

Testimony (1)

The Bethlehem Gadfly George Floyd killing, Police June 25, 2020

🌀 *Latest in a series of posts about the Bethlehem Police* 🌀

POLICE DEPARTMENT INTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION COMPLAINT FORM

COMPLAINANTS NAME, ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE:

HOME PHONE: _____ WORK PHONE: _____

DATE AND TIME OF INCIDENT:

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT:

Our son _____ was stopped for an expired inspection sticker by officers _____ and _____ on Polk street in Bethlehem at 1:45 pm. One of the officers stated he smelled weed in the car, and asked _____ several times when was the last time he smoked. The officer searched our son, his book bag, and his female friend's book bag, and our car. _____ said that the officer accused our family of smoking weed. The officers told our son that he was nervous because he was afraid that they were going to find something in the car. Our son told the officer that he was nervous because he's never had an interaction with police. _____ said that one of the officers said to the other that they should get the dog to search our car. He intimidated and humiliated _____ in front of many of his peers. Our son was obviously not impaired, the officer found nothing in the car, or on _____'s person. _____ or the car upon closer inspection smelled of marijuana, otherwise the officer would have had grounds to hold _____ but rather after finding nothing _____ was let go. The officer was obviously lying or grossly mistaken. He did not smell weed in the car, no one in the family smokes anything. We are in the car daily and would know if someone had smoked in the car. The officer approached my son biased either from past experience or prejudice. He wrongly concluded our son, an African American teenager smoked marijuana. It is evident the officer intentionally targeted our son. The Bethlehem Police Department has been negligent in admitting the officer's wrongdoing. The officers and the Bethlehem Police Department need to apologize to _____ or the emotional distress and humiliation that was inflicted upon him as a result of this incident. A refusal to do so would demonstrate a departmental culture to intimidate rather than to protect and serve. As a result of this incident _____ no longer trusts that police officers have integrity. Additionally, he was embarrassed and made to look like a criminal in front of other teenagers and school officials. We demand a written and an in-person apology in order to bring reconciliation to this matter.

It has been explained to me that Section 4906 of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code is False Reports to Law Enforcement Agencies and is a misdemeanor of the 3rd Degree if I file a fictitious report.

Signature: _____

*In an effort to gauge the **state of trust** between the community and the police department, Gadfly seeks **first-person testimony** of interactions — good and bad — with police. All communication will be confidential. Contact through the blog or at ejg1@lehigh.edu.*

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