. Porter and Det. Mitchell stay separated from each other now when before they were always together. I asked Agt. Lewis if there was anything else he would like to add and he said no. I then concluded the interview.

On Friday, July 26, 2019 at approximately 10:40hrs, I, Capt. Seth Pellerin interviewed Records Clerk Kirsten Broussard. This interview was conducted in my office and recorded in its entirety utilizing a GoPro camera positioned in my office. I advised Ms. Broussard that she was being called as a witness in reference to an Internal Investigation I was conducting. Ms. Broussard was read her Garrity Warning which she signed acknowledging she understood her rights.

I began the interview by asking Ms. Broussard if she ever assisted Capt. Porter with his online college classes. Ms. Broussard stated that she had in fact assisted Capt. Porter with several essay papers. She said she became involved when Det. Mitchell contacted her asking if she could help with some of Capt. Porter's assignments due to her being overloaded with his school work and cases. She stated she got involved near the end of 2018. She stated she assisted Capt. Porter with 3-5 essay papers. She did say that Capt. Porter also asked her for help. She stated she would work on his papers after work at the office and was never paid overtime or claimed time for staying late. Ms. Broussard did not have access to his online college login like Det. Mitchell had. I asked Ms. Broussard if she could provide me with the emails she sent to Capt. Porter on the essays she assisted him with and she stated she would.

I asked Ms. Broussard if she ever noticed anything that would lead her to believe that Capt. Porter had developed feelings for Det. Mitchell. Ms. Broussard



stated that she did not and that she had never witnessed Capt. Porter do or say anything inappropriate. She did say that she had heard a rumor from an officer that Capt. Porter may have feelings for Det. Mitchell but never witnessed anything of the sort. I asked Ms. Broussard if there was anything further she would like to add and she said no. I then concluded the interview.

A short time later, Ms. Broussard handed me a print out of a screen shot from her computer. She had marked with a dot next to the essay papers she had done and sent to Capt. Porter. The four marked emails were sent to Capt. Porter on September 21, 2018, September 27, 2018 and two were sent on September 30, 2018.

On Thursday, August 8, 2019 at approximately 10:38 hrs, I Capt. Seth Pellerin interviewed Capt. Cory Porter. This interview was conducted in my office. The interview was recorded in its entirety utilizing a GoPro camera positioned in my office. I asked Capt. Porter if he remembered the paperwork we went over and he signed on July 3, 2019. He stated he did. I asked him if he wanted me to go over any of the paperwork including his Garrity Warning and he said no. I asked Capt. Porter if he would speak to me without an Attorney present and he said yes.

I advised Capt. Porter that I made the copies of the paperwork he had requested. I gave Capt. Porter a copy of the complaint Det. Mitchell had submitted to me and allowed him time to read it. I then presented Capt. Porter a request letter for a Sixty Day Extension. Capt. Porter reviewed the document and signed it, granting me the Sixty Day Extension. With the Sixty Day Extension, I would have until November 3, 2019 to complete this Internal Investigation.

I began the interview by asking Capt. Porter how Det. Mitchell became involved in assisting him with his online college courses. He told me he was working on an assignment and Det. Mitchell noticed and offered to help him if he needed help. He stated that Records Clerk, Kirsten Broussard helped him once. I then asked Capt. Porter if it was only once and he said he thought so. I then advised him of the email document I had received from Ms. Broussard showing that she assisted him on 4 separate occasions. He then said "ok" and that it was for one class. I asked Capt. Porter when did Det. Mitchell begin helping him with his online courses and he said he could not remember. I told him according to Det. Mitchell, she began assisting him around August of 2018. Capt. Porter stated



that may be accurate but he couldn't remember exactly when she started to help him. Capt. Porter admitted to installing the program on Det. Mitchell's computer so she could have access to his assignments. Capt. Porter confirmed that his assignments were due on Thursday and Sunday. I asked Capt. Porter if anyone had ever spoken to him about Det. Mitchell getting burned out or being overloaded with her cases and having to do his course assignments. He told me that Sgt. Matthews may have brought it to his attention but stated he did not think Det. Mitchell was helping him anymore at that time. Capt. Porter stated he was aware that Det. Mitchell was working on his assignments at the office but never paid her overtime to do so. I asked Capt. Porter if he knew how many assignments or test Det. Mitchell did for him. He stated he had no idea. I asked Capt. Porter if he could recall a certain class he was failing and Det. Mitchell was able to bring his grade up to a passing grade. He told me he could not recall that specific event but stated she was helping him so it was possible.

I told Capt. Porter that this was a huge conflict of interest, having a subordinate of his do his online college courses. Capt. Porter stated that he did not realize it at the time but can see it now. Capt. Porter stated that he was shocked when he reviewed the complaint because it never got to the point of Det. Mitchell telling him that she did not want to help him anymore. Capt. Porter stated in all his years in Law Enforcement he has only tried to help people including his coworkers. Capt. Porter stated he would never try to hurt a fellow officer's career.

I asked Capt. Porter about the incident which occurred at the Back Store in St. Edwards on Thursday, January 17, 2019. During this incident Capt. Porter arrived and told Det. Mitchell that she needed to leave with him in order to accompany him to the office because he had a homework assignment due that night. This was corroborated by both Sgt. Lewis and Sgt. Matthews who were on scene during the incident and witnessed Capt. Porter arrive and ask Det. Mitchell to leave with him. Capt. Porter stated he could not recall the incident. Even after telling him the CAD sheet shows he was on scene he still insisted he could not recall the incident. Capt. Porter stated he could not dispute what the other officers said but could not recall the incident. I expressed my concerns about his actions regarding this incident and he responded by saying "I can understand that".



I asked Capt. Porter if he had ever developed romantic feelings for Det. Mitchell. He told me no. I asked him why he thought Det. Mitchell would think that and he told me he did not know. Capt. Porter stated he never spoke to her about anything sexual. He stated he offered Det. Mitchell to use his washer and dryer once when Det. Mitchell was in the process of moving and he knew she was having problems with her washer. He stated that Det. Mitchell declined the offer.

I then asked Capt. Porter about riding in front of Det. Mitchell's house and about the phone call he made to Det. Mitchell where when she did not answer and she claims he was upset. Capt. Porter stated he could not recall making the phone call but stated he did in fact drive in front of her house due to him surveilling a possible burglary suspect that lived in her neighborhood. I then asked Capt. Porter why he would have invited Det. Mitchell to a New Orleans Saints game during the Thanksgiving break of 2018. Capt. Porter stated he never attended any Saints games and could not recall asking Det. Mitchell to accompany him to a Saints game. I asked Capt. Porter if he remembered going to Baton Rouge with Det. Mitchell in reference to a case where he spoke about having a child with a co-worker. He stated he could not recall the conversation but did remember at some point Det. Mitchell told him that she would never be involved with a co-worker.

Capt. Porter stated Det. Mitchell is an asset to this department due to her knowledge of the city and her knowledge of the people within the city. Capt. Porter stated that his befriending of Det. Mitchell was something that helped him learn the people of the city and who to trust. Capt. Porter stated that he looked at Det. Mitchell as a person who could assist him in getting to know the citizens of the city to better perform his job.

Capt. Porter brought up the incident about the conversation he had with Det. Mitchell in reference to a possible hit being put on her cousin. This incident upset Det. Mitchell because Capt. Porter told her during this conversation that they would continue to bury family members if they did not cooperate with the police. Capt. Porter stated his words may have been taken out of context. He stated he went to Sgt. Matthews and asked him to let Det. Mitchell know he meant no disrespect to her. Capt. Porter realizes that he should not have used the words he did.



Capt. Porter said that this whole situation has been an eye opening experience. I asked Capt. Porter if he felt intimidated by Det. Mitchell. Capt. Porter stated no, that Det. Mitchell was an asset to the department and was happy to have her in investigations.

I asked Capt. Porter about the incident with the informant that was brought to CID. Capt. Porter stated that the informant was brought from the jail to the CID building so Iberia Parish Sheriff's Deputies could speak with him/her. Capt. Porter said after the deputies spoke with the informant, he spoke with the informant alone. Capt. Porter stated that the informant told him that Det. Mitchell was leaking information. Capt. Porter stated he did not believe that Det. Mitchell would leak information. He stated that what the informant was telling him did not make sense. Capt. Porter stated he told Det. Mitchell what the informant had said and she became defensive. Capt. Porter said he told her that he did not believe that she would do that but just wanted to make her aware of what was said. Capt. Porter then referenced Det. Mitchell's complaint and said he did not recall Det. Mitchell telling him that the informant told her that it was him leaking information.

I asked Capt. Porter if he had noticed any changes in Det. Mitchell's behavior when she moved her office to the narcotics hall of the CID building. He told me no. I asked Capt. Porter if he was upset when he found out she had moved offices. He said no, and the reason he thought she had moved was because she was being transferred to Major Crimes. I asked Capt. Porter if he remembered the incident when he noticed Det. Mitchell and Det. Landry showing Officer Craig Gregory how to prepare a juvenile case file. He said he could not recall the incident but stated it was not uncommon for him to walk throughout the building and ask detectives what was going on or what they were working on.

I told Capt. Porter that Det. Mitchell felt that he was trying to ruin her career by saying she needed help dealing with the death of her family member. I explained to Capt. Porter that Det. Mitchell felt by him bringing up her mental state to administration, she feels as though he was trying to bring into question her mental state and that she was unfit to do her job. Capt. Porter responded saying that he knew from previous conversations that Det. Mitchell was very close to her cousin that was murdered. He said he was only trying to help by advising



administration. I asked Capt. Porter if anyone brought it to his attention that Det. Mitchell needed help or was asking for help and he said no. I told Capt. Porter that it was normal for a family member to grieve the loss of a loved one. I asked Capt. Porter if he had noticed any change in Det. Mitchell's demeanor that would lead him to believe she needed some type of counselling and he said no it was the tone she used during their conversation about the incident. Capt. Porter said that he felt she maybe just needed to talk to someone to help her cope with the loss of a family member. Capt. Porter stated his intentions were never to get her fired or relieved from duty. He stated he was only trying to help her.

I asked Capt. Porter about the World Venture Tours cruise that he and Det. Mitchell were involved in. Capt. Porter stated he never asked Det. Mitchell to be a part of it. Capt. Porter said that his brother presented the information to all of the Criminal Investigation Division. Capt. Porter stated he had joined but has since cancelled his membership. I asked Capt. Porter if Det. Mitchell joining helped his vacation. He explained to me that it was a tier system and the more people that joined under someone's tier the more discount that person would have. I asked him if Det. Mitchell dropping out of the program would have adversely affected his vacation and he said yes but he had gotten out of it also. Capt. Porter stated that his brother was the one who set up the tiers, not him.

I asked Capt. Porter why employees within CID suspected that he had feelings for Det. Mitchell. Capt. Porter stated that he had no idea. He said that he never said or did anything to her or did anything special together with Det. Mitchell. He said he rode around with Det. Mitchell but that was not out of the norm because he rode around with everyone. He said he utilized Det. Mitchell for the intel she provided.

I asked Capt. Porter about the civil matter he had Det. Mitchell accompany him to. Capt. Porter stated that someone filed a protection order for a certain family member not to be at the residence. He said someone called and said the process server was enroute to the residence and asked for assistance. I asked Capt. Porter how he got the call and why didn't patrol respond. He told me that someone at the Clerk of Courts office advised the process server to contact him. Capt. Porter stated he did not know the people involved and he and Det. Mitchell did not take any action at all. I asked Capt. Porter if the people involved were



family members of Det. Mitchell. He told me he did not know and if they were, it was news to him. I asked Capt. Porter why he asked Det. Mitchell to accompany him and he said she may have been the only one available at the time.

I then went over the alleged policy violations with Capt. Porter. New Iberia Police Department General Order 113 Professional Conduct and New Iberia Police Department General Order 115 Abuse of Power. After reading the policies to Capt. Porter I asked him if he admits to violating the above mentioned policies and he said yes. I asked Capt. Porter if there was anything else he would like to add and he said no. I then concluded the interview.

#### Conclusion:

After reviewing all the documentation and interviews, the alleged policy violations against Capt. Corey Porter are sustained. Capt. Porter violated New Iberia Police Department General Order 113 Professional Conduct and New Iberia Police Department General Order 115 Abuse of Power. I discovered no evidence during this investigation that proved Capt. Porter had romantic feelings for Det. Mitchell. After reviewing all the interviews conducted, I do not believe Capt. Porter was out to get Det. Mitchell or hurt her career. He made an inappropriate statement to Det. Mitchell in reference to her burying family members and he admits he should not have said that. I believe Capt. Porter and Det. Mitchell avoided each other after the complaint was filed but remained professional when it came to solving crimes in the city.

General Order 113 Professional Conduct states:

#### POLICY



questioned due to him having his subordinate officers completing his online college assignments.

General Order 115 Abuse of Position states:

## POLICY

Employees of New Iberia Police Department decline any special privileges or exemptions for themselves or any:

1. Spouse;
2. Child;
3. Parent;
4. Other family member or relative;
5. Friend;
6. Acquaintance; or
7. Non-acquaintance.

## DEFINITIONS

- *Authoritative Position* - All officers have a position of great authority that is afforded by society. Because of this authority, officers can influence citizens within a community. With this authority come grave responsibilities.
- *Conflict of Interest* - A situation for which a person may have more than one specific self-interest in the outcome.

## PROCEDURE

### **Abuse of Position:**

In compliance with agency procedure, members of New Iberia Police Department know the following situations are abuses of position:

1. Becoming involved in a situation that is a conflict of interest; or
2. Use of authority for financial gain.



Employees of New Iberia Police Department constantly strive to deal honestly, efficiently, and with integrity while on official duty, and strive to do the same in their personal lives. Officers and employees of this agency are mindful that their conduct and the public's perception of that conduct affect the willingness of the public to support our critical mission.

## PROCEDURES

1. Employees are always courteous when interacting with the public.
2. Employees avoid behaviors and practices that cause the public to question individual employee or agency integrity.
3. Off-duty officers, while in uniform, conduct themselves as though they were on-duty.
4. Employees do not reveal or make public, any order, or information to any person unless the disclosure is authorized.
5. Officers are governed by reasonable and exemplary rules of good conduct and behavior whether on or off-duty. Officers always demonstrate morals and values expected by the community and do not commit any act that could adversely affect the NIPD, their fellow employees, or respect for the rule of law.
6. Officers always remember that they are sworn to uphold the law, abide by the policies and procedures of this agency, and the law while protecting the rights of all people as afforded by the State of «state», and the Constitution of the United States of America.

## Law Enforcement Ethics

Officers and employees of this agency have read and fully support the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics and the Canons of Police Ethics as adopted and supported by New Iberia Police Department, and my fellow officers. These standards are found in this policy and procedure manual.

Capt. Porter violated General Order 113 Professional Conduct by willfully allowing a subordinate officer amongst his division to complete homework assignments and test for his online college degree. Capt. Porter pulled Det. Mitchell from an incident where she was performing her police duties in order for her to complete a homework assignment that was due.

Capt. Porter allowing his subordinates to complete his college assignments and test does not demonstrate the morals and values we hold our officers to (Section 5). If discovered by the public, Capt. Porter's integrity could be



## **Conflict of Interest Regarding Abuse of Position**

Officers of the agency are to avoid becoming involved in any situation, either on or off duty, for which a conflict of interest is present. If an officer responds to a call for which a conflict of interest presents itself, the officer is to control the situation, request a supervisor to respond, and cease any further involvement in the situation after being properly relieved. Officers are expected to be familiar with, and abide by, the laws of the state of Louisiana regarding conflicts of interest and ethical constraints present by virtue of our position. These laws relate to both officers and a range of defined family members and business relationships.

## **Financial Gain Regarding Abuse of Position:**

Employees of New Iberia Police Department, while in their official capacity, NEVER:

1. Accept payment, cash, or property for services delivered in their capacity as an employee of this agency. Any officer confronted with such a situation immediately completes a report and forward it to the Chief;
2. Accept any gift or gratuity from a subordinate, unless approved by the Chief;
3. Attempt to negotiate any payment of cash or property from another person or institution in his or her capacity of official police business. Any abuse of this authority is subject to disciplinary action;
4. Seek, encourage, or exchange sexual favors or contact with anyone while in the performance of their duties;
5. Give testimony or use their name or photograph regarding commercial advertising, unless approved by the Chief;
6. Seek personal publicity, either directly or indirectly, during their employment;
7. Solicit subscriptions; or
8. Sell books, papers, tickets, merchandise, or any other items of value, unless specifically approved by the Chief.

Capt. Porter violated General Order 115 Abuse of Power by allowing subordinate officer to complete assignments and test for his online college degree. By allowing this, it created a huge conflict of interest with his subordinates. General Order 115 also states in section 2, Employees of the New Iberia Police Department, while in their official capacity, NEVER, Accept and gift or gratuity from a subordinate. Capt. Porter received gifts in the form of test and homework assignments for several months which personally benefited him.