



TO: BOB HETZEL, UW-LA CROSSE VICE CHANCELLOR

FROM: RUTH EWING, CAPTAIN UW-MADISON POLICE DEPARTMENT
CHERYL RADZINSKI, SERGEANT UW-MADISON POLICE DEPARTMENT

RE: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF UW-LA CROSSE INVESTIGATION

DATE: SEPTEMBER 3, 2019

On August 7, 2019 Captain Ruth Ewing and Sgt. Cheryl Radzinski were assigned to investigate allegations of Misconduct in Public Office by members of the UW-La Crosse (UWL) Police Department. Allegations were brought to the attention of the WI Department of Justice (DOJ) as well as UWL Vice Chancellor Bob Hetzel by Sgt. Jordan Schaller and Police Officer Dustin Barton. The allegations implicated retired Chief Scott McCullough, Sgt. Paul Iverson, and Police Officer Brian Oyen as having submitted false/inflated training records in the WI DOJ Acadis Training Portal.

All documentation submitted by Schaller and Barton was thoroughly reviewed, over 25 interviews were conducted, and official records from multiple agencies were requested and assessed. We reviewed conversations with members from DOJ regarding Acadis records and expectations on records submissions. After reviewing all documents and statements we determined no criminal violations occurred. Entries by various department personnel into Acadis reflect inconsistencies due to shoddy record keeping. Dates were not accurate and in some cases the trainings had not occurred yet, although the individual entering the training believed the training was complete. The lack of checks and balances in the agency has led to disorganization, poor record keeping, and an overall appearance of falsification. The lack of any training records kept in a central file at the department results in the inability to cross-reference any documentation that would show training had occurred. There are no department procedures on how to accurately complete a timesheet. Some enter exact hours worked, others enter their normal schedule and may or may not note if they flexed any particular day. For this reason it is not possible to tell if timesheet entries are falsified or if it is lack of detail reflected in the entries.

Despite the lack of criminal violations, there are potential University Work Rule violations present. The work rule violations can be attributed not only to Sgt. Iverson, but also to Sgt. Schaller and PO Barton. The pervasive caustic atmosphere at the UWL PD is evident after speaking with most members of the department. Although allegations were brought forward condemning the actions of Sgt. Iverson, based on our thorough review of documents and interviews, the lack of leadership and structure in the agency led to the current divide in the department. Many of these issues could have been avoided had there been a leadership presence that supported progressive discipline and holding people accountable for their actions. The attached report details the themes that were highlighted during conversations with department members. Potential University Work Rule violations are noted as well.



KRISTEN ROMAN
Associate Vice Chancellor | Chief of Police

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Reaching HIGHER

