

IA 2020-0009

Investigation of Officer Jarreil Peoples

02/28/2020---03/06/2020

On February 28, 2020, Chief Ansley directed me to launch an investigation due to a Facebook post that was made on the Clarksville Police Facebook page. Lauren Bell made the comment *"Congratulations to officer Jarreil Peoples for getting me pregnant even though he is married. Has been for 12 long yerars !!!! Congrats to the new step mommy Brittany Peoples. Hope you're ready for this long journey boo boo!!!! Cant wait to let the whole Clarksville police department know that you've been cheating on your wife for 6 months now, and such a wonderful officer protecting the streets of Clarksville by sleeping with me WHILE ON DUTY!!!!!!"* This post began circulating quickly and went viral to many different sources within social media and news outlets.

Various resources were utilized to complete this investigation such as reviewing phone records, CAD data, Police Reports, body worn camera footage and Facebook comments\posts as well as interviews with Officer Peoples, Sgt. Jackson, Lauren Bell and her mother.

On the morning of February 28th, 2020, Chief Ansley had Officer Peoples report to his office and I was present for this meeting. Chief Ansley advised Peoples that he is starting an investigation into his conduct due the Facebook post and he spoke briefly to Officer Peoples. Officer Peoples stated that he did know Lauren Bell and was aware of the Facebook Post. Officer Peoples also stated that he had been to her residence *while on duty* on five to six occasions on Sandpiper Drive; however, there was never an instance where he had any type of sexual intercourse with Ms. Bell while on duty. Officer Peoples stated his purpose to go to her house while on duty was to just to stop by to visit and usually stayed in his car.

After meeting with the Chief, I spoke with Officer Peoples in my office. Officer Peoples informed me that he had been in a relationship with Lauren Bell since October. Peoples stated his wife knew about the relationship and the Facebook circulation as well. He stated when he began the relationship with Ms. Bell, she was living at Pin Oak Apartments and then in late December she had moved to Sandpiper Drive. He only went to her apartment in his personal car while off duty. However, he did visit her while ON DUTY when she lived on Sandpiper Drive, he stated he only stopped by there for four to five minutes on a few occasions.

In the afternoon of February 28th, I interviewed Lauren Bell and her mother, Melissa Bell. Lauren Bell knew of Officer Peoples because when she was living with her parents on Fox Trail Drive and Officer Peoples were neighbors to the Bell family. Lauren also had an interest in Law Enforcement and completed a ride along with Peoples around August of 2019 but the intimate relationship did not begin until September/October timeframe. Lauren's mother (Melissa) stated that Officer Peoples was neighbor for a few years as neighbors but they did not communicate with him or his

family very much. Melissa said that her daughter had moved out of the house and was in a relationship with a man named Christian. She stated that Christian was abusive to her daughter therefore Melissa's husband spoke with Officer Peoples to seek professional advice about the domestic abuse. Melissa stated that at some point Lauren called Officer Peoples about the abusive relationship for guidance.

Lauren told me that she primarily communicated with Officer Peoples on his personal cell phone; however, when Officer Peoples' wife found out about their relationship he began to use his city issued phone. During the interview with Lauren, she ask if she would be in trouble by the police if she made her initial Facebook post out of anger and was not truthful about what she alleged. I informed that I was not seeking to find any criminal charges against her, even if she was not truthful in the initial Facebook post. She then stated that her and Officer Peoples have never had sex while on duty and the only time he would see her while on duty was when he would stop by her house(on Sandpiper) briefly to get food or stop to say hello. Lauren stated that she was under no pressure from Officer Peoples or anyone with the Police Department to come forward and change her story of them having sex while on duty but she was simply hurt and upset with Peoples for not choosing her.

During the interview with Lauren, she did say that there were pictures and videos sent that were sexual in nature; however, she is adamant that he never sent her any inappropriate photographs while he was in a police uniform or affiliated with the Clarksville Police Department in any way.

On March 2nd, Chief Ansley met with Officer Peoples to place him on administrative leave. Chief Ansley also collected Officer Peoples' work phone. The phone was turned over to Detective Kolofsky for examination of the SIM card. After their brief conversation, I met with Officer Peoples in my office. We discussed the video and text messages that he had made on his city issued cell phone. He stated that he did send photographs of his genitalia on several occasions but never while he was in uniform or affiliated with the Clarksville Police Department. He also sent video(s) of himself masturbating and he received photographs naked photographs and videos of her masturbating on his assigned city cell phone.

The phone records from his city issued cell phone were reviewed as part of this investigation and are included in the file.

There were thousands of text messages exchanged between Officer Peoples and Lauren Bell; however, the records that were obtained did not reveal the content, but they just revealed the dates and times text messages were incoming and outgoing.

Due to the amount of text messages coupled with the fact that he is a Field Training Officer, Chief Ansley requested that I determine the frequency of city cell phone communication with Lauren Bell while he was on duty and with a recruit. The spreadsheet detailing these findings is part of this file.

In conclusion, I found no evidence to substantiate that Officer Peoples had sexual relations with Lauren Bell while on duty; however, based on Officers Peoples' interview I did find that he received and sent inappropriate sexual images/videos utilizing his city issued phone.

As I compared Officer Peoples' timesheet to the phone records, there were 40 working days examined. In those 40 days, there were approximately 5,592 text messages between the Lauren Bell and Officer Peoples while he was on duty. The daily total of text messages are attached in a excel spreadsheet.

The total amount of text messages between Officer Peoples and Lauren Bell utilizing his city issued phone breakdown is as follows. This is while he was both ON and OFF duty.

October -November	809
November-December	4932
December-January	5954
January-February	5065

Phone calls to Lauren Bell were reviewed for this investigation. The phone records of the calls to and from Lauren Bell are contained in this file as well. There were ON duty dates that revealed Officer Peoples had long durations of phone use to Lauren Bell. According to the phone records obtained:

On November 10, there were a total of 104 minutes of phone calls to and from Lauren Bell.

On November 18, there were a total of 185 minutes of phone calls to and from Lauren Bell.

On December 21, there were a total of 53 minutes of phone calls to and from Lauren with a recruit.

On January 29, there were a total of 75 minutes of phone calls to and from Lauren with a Recruit.

On February 6, there were a total of 121 minutes of phone calls to and from Lauren Bell.

Captain Ty Burdine 