



hereby placed on Probation for a period of twelve (12) months as of the date of the signing of this Order.

Additional conditions are as follows:

None - Council's sanction of remedial training shall be deemed met at the time of this Order.

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This Order shall serve as a reprimand to Respondent's certification.

2.

During the period of Probation, Respondent shall not violate any law of this State or of the United States, or any rule or policy of the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council nor any rule or policy of the Respondent's employing agency.

3.

Respondent acknowledges that he/she has read this Consent Order, and understands the terms and conditions described herein. Respondent further understands that he/she has the right to a hearing in this matter, and waives such right by freely, voluntarily, and knowingly entering into this Consent Order.

As evidenced by his/her signature affixed below, Respondent agrees to abide by all laws of the State of Georgia, the rules and regulations of the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council, and the provisions of this Consent Order. Respondent's Peace Officer Certification may be vacated, and his/her certification Sanctioned, in accordance with the Georgia Administrative Procedure Act, upon noncompliance with the terms and conditions of this Consent Order.

SO ORDERED, this 30 day of August, 2001.

Roni De Miller  
Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 30<sup>th</sup> day of AUGUST, 2001.

John F. Kennedy Jr.  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
Notary Public, Newton County, Georgia  
My Commission Expires April 9, 2002

Mike Barton  
MIKE BARTON  
Executive Director, Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council

J. Tyson Stephens  
J. TYSON STEPHENS  
Chairman, Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council

Eugene A. Hutchins  
Assistant Attorney General

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Attorney for Respondent

**CASE NO. 003-268-05-00**

**CASE SUMMARY**

**Companion Case 003-269-05-00**

This individual is a multi-certified peace officer (basic 03-18-92, radar 11-28-94, FTO 07-09-99) and was employed by a law enforcement agency on 01-06-92. This officer received a written reprimand, his/her instructor school canceled, and suspended one (1) day pay for Misfeasance in that he/she was untruthful during an investigation of undue force.

On 12-31-00, this officer (1) was assisting officer (2) from another jurisdiction who was in pursuit of a vehicle for a traffic violation. The subject being pursued stopped and jumped out of the car and ran into the woods. The two officers chased the subject and officer (2) tackled him to the ground where he received a laceration to the head.

A complaint was filed by the subject alleging one of the officers struck him in the head with a flashlight after being handcuffed. The CEO from both jurisdictions requested an internal investigation by an outside agency. Officer (1) was interviewed and gave a written statement that he/she did not see anyone strike the subject. Officer (1) was then given a polygraph which showed deception on the relevant questions. When officer (1) was told about the polygraph and asked "how did he/she think the subject was injured"? Officer (1) replied "he must have been hit with a flashlight". Officer (1) then admitted he/she had failed to inform the investigator of certain facts. Officer (1) stated he heard a "thump" when officer (2) tackled the subject. He/she stated he/she did not actually see officer (2) strike the subject, but feels like he/she did when the subject was tackled. Officer (2) (companion case 003-269-05-00) admitted he/she struck the subject with a flashlight when he was tackled, but stated it was not intentional.

This officer is currently employed in law enforcement.

See Attachment (A) Officer's Response

**DISCIPLINARY HISTORY**

**None Noted.**

CASE NO. 003-268-05-00

Recommendation to Council:  
pursuant to O.C.G.A. 35-8-7.1(2,6,8)

36 Months Probation

Public Reprimand

Said officer is to attend an Ethics

and Professionalism course at

own expense and submit proof

of completion to POST within

six months of probationary

period.

Darlene Neely

PCC Chairman

Date: February 6, 2001

Council Action:

PCC Recommendation

Approved

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James Chadwick

Council Chairman

Date: April 5, 2001

WARRENTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

WARRENTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

June 6, 2000

GEORGIA PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING COUNCIL  
2175 NORTHLAKE PARKWAY, SUITE 144  
TUCKER, GEORGIA 30084

ATTN: RICHARD DARBY

DEAR MR. DARBY

I AM WRITING THIS LETTER TO YOU AND THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL IN REFERENCE TO MYSELF RONNIE L. SELLERS. I WAS INVESTIGATED THROUGH THE LOCAL GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION DUE TO AN ALLEGATION OF EXCESSIVE FORCE STEMMING FROM AN INCIDENT WITH A THOMSON POLICE OFFICER ON DECEMBER 31 1999. THE COMPLAINANT DERRICK HUDSON STATED THAT WHILE MYSELF AND, OFFICER JARRAD LAND WERE ATTEMPTING TO APPREHEND HIM THAT WE SHOT AT HIM AND THAT I HIT HIM WITH MY MAG-LITE AFTER HE WAS HANDCUFFED. I WAS UNTRUTHFUL IN THE INVESTIGATION. I DID NOT SEE OFFICER LAND HIT DERRICK HUDSON WITH A MAG-LITE I SAW HIM TACKLE HIM AND GO TO THE GROUND WITH HIM. HE HAD HIS MAG-LITE IN HIS HAND AND I HEARD A THUD WHEN IT MADE CONTACT WITH DERRICK HUDSON'S HEAD. I KNOW YOU HAVE A COPY OF THE G.B.I. REPORT SO YOU KNOW THAT THE INCIDENT TOOK PLACE LATE AT NIGHT AND IN THE WOODS SO VISIBILITY WAS LIMITED ONLY TO WHAT MY MAG-LITE ILLUMINATED. WHEN OFFICER LAND TOOK HUDSON TO THE GROUND I IMMEDIATELY ASSISTED HIM WITH GETTING HUDSON HANDCUFFED. AFTER WE GOT HIM HANDCUFFED WE BOTH BACKED OFF A STEP AND CAUGHT OUR BREATH. WE THEN ROLLED HUDSON OVER HE WAS ON HIS STOMACH AT THAT TIME. WE THEN HELPED HIM UP TO A SITTING POSITION. IT WAS AT THAT MOMENT WHEN WE BOTH SAW THE BLOOD ON HIS FACE AND REALIZED THAT HE WAS HURT. WE CALLED FOR AN AMBULANCE AND WALKED HUDSON OUT OF THE WOODS AND TO THE ROAD WHERE HE COULD RECEIVE MEDICAL ATTENTION. WHEN THE EMT'S ARRIVED OFFICER LAND WENT WITH THEM TO THE E.R. AND I RETURNED TO WARRENTON AND FINISHED MY SHIFT. I WORKED THAT FOLLOWING FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY NIGHTS. DECEMBER 31 1999 JANUARY 01-02 2000. I HAD ALREADY PUT IN FOR JANUARY 05-06-2000 OFF FOR HOLIDAY. I WAS SCHEDULED TO COME BACK TO WORK ON JANUARY 10 2000. MY CHIEF J. MCCLAIN CALLED ME TO THE OFFICE ON JANUARY 10 2000. HE TOLD ME THE G.B.I. WAS INVESTIGATING ME ON EXCESSIVE FORCE CHARGES. I WAS PLACED ON SUSPENSION WITH PAY PENDING THE OUT COME OF THE INVESTIGATION. I TOOK A POLYGRAPH TEST ON JANUARY 18 2000 AT THE THOMSON G.B.I. HEADQUARTERS. I FAILED THE TEST ON THE QUESTION DID EITHER MYSELF, OR OFFICER LAND HIT DERRICK HUDSON. I SAID NO BECAUSE I KNEW I HAD NOT HIT HIM AND I DID NOT SEE OFFICER LAND HIT DERRICK HUDSON BUT I DID HEAR A THUD. I KNEW THAT THE SOUND HAD COME FROM OFFICER LAND STRIKING HUDSON ON THE HEAD BUT BEING I DID NOT SEE HIM HIT HIM I DID NOT WANT TO SAY THAT HE HAD HIT HIM. I EXPLAINED TO MY CHIEF AND AGENT PAT MORGAN WHY I HAD NOT TOLD ABOUT THE SOUND I HEARD AND MY FEELING THAT OFFICER LAND HAD HIT HUDSON DURING THE TAKE DOWN. SO I HOPE THAT YOU AND THE COUNCIL WILL SOMEHOW UNDERSTAND I WAS UNTRUTHFUL BECAUSE I DID NOT WANT TO SAY THAT I FELT THAT OFFICER LAND HAD HIT HUDSON. EVEN THOUGH I HAD NOT SEEN IT I KNEW IT IF THAT MAKES SENSE. I WAS NOT SUSPENDED FOR (30) DAYS AFTER TAKING THE POLYGRAPH I WAS SUSPENDED (1) DAY WITHOUT PAY AND MY INSTRUCTORS SCHOOL WAS DENIED. I RETURNED TO WORK ON FEBRUARY 06 2000. I TRULY HOPE THAT YOU AND THE COUNCIL UNDERSTAND IT WAS NEVER MY INTENTION TO ATTEMPT TO DECEIVE AGENT MORGAN AT ANY POINT OF THE INVESTIGATION.

RESPECTFULLY

  
RON SELLERS  
WARRENTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

CC: INVESTIGATOR MICHAEL GOINS

RECEIVED

JUN 19 2000

INVESTIGATION  
DIVISION

## WARRENTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

June 1, 2000

Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council  
2175 Northlake Parkway, Suite 144  
Tucker, Georgia 30084

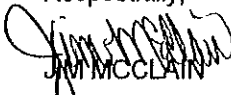
Attn: Richard Darby  
Executive Director

Dear Mr. Darby

I am writing this letter to you and the members of the Council in reference to Ronnie L. Sellers, a member of the Warrenton Police Department. The purpose of this letter is twofold. The first reason is that Ronnie L. Sellers was investigated through the local Georgia Bureau of Investigation due to an allegation of EXCESSIVE FORCE stemming from an incident with a Thomson Police Officer on 31 December, 1999. The complainant, Derrick Hudson stated that while the Officers were attempting to apprehend him that he was hit with a flashlight. The complainant advised that he was shot at and hit by Sellers. I notified the GBI to investigate this incident. Agent Patrick Morgan was the investigator assigned to do the investigation. Sellers was not immediately suspended on the fourth of January, 2000 because he was off. I really had no idea as to how long the investigation would take. However, while attending the Georgia Chief's Conference, I learned that the Thomson Police Officer had failed a polygraph test. I returned immediately to Warrenton on the tenth of January and suspended Sellers with pay pending the outcome of the investigation. I had the suspension witnessed by Tony Mimbs, a member of the City Council who is, also the Public Safety Council Member. I have misfiled the actual suspension paperwork and with regret am unable to produce it.

The second reason for this letter is to explain or try to explain what the results were. Ronnie Sellers was instructed by myself and Council Member Mimbs that he must be completely and totally honest with the Investigator during the course of the investigation. A copy of the complete investigation was given to Investigator Michael Goins. A copy of a written reprimand was, also given to Investigator Goins concerning this matter. On the eighteenth of January Ronnie L. Sellers took a polygraph test and failed it. The results of the polygraph were returned to me on February 2, 2000. He was given a written reprimand for misfeasance. After reading the results of the of the investigation and learning that Ronnie Sellers did not hit the complainant nor shoot at him, he was returned to duty on 4 February, 2000

Respectfully,

  
JIM MCCLAIN  
CHIEF OF POLICE  
WARRENTON P.D.:

CC: Investigator Michael Goins

**RECEIVED**

JUN 19 2000

INVESTIGATIONS  
DIVISION