

DEPARTMENT OF POLICE  
Thomas E. Smith, Chief of Police



CITY OF SAINT PAUL  
Christopher B. Coleman, Mayor

367 Grove Street Telephone: 651-291-1111  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101 Facsimile: 651-266-5711

April 24, 2011

John McManus  
367 Grove Street  
Saint Paul, MN 55101

Dear Officer McManus:

This letter is to inform you that you are being suspended without pay for a period of one (1) eight-hour work day. Senior Commander Axtell will meet with you and determine the actual calendar date in which you will serve your suspension.

The reason for the suspension is that on various dates between 2004 and 2008 while assigned to the Minnesota Gang Strike Force (MGSF) you seized several items without cause and later disposed of them improperly. The Internal Affairs Unit conducted an investigation under IA# 09-0902 and sustained Improper Conduct and Improper Procedure for these actions.

Specifically, during a search warrant on October 26, 2004, you were the affiant. This warrant was executed at 1023 Jessie, up. A Terminator mini bike was seized. This seizure was not authorized in the warrant. You explained in your Internal Affairs interview that the mini bike was unclaimed because you believe it was traded for drugs. You stated you believed you had cause to seize the mini bike. You never documented this in your reports. You acknowledged that the mini bike was given to one of your informants in lieu of cash. You stated this was authorized and practiced within the MGSF. Yet MGSF policies list three ways evidence can be disposed of and none of which makes any reference to turning it over to informants in lieu of cash.

Secondly, On January 29, 2008, you assisted in a search warrant executed at 1766 Lansford Lane in Mendota Heights. You seized two jet skis. These were not listed in the warrant as items to be seized. You admitted to seizing the jet skis in your Internal Affairs interview. You did not properly document the seizure of these items or the reasons and follow-up relating to the two jet skis. In fact you stated, "I guess I wrote a shabby report, or should have included it, but at the time it didn't appear that it was critical, in retrospect now it does." You later found out the Commander of the MGSF was going to sell the jet skis and talked to your sister about them. She in fact bought the jet skis. You stated that "the appearance looks very bad..."

Lastly, On February 17, 2005, you assisted at a search warrant executed at 790 Iglehart Avenue, Saint Paul. A stolen utility trailer was seized. You contacted the victim of the trailer, a business, who declined return of the trailer. You failed to document this. The trailer was later sold by the MGSF Commander to a family member. You admitted in your Internal Affairs interview that you were responsible for this and failed to reduce your finding to writing. You stated, "I've apologized to her (affiant officer) for not writing it down."

AA-ADA-EEO Employer

McManus, John  
IA# 09-0902  
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There are issues regarding these incidents which are of concern to me. Your actions reflect poorly on you and the Department. Your actions are potentially damaging to your and the department's relationship with the community. You have discredited yourself.

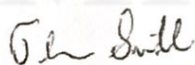
Based on the above, you have been found to have engaged in Improper Conduct and Improper Procedure. More specifically you have violated Civil Service Rules Section 16B, Subparagraph 2, 4, 5, 6 and 11. Your conduct has violated Department General Orders and MGSF Policy Manual:

- 120.00 – Law Enforcement Code of Ethics
- 131.00 -- Primary and Functional Objectives – Purpose
- 133.04 – Recovery and Return of Property
- 150.09 – Attention to Duty
- 230.13 – Conduct Unbecoming a Peace Officer, Principles 3, 4, and 5
- 323.00 – Investigative Unit Personnel, 4, 9
- 416.00 -- Report Writing
- MGSF 3-14-10 -- Disposal of Evidence

It is my hope and intent that the accompanying discipline will cause you to take an introspective look at your behavior and do what is necessary to modify and correct it. Any further violations will lead to more severe discipline up to and including termination.

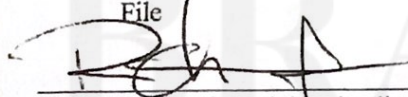
You have the right to appeal this suspension. If you wish to do so, you should contact your union representative who has been notified of this discipline.

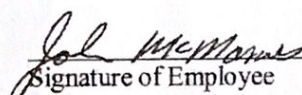
Sincerely,



Thomas E. Smith  
CHIEF OF POLICE

cc: Assistant Chief Thomasser  
Senior Commander Axtell, West  
Internal Affairs  
Personnel  
Asst City Attorney John McCormick  
Tracey Blee, Labor Relations  
File

 \_\_\_\_\_ 5/4/11  
 Name of supervisor giving the discipline      Date

 \_\_\_\_\_ 5/4/2011  
 Signature of Employee      Date  
 (Signature signifies receipt of discipline letter)