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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

TABATHA BARNES, et al., )  
 )  
Plaintiffs, )  
 ) No.  
vs. ) 16-CV-0184-HE  
 )  
CITY OF OKLAHOMA CITY, et al., )



VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF BILL CITYY  
TAKEN ON BEHALF OF THE PLAINTIFFS  
IN OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA  
ON FEBRUARY 19, 2020

REPORTED BY: KAREN B. JOHNSON, CSR

Bill Citty

February 19, 2020

Page 48

1           A     Well, the conference, you know, it was --  
2           the conference usually runs from a Thursday,  
3           Friday and Saturday, those are the official  
4           meetings, usually. And so I believe during that  
5           time, it was that week of the 22nd when, you know,  
6           when the Holtzclaw issue, when we were notified,  
7           so I believe -- it would probably -- I don't know,  
8           it would have to be during that time period.

9           Q     Okay.

10          A     So I just don't know exactly what day it  
11          was. I can't remember.

12          Q     Do you recall how Chief Kuhlman notified  
13          you?

14          A     It would be in person. We were both at  
15          the same conference.

16          Q     And after he notified you of this  
17          potential sexual allegation against Mr. Holtzclaw,  
18          what did you do?

19                 MR. SMITH: Object to the form. You can  
20          answer it.

21                 THE WITNESS: So what he did was initially  
22          just notify me that the allegation was made, I  
23          don't remember at that point what he said they  
24          were going to do, it was just to let me know,  
25          because I always put somebody in charge when I

Bill Citty

February 19, 2020

Page 49

1 leave, and I can't remember which deputy was in  
2 charge, but that deputy would be in charge of  
3 making some decisions while I'm gone. I don't  
4 remember if I made any decision at that point or  
5 not.

6 Because normally they all know, my staff  
7 knows that on sexual assault allegations against a  
8 police officer, I will -- I liked having the  
9 experts, because internal affairs is not an expert  
10 in sex crimes investigations, they do -- they do a  
11 lot of investigations, and I have had them do  
12 some, but sex crimes is much more, requires much  
13 more of an expert, you know, expertise in that  
14 field, and having done it, so I always -- I  
15 always, while I was chief, I had always had my sex  
16 crimes investigators investigate any sexual  
17 violation against a police officer, I always had  
18 them investigate it.

19 So they were aware of what my practice  
20 was, wasn't written down anywhere, but it was my  
21 practice to have that done. Based on the  
22 circumstances, I could have it moved to IA. A lot  
23 of times what I'll do is I'll just have IA follow  
24 that, and at some point, I think I did that,  
25 whether it was in the beginning or not, but I

Bill Citty

February 19, 2020

Page 171

1 approved by the city council.

2 Q Okay. If you go to page -- well, policy,  
3 I'm sorry, yeah, Policy 285.10.

4 A I'm in procedures here. Policy 285.

5 MR. SMITH: If you look at the Bates stamp  
6 number, it's 2852.

7 THE WITNESS: I got it. Okay.

8 Q (By Mr. Solomon-Simmons) And it's titled  
9 Object -- Object -- Objectives of Personnel  
10 Investigations. Would you agree that personnel  
11 investigations is -- those are the investigations  
12 that are conducted by IA; is that correct?

13 A Usually. I mean, there's -- there are  
14 personnel investigations that are conducted  
15 outside IA, depending on the severity of it, what  
16 it is, but patrol, patrol supervisor, I could have  
17 them do it, depending on what -- just depending on  
18 what the issue is.

19 Q Okay. But it's your -- it's your  
20 discretion of who you select to do the personnel  
21 investigations?

22 A Not -- not all of them because a police  
23 officer or supervisor in the field or a major can  
24 do a personnel investigation within his own  
25 division without it coming to me.

Bill Citty

February 19, 2020

Page 172

1 Q Okay.

2 A Now, there's always a possibility I  
3 would -- I would say, wow, that was a little  
4 significant, it probably should have come to me,  
5 and I would have sent it to IA, but not always,  
6 and they're -- usually they're pretty good about  
7 calling me, saying, we -- we think this could stay  
8 within the division and we can take care of it,  
9 and -- and then I'll thumbs up or thumbs down, but  
10 normally, you know, a lot of times -- a lot of  
11 them are pretty small and they can conduct them  
12 internally and they don't need my approval on  
13 that.

14 Q Okay. Now, I want you to keep -- keep  
15 that policy, because we're going to refer back to  
16 it, but I want you to go over to Bates Number  
17 002944, procedure.

18 A Where is it, procedure?

19 Q Procedure 143.0.

20 A Okay.

21 Q Look at the Bates number if that's easier,  
22 it's 2944.

23 A Okay. I'm getting there.

24 Q Okay. Take your time.

25 A Okay.

Bill Citty

February 19, 2020

Page 180

1 jobs to do and they get allegations all the time.  
2 And I had nothing, we had nothing to prove what  
3 she was saying to be true. Nothing. And I'm not  
4 bringing -- I'm just not going to bring an officer  
5 in without those, so.

6 Q Are you familiar with Demetria Campbell?

7 A Yes.

8 Q Okay. Are you familiar with the  
9 allegations that she made against Mr. Holtzclaw?

10 A Yes.

11 Q What are those allegations?

12 A That he stopped her, I guess, handled her,  
13 rubbed up against him with -- with -- up against  
14 her with his genitals.

15 Q Okay. Now, that happened before the  
16 allegation from Ms. Morris; correct?

17 A Correct.

18 Q Was that taken into consideration, that  
19 this individual had had -- had another African  
20 American female has complained that she had been  
21 stopped, had force used against her, and sexually  
22 assaulted by Mr. Holtzclaw?

23 MR. SMITH: Object to the form. You're  
24 continually misrepresenting the facts.

25 THE WITNESS: So there was no

Bill Citty

February 19, 2020

Page 181

1 investigation with Holtzclaw when that happened,  
2 and there was no reference of Holtzclaw rubbing up  
3 against her when it happened. I knew nothing of  
4 her claims, in fact, her claims didn't come out  
5 until Holtzclaw was identified by the police  
6 department in the investigation that she came  
7 forward. So consideration, there was nothing to  
8 consider, I had no information on her. I had no  
9 complaint from her.

10 Q (By Mr. Solomon-Simmons) Well, are you  
11 saying that you were not aware at all about the  
12 complaint she made back in November of 2013 before  
13 Holtzclaw was arrested?

14 A I guess not. Because the only time I  
15 ever -- the first time I knew of her was after we  
16 had already made a case against Holtzclaw. And  
17 then she made the allegation that -- that this had  
18 happened and he had rubbed his genitals up against  
19 her when he stopped her.

20 Q She also made a allegation, we'll look at  
21 it, which I don't think -- I think it's  
22 undisputed, that he placed her in back of his  
23 vehicle and drove her from one location to another  
24 location in violation of you guys' procedure.

25 A Okay. Yeah, I'm -- I'm aware of that,

Bill Citty

February 19, 2020

Page 283

1 the time, we don't have as many of those, but at  
2 that -- that -- basically darker skinned, dark  
3 hair, muscular can mean a lot of things, so not  
4 sure it was completely defined on how muscular the  
5 person was. But I think the real -- the real  
6 difference was his age.

7 Q And she told you that it occurred -- or  
8 she told Officer Thomas it occurred on 5-20 or  
9 5-21, but she couldn't remember for sure, and that  
10 she was walking to the City Rescue Mission; would  
11 that be accurate?

12 A Yes. I think so.

13 Q And when he was run -- his AVL was run, he  
14 didn't run her on -- on those other computer  
15 systems, he didn't run her on May 20th or May  
16 21st, did he?

17 A I believe that's correct.

18 Q And he wasn't at the City Rescue Mission  
19 or near the City Rescue Mission; correct?

20 A That's correct.

21 Q Okay. You testified you always have sex  
22 crimes do the police investigations when it's a  
23 sex crime allegation; is that accurate?

24 A I think it's -- usually that's the --  
25 there may be an exception, I can't remember what



Bill Citty

February 19, 2020

Page 284

1 it is.

2 Q Well, sometimes supervisors do them if  
3 they get the information and are able to determine  
4 the person is not exactly telling the truth?

5 A Well, initially the supervisor in the  
6 field will take the initial complaint or reports.  
7 If they can do an investigation and determine that  
8 it's -- it's not valid, and they can -- we can  
9 have them do investigations in the field. If  
10 it's -- if it's an investigation where you can't  
11 make those kind of determinations, then we'll  
12 investigate it, we'll bring it inside, but there  
13 are times where supervisors -- they always end up  
14 doing the initial call, the initial investigation,  
15 at least on the allegation on the complaint, so.  
16 And sometimes they can determine that and  
17 sometimes that may be a person, you know, easily,  
18 it easily be determined that it couldn't have  
19 happened during -- when they said it happened.

20 Q And you were asked about the difference  
21 between the Ligons complaint of a sexual assault  
22 and the Terri Morris complaint of a sexual  
23 assault, isn't it true that Ms. Ligons complained  
24 immediately?

25 A Yes.