SHEET 1 PAGE 1 CLIENT'S COPY UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 1 2 MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA 3 TAMPA DIVISION CASE NO.: 8:04-CV-1904-T-23MA 5 6 BARBARA ORBAN, 7 Plaintiff 8 Vs. CITY OF TAMPA, FLORIDA, 9 10 Defendant 12 STEVEN HOGUE 13 DEPONENT: OCTOBER 26, 2005 - 1:30 P.M. 14 DATE: 15 LOCATION: TAMPA POLICE DEPARTMENT 411 N. FRANKLIN STREET 16 17 TAMPA, FLORIDA 33602 REPORTER: CARLA DEE ALLEN - NOTARY PUBLIC 18 19 120 21 22 D & D REPORTING SERVICE, INC. 915 CHESTNUT STREET 23 CLEARWATER, FLORIDA 33756 24 (727) 468-2002 FAX (727) 468-2003 25

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1	APPEARANCES:	1	here?
2	For the Plaintiff: JOSEPH D. MAGRI, ESQ.	2	A. Currently, yes.
3	MERKLE & MAGRI, P.A.	3	Q. And is there an A and B division of that, or
4	550 N. REO STR STE.301	4	how does that work?
5	TAMPA, FL 33609	5	A. No, you're just in it or you're not.
6	For the Defendant: URSULA RICHARDSON, ESQ.	6	Q. You're in it or you're not, okay. You filed
7	CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE	7	an Affidavit in this case, and I'd like to start
8	315 E. KENNEDY BLVD5TH FLOOR	8	there. You've read the plaintiff's Complaint, and you
9	TAMPA, FL 33602	9	state that you're familiar with the generally
10	And JOHN A. MAKHOLM, ESQ.	10	familiar with the events involving March 27 of 2000.
11	THE MAKHOLM LAW GROUP	11	What have you done to check to look into those events?
12	ONE CAPITOL CENTER	12	A. The 2000?
13	696 FIRST AVE. NSTE. 205	13	Q. Yes.
14	ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33701	14	A. I read the Complaint and basically responded
15	* * *	15	with what you have there, and I don't think I've done
16	TNDDV	16	any research into it, though.
17	INDEX	17	Q. Okay.
18	Direct Examination by Mr. Magri	18	A. I've heard some, you know, general
19 20	^ ^ ^	19 20	conversation with Kirby Reinsberger reference this, just kind of a general overview, none of the real
20		21	details. Of course, I've talked to my attorneys.
22		22	Q. All right. So is it fair for me to say that
23		23	the only document that you've reviewed in relation to
24		24	this would be the Complaint?
25		25	A. That's correct.
23			1
	D C D DEDODUTING CERUICEC INC (707) 460 2002		D & D REPORTING SERVICES, INC. (727) 468-2002
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attend because there was objections to them testifying in court.

- Q. Okay. As I understand this policy, what the officers do is they fill out some sort of a form?
 - A. That's correct.
 - Q. And they then -- and then what happens?
- This form basically says they did not witness it, they put a copy of the accident report with it and they ship it back over to the clerk's office, and I quess in court that is produced in lieu of the officer.
- Q. Okay. And do you know to what point it serves to have the report sent to court?
 - That's what the Judge wanted at the time.
- Okay. Is there any protocol that officers follow when they fill out one of these -- a crash report, accident report?
- There are guidelines for filling out accident reports. We actually have two. We have what we call a long form and a short form depending on different circumstances determines which form you fill out.
- Okay. And do you know what those circumstances are?
 - You know, I don't know in great detail, but

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hold-over is particularly just for police officers that are going to work here in the City of Tampa.

And we give them, I think it's six to eight weeks additional training. And they go for four months, roughly four months with a field training officer where they're also trained, and they go over the SOPs at that time.

- 0. Okay. Has there been an increase in the number of traffic citations that have been issued over the last few years?
 - A. How many are we talking about?
- Well, is it accurate that last year there was like a 40 percent increase?
- Right. The two years that I've been here, we've seen an increase both years. Prior to that, I couldn't say how many citations were written.
- Q. All right. So is it approximately correct that it was a 40 percent increase last year?
 - A. I think that is approximately correct.
- Q. Do you recall what that percentage would be this year?
- 22 A. No, I don't right off, but I could get that 23 information.
 - Okay. I'd appreciate it if you would. 0.
 - Um-hmm. A.

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you fill a long form out if it's a felony, traffic offense, if it's a DUI. Actually any criminal offense you fill out the long form. If it's a government vehicle you fill out the long form. And there's probably a couple of more, but I don't recall. They are all listed in the SOP.

- O. Okay. And the SOP would be TPD's SOP?
- A. That's correct.
- Okay. Now, do you know whether officers are trained in terms of taking down the things that people tell them at the scene?
 - A. Of course, they are.
 - And do you know what that training --
 - They go through a field training program. A.
 - Okay. Q.
- When you come on the Tampa Police Department you go into what we call the Field Training Evaluation Program where they ride with a seasoned officer. This is after they have finished the police academy and then have gone to what we call hold-over where we give about six weeks of individualized training just by the Tampa Police Department for Tampa police officers.

The police academy is done at the local universities, junior colleges generally, and that's kind of a generic law enforcement curriculum. The

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- Is there a reason why there's been that sort Q. of an increase? 2
 - A. Yes, there is.
 - What is it? Q.
 - It's several fold. One, our traffic A. fatalities and accidents are going up. So we are -that's one reason that we write traffic citations.

Another reason we write traffic citations is because I go to a lot of community meetings, and the number one complaint from all of the citizens in Tampa at all community meetings that I go to is traffic enforcement.

They want more traffic enforcement. They don't like speeders. They don't like people running through stop signs. They don't like people running through red lights. It's pretty much across the board. Loud car radios are also particularly frustrating to the public.

And we're in the business of responding to what the public wants, and that's one reason that we've increased our traffic citations because we are, in fact, responding.

We are a community policing philosophy organization here, and we believe in responding to the 24 demands of the public.

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And, there's one other reason, and also it's good police work. You know, the more times you stop some people and you'll find stolen property and contraband and people with quns that shouldn't have guns and everything of that nature.

So those are three right off the top of my head as to why we do these -- why we've increased our traffic citations.

- Q. Okay. When you talk about fatalities in accidents going up, what are you referring to?
- The number of people that die each year in traffic-related traffic crashes.
- Okay. Would that also be the number of accidents or just --
- I think the number of accidents are also going up, in fact, I'm pretty sure of that, but I don't know the exact statistics on that; but our traffic fatalities are definitely going up.
 - Why is that? Q.
- Well, I wish I had an absolute crystal ball answer for you, but I don't, and if I did I'd probably be the police chief in New York City instead of Tampa, Florida, I don't know, if I had those kind of answers.

But the truth is that, you know, traffic accidents are going up, and I truly believe that

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traffic citations help reduce the number of traffic

Now, I don't have any definitive data to that effect because I'm not sure you can quantity it really. We write a number of tickets and we have a number of accidents.

There's no way to tell whether if you wrote less accidents (sic), you might have had more accidents than you currently did. There's no way to quantify that.

- Q. Are you familiar with the research that says that, you know, when you get out of the DUI area, that sort of thing, that accidents are most the function of engineering of roadways, left turn signals for instance or left turn lanes and --
 - I'm sure that --

MR. MAKHOLM: Excuse me. Object to form. What survey are you talking about?

MR. MAGRI: Didn't I say literature?

MR. MAKHOLM: I thought you said survey.

BY MR. MAGRI:

- Q. Well, whatever. Are you familiar with literature of that sort?
- A. I've heard that expressed, but I've never heard it expressed as the only reason for traffic

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accidents. In fact, I think it's probably better documented that driver error causes more traffic accidents than equipment failures or engineering of the streets.

- Q. Okay. Does engineering of the streets affect driver error?
- I don't know about that, but I'm not saying the engineering of the street could not also have some impact on traffic accidents, obviously.
- Okay. Let's take the situation where you've got no left turn arrow or left turn lane, and you got a multi-lane street on each side, you know, two or more lanes that's, say, going north and two or more lanes going south and no left turn lane either way.

When a -- periodically in such circumstances there will be accidents where some person attempts to turn left in front of other traffic, is that correct?

- A. You're right.
- Okay. In that circumstance, how does one Q. determine who is at fault for the resulting accident?
- A. All depends what the circumstances are. I mean, in that scenario you just gave me, if somebody is turning left in front of traffic and gets hit, then that person generally violated somebody's right-of-way.

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There could be mitigating circumstances if the other car was coming at 200 miles an hour and a person could reasonably look up and see them pretty far down the road and wouldn't expect anybody to be driving that fast and they turned left in front and that 200 miles an hour car closed that distance that would have been normally plenty to get across the road in, then that would be a mitigating circumstance.

Or if somebody was stopped in the road making a left turn and somebody else ran into the back end of them while they were waiting for traffic to clear, that would cause a whole different set of scenarios or who was at fault.

So you can't just be -- you have to have a little more information than what you're giving me is what I'm basically saying.

- Okay, all right. The TPD has a policy to write a citation at every crash, right?
 - A. That's not true.
 - Q. No. What is TPD's policy?
- A. Our policy is that the officer will use their discretion. Our policy also is that if you cannot determine who's at fault in the accident we don't charge anybody.
 - Q. Okay.

14 And, in fact, our policies clearly state Okay. Is there a provision in there that 1 A. 1 requires supervisory approval if an officer determines 2 both of those facts. All right. that a citation is inappropriate? 3 Q. 3 Or that the officer has the discretion 4 4 It's not in this SOP, but it is in another 5 whether to issue a traffic citation or not. 5 part of the SOP. All right. What policies are you referring? Can you pull that one out? 6 6 ٥. 7 Our SOP, I think it's 635. Is that the 7 Whew. A. Α. traffic SOP? 8 8 We're relying on your memory because you 9 MS. RICHARDSON: SOP 634, I don't know if 9 just proved that yours is better than counsels'. that's the right one. I'm not going to be able to put my hands on 10 10 BY MR. MAGRI: that in just a real short order. 11 11 12 Okay. 12 This is the 1994 policy. There's a '97 0. 13 But I can get that for you. It does address 13 update. 14 that at another point in the SOPs. 14 MS. RICHARDSON: Okay. 15 BY MR. MAGRI: MS. RICHARDSON: That might be 634 maybe. 15 I could step out and get it if you'd like. 16 BY MR. MAGRI: 16 A. 17 Yeah, why don't you. 17 A. I think 634 is traffic citations. Yeah, MR. MAKHOLM: We're off the record. it's traffic citations. I think it's an 800 statute 18 18 (At this time a discussion was 19 19 20 held off the record.) 20 Q. Well, why don't we -- I know I have it BY MR. MAGRI: 21 someplace myself. 21 22 A. It's SOP 635. 22 A. But there is an SOP that we have or training 23 manual that does speak to that issue. 23 Okay. 24 Section 5, Enforcement Actions. General 24 What's the purpose of that requirement? statement. "The issue of when to issue a citation and A. I think it's twofold really. I mean, I 25 D & D REPORTING SERVICES, INC. (727) 468-2002 D & D REPORTING SERVICES, INC. (727) 468-2002 PAGE 17 PAGE 15 15 when to issue a warning are and have been questions didn't -- I wasn't there when they originated that 1 asked by law enforcement officers throughout the policy so I don't know exactly what the conversation 2 history of law enforcement." was, but it has validity in two instances. 3 One, sometimes police officers can't figure These questions cannot be answered in a 4 4 simple matter because of many circumstances that might out who to cite, can't figure out who was at fault in 5 surround a particular violation. The decision becomes 6 an accident. And a sergeant who is their supervisor, easier if one understands the purpose for taking or the corporal in lieu of the sergeant, are both 7 enforcement action in modification of driver 8 senior experienced people who can come over and help a 8 younger officer or somebody who cannot figure out what 9 behavior." And it goes on from there to explain that 10 occurred in their traffic accident and give them some 10 minor infractions should receive verbal warnings, the advice on how it might -- who might be at fault. 11 11 more serious ones should receive traffic citations. 12 And the other issue is that the police have So it clearly addresses that in our SOP that, you 13 an obligation to the other person who is not at fault 13 know, to give a citation or not to give a citation is 14 in that accident scene to, in fact, assess that 14 15 accident as correctly as possible and to cite the the officer's discretion. 15 Q. Is there a provision in there that talks 16 individual who, in fact, caused the accident. 16 17 17 about -- and by the way, can I get a copy of the SOP? So not only do we have a training issue or MS. RICHARDSON: When I go back to the 18 an experience issue by doing that, that can be solved 18 19 by bringing a more experienced person over to look at 19 office. 20 a traffic accident, but we also have an absolute 20 MR. MAGRI: Okay, great. In fact, it's on 21 obligation to the other person who wasn't at fault to 21 the computer, right? determine who was at fault and who wasn't in the 22 MS. RICHARDSON: It is on INET. 22 23 accident. And that's assuming, of course, that it's 23 MR. MAGRI: I can just run it off so I'll just write these numbers down. 24 more than a one-car accident. 24 25 Q. Okay. Is there material that's directed to BY MR. MAGRI: 25

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the supervisors that helps to instruct them how to utilize that section or that provision?

- A. I don't quite follow what you're asking for or what you're asking.
- Q. I'm wondering if there's any training that supervisors go through on how to exercise their supervisory responsibility under that section?
 - A. Under that section in particular?
 - Q. Right.
- A. I don't think there's anything that addresses that section. I mean, the SOPs, which you can see as I have here in front of you, is about five inches thick. It's full of things that officers and supervisors should and shouldn't do.

I don't think there's a training bulletin designed for every one of those things. In fact, there are very few training bulletins. So it basically says in the SOP that if the officer can't figure out who is at fault in the accident and who should receive a citation that they should just call their supervisor.

It doesn't say that they're going to get a traffic ticket or somebody's going to get a traffic ticket, if the officer thinks it's inappropriate, call the supervisor and get that same approval and, of

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course, nobody will get a ticket.

I've investigated hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of traffic accidents in my police career, and not every one of them did somebody receive a traffic citation.

- $\ensuremath{\mathtt{Q}}.$ When you were here on TPD, did they have such a supervisor --
 - A. I'm still here.
 - Q. Well, I understand, the first time around.
 - A. Okav
- 11 Q. Did they have that kind of supervisor 12 approval requirement?
 - A. Yes, yes.
 - Q. If you thought it was inappropriate?
 - A. Yes, if you thought -- if it was inappropriate to write a citation, then you called your supervisor and got him over there, or her over there, to review your decision-making process to make sure that it was valid.
 - Q. You mention got him or her over there, what do you mean by that?
 - A. Usually we call them to the traffic scene.
 - Q. So they would come to the scene?
 - A. Sometimes, not all the time. Sometimes you could say over the radio, you could get over the radio

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1 -- and I'm just giving you a for instance, not the way 2 it is all the time -- but you can say on the radio, 3 look, I've got no witnesses to this accident, both of 4 them said they had a green light when they came 5 through the thing, they met right in the middle of the 6 intersection, and I really can't tell who had the 7 green light and who didn't.

You know, then they'll say I don't want to write either one of them a traffic ticket. They might say over the radio, if those are the circumstances, then that's fine.

Or if they might have skid marks and cars, you know, displaced and they just couldn't figure out who was where, and everybody has gone to the hospital in an accident, they might call a supervisor over to, you know, help them figure out where the skid marks were. That would be more of a training issue.

- Q. Is there such a thing as an unavoidable accident?
- A. Well, I'm sure there are particularly for those people who are not at fault in an accident. They're stopped in traffic and they're making a left turn and somebody runs into the rear end of you, that probably wasn't too avoidable for you. It might have been well easily avoidable for the other people.

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- Q. Is there ever an accident or a crash where from the standpoint of both cars where the accident might be unavoidable?
- A. I mean, I can't think of any situations like that that I think that would be true, but I won't rule out the possibility that there is some way that that could occur.
 - Q. Okay.
- A. I can't ever think -- recall any independent knowledge right now of that ever occurring in my career, that it wasn't avoidable at all.
- Q. What about the car that cuts somebody off or causes that vehicle to hit another or something?
- A. Well, it's avoidable by the person who cut that person off so that was an avoidable accident.
- Q. Okay. But as between the cars involved in the accident?
- A. Well, it kind of goes to my first example. Somebody is stopped in traffic waiting to make a left-hand turn and somebody runs into the back end of them, it wasn't really unavoidable -- it was unavoidable by the person sitting there in traffic waiting to make their left-hand turn, but it was avoidable by the person who actually caused the accident.

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Q. Okay, fair enough. But there can be situations where two cars are in an accident, and the accident is unavoidable as to those two cars?

A. I'm not ruling out the possibility. I just can't think of any circumstances, you know, from my practical experience that that's been true; but I would say that I haven't really given it much thought.

Q. Okay.

A. I guess there could be some set of circumstances that could have an accident be unavoidable, I don't know.

Q. I'm thinking of the situation where, let's say, somebody cuts another off and then that car that gets cut off hits another and, you know, the third party goes off on his merry way, no one sees him.

A. Right, but that's clearly an avoidable accident --

MR. MAKHOLM: Objection. Excuse me, excuse me.

BY MR. MAGRI:

A. -- by the phantom vehicle.

 $\mbox{MR. MAKHOLM:}\ \mbox{I just object to form.}\ \mbox{I}$ don't think it was a question.

24 BY MR. MAGRI:

Q. Okay. It's avoidable by the phantom

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vehicle, but not avoidable by the vehicles that had been in the accident -- that were in the accident together, correct?

A. Absolutely true that once an accident series starts, some things that happen are unavoidable.

Q. Okay

A. If somebody hits you as you're going through the intersection in the side and it displaces your vehicle into another vehicle, and that other vehicle is at fault, it surely was unavoidable by you.

You hate to say unavoidable I guess if you saw the car coming and could have slowed down and those kind of things all go into the avoidable category.

But there are instances where once the chain of events starts happening that you have no control over them anymore because your vehicle is out of control and sliding across the road and where it goes you won't be able to steer it nor stop it.

- Q. Now, if you have a witness to something like that it becomes -- let's say you got a phantom vehicle situation, does the police have a protocol as to how they treat phantom vehicle claims by people?
 - A. Um-hmm.
 - Q. What is that?

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A. Well, it's part of an investigation. If somebody claims a phantom vehicle then, you know, you look for witnesses. It all depends on what the circumstance is. You're asking very broad general questions.

Q. Yes.

A. And, you know, you're not telling me whether there's skid marks on the ground that the phantom vehicle left that would indicate it was there, were there witnesses to it, were there other people in the vehicle that could be witnesses to it, were any other vehicles hit.

Those kind of things all go to telling you a story, all the evidence and how the cars are situated and what happened goes to tell you a story as to whether it happened. Have people in my career lied to me about phantom vehicles and I've clearly been able to prove that they were lying, yes, that's happened.

Q. How do you do that?

A. Well, that's once again, it's all about the circumstances. You find a witness that said, oh, no, that's not the way it happened, I was right behind him a hundred yards, I saw exactly what that individual did, and they tell you what they did. And the person who's telling you that, obviously it's very

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self-serving to their situation and that also goes into account.

- Q. What do you do if -- when you're writing those up do you document these stories that are being told? Do you write down that so and so is saying this?
- A. On a normal traffic accident, are you talking about a traffic accident?
 - Q. Yeah.
- A. You might depending on the seriousness of the accident. If it was a minor accident, you would generally just list that person as a witness so that when they got to court they could testify to what they told you.
- Q. Okay. And if you have -- if you've got a phantom vehicle claim and you don't have skid marks or other witnesses or things like that, how do you deal with it?
- A. Sometimes you just have to accept the fact that there was a phantom vehicle there if that's what the person was telling you and you have nothing to counter that because lots of times there are phantom vehicles. So, I mean, you have to give that credence, too, but you have to conduct an investigation to see if all of the facts support that.

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- When you do that, do you document that in some fashion?
 - Α. Um-hmm, yes.
 - ٥. How so?
 - It's on the accident report.
- All right. In other words, you document that you conducted such an investigation?
- A. Right. Usually we draw a little diagram. If you're doing a long form like I was telling you before, then you actually show the phantom vehicle on there, talk about the phantom vehicle in the place where you write the verbiage.
- Q. Okay. Does the -- I take it TPD has training materials with regard to training young officers or -- and at the academy I'm sure has materials as well?
 - The academy has training material, right.
 - Okay. I think we're attempting to get that.
- That's really not under the control of the police department.
- Oh, I see. In other words, they'd have to 21 Q. be a separate --22
 - A. HCC runs the training campus here locally.
 - Q. Okay.
- 25 A. Now, St. Pete JC also runs one.

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since the mid 80s so I'm not exactly sure what training material they have, but I know they have training material.

- Q. Okay. In Florida there's a premium tax payment that comes from the State that goes to the police and firemen pension funds. Are you familiar with that?
- A. I'm a lot more familiar with it today than I probably was two years ago, yes. 185 money you're talking about?
- Q. Right. Are you familiar with how that works?
- Not really. You know, it's something that I had heard about, you know, many years ago in kind of a nebulous sort of way that it was out there, but to be honest with you until this lawsuit was filed I didn't know whether that was car insurance money or life insurance -- I heard it was insurance money.

And I had always heard prior to becoming, you know, a little more educated on it since Ms. Orban's lawsuit that it was for the police department investigating traffic accidents, something that the insurance companies needed the traffic accidents for whatever.

And that was some sort of through the

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- ٥.
- So they have the training material out A. there.
 - All right.
 - It's independent of the police department. We hire people at the police department, they come -they're already certified law enforcement officers. If they've been through a police academy, they've passed the state exam.

There's one exception to that, and that's called a scholarship academy, and that's where we pay a stipend to people to go to the academy, and I guess -- I'm not sure they're considered our employees or what their status is, but we actually pay them to go to the academy.

And during the time they're actually in the police academy, we're paying them. And then when they graduate they have a contract to get a job with us. Once they graduate and pass the State exam, then we give them a job. That's a very small minority of the

- Does the TPD once it gets people from the academy have training materials for traffic law enforcement?
 - A. You know, I haven't been involved in that

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- legislature had mandated that the insurance companies pay the cities for doing the traffic accidents. That's what I always thought it was. I'm not sure it's exactly that anymore. But what the funding source actually is and how it works, even to this day I don't have a clue.
 - 0. Okay. Are you familiar with the fact that as premiums rise there's a tax on that increase?
 - It's a tax on the increase of the premiums, no. My understanding of it is that it's based on the premiums that are written in a jurisdiction I would assume, I'm not even sure that's true. Is it just the City of Tampa that the 185 money comes back to the City on or is it the county, too.
- Q. I think that they break it down by cities across the state.
 - A. Or zip codes.
- Huh? Q.
 - A. Or zip codes.
- Well, I have to ask them how exactly they do that.
 - Okay, I don't really know either. Α.
- 23 Or I'll ask Dr. Orban, probably knows it better than I do. If she was here, I'm sure she'd tell you.

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But, in any event, when this -- my understanding is that in the late 90s there's an amendment to statutes that were passed that meant that -- states that the premium tax increase and any increase in premiums over a base year goes to extra benefits. Are you familiar with that?

- A. No.
- Q. Okay. Are you familiar with the amount of money that's put into the police pension fund each year?
 - A. Couldn't tell you.
- Q. Are you familiar with what the percentage is that the State pays vis-a-vis the City and the officers?
 - A. The State pays on our pension?
 - Q. Yeah.
- ${\tt A.}\ {\tt I}$ don't think the State pays anything under our pension.
- Q. Well, through this premium tax increase, it's collected by the State, right?
 - Δ No
- Q. Okay. Are you aware that in this past year for which we have records, or last year for which we have records, the amount the State pays actually is greater than the amount that both the City and the

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arrange that, that would be fine with me. So they went ahead and said that they had arranged it, and it was a matter of my understanding of the Mayor having an executive order said that I could be back in.

And they had voted on it at the pension board meeting, and I received a majority of the votes to become back in, and I was put back in. What mechanisms and what, you know, how that was all done, I really don't have a clue other than just basically that story I told you is about all I know about it.

- Q. Were you there when they voted on that?
- A. Yeah.
- Q. I mean, do you know who voted what ways?
- A. I want to say that there were one policeman and two firemen I think voted against me. I think there was one person absent, and I think five voted for me, two policemen and three City people, something like that. It was a, I think, a three to five vote, and one person was absent.
- Q. Do you know the names of the people that voted against you?
- A. That voted against me, the only one I know is the police officer. I knew him because I knew him, but I couldn't tell you his name. He's retired since then. In fact, probably a year after that I promoted

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officers have paid combined?

- A. No, I wasn't aware of that.
- Q. How is it that you were placed into the pension fund when you came back here?
- A. I'm not sure what went on with the pension fund because I wasn't involved in that process. When I was employed here they gave me an employment benefits package verbally, and one of those things is they said I was going into the general employees pension plan.

When I got here, apparently, there is some rule in the general employees pension plan that says that retired police officers and firefighters from the City of Tampa cannot be in their plan.

So they told me that I was not going to be able to go into that plan and did I have any objections if they tried to put me back into the police plan.

Well, I was at the time currently drawing about a \$50,000.00 a year retirement from the Tampa Police Department pension plan so I had one of the caveats to it was I had to stop receiving that if I went back into the pension plan, but then I would tend to accrue additional benefits based on my longevity.

And so I said, yes, that's fine, if you can

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him to sergeant.

- Q. And do you know why he voted against it?
- A. Why he voted against it, no, I haven't a clue.
- Q. Okay. I mean, do I get the sense from what you were saying before that this actually may not have, financially speaking, it may not have been a benefit for you to do it this way, or?
- A. The long run it will be a benefit for me. I think I did some rough calculations. Of course, I'm a police officer, I'm not a financial planner. But if I live six years beyond retirement, if I remember rightly, I kind of come to a break-even point, and then from then on I actually get more money out of it.
- Q. Okay. Is there a quota system with regard to traffic citations?
 - A. Absolutely not.
 - Q. What to you is a quota system?
- A. What is a quota system? Where we tell officers you got to write 30 traffic tickets a year or 30 traffic tickets a month or 30 traffic tickets a day, and that's what you got to turn in.
- Q. And why don't you -- why do you say absolutely not?
 - A. It's illegal.

Q. And the basis for that statement is what?

A. It's been ruled in the courts that it's illegal to have quotas, and I would be willing to bet you there's not a police officer in Florida that doesn't know that.

- Q. Okay. My understanding is that officers have been rated down in traffic law enforcement over the last few years if they don't meet district averages?
- A. I don't know that -- I'm sure officers have been rated down in their traffic law enforcement. Based on what, it is usually the sergeant writes an evaluation on an officer, and that criteria is not set in stone.

Obviously, traffic enforcement is one of the things that police officers are supposed to do, and, in fact, in the SOP here it clearly states that that's one of their duties is to do traffic enforcement.

We also most of our uniform officers ride zones, and in that zone we have plenty of traffic complaints from people in the neighborhoods that are complaining or we have high traffic accident intersections in there or high accident stretches of the road and they are expected to, in fact, enforce traffic violations in those areas.

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So their productivity would be less, let's say, than somebody who was there all the time. So that officer would be -- you would look at it when you rated them based on how much time they were doing the job of patrol officer and say, okay, overall this is reasonable for this amount of time that he actually spent here because his other duties took him away from his street duties for a certain segment of time.

So everything is a little bit of a -- or maybe one officer makes hundreds and hundreds of arrests each year, and his traffic enforcement, or her traffic enforcement wasn't as much as somebody else who made less arrests.

So it's always a balancing act. That's why the sergeants do it. They're there every day with their officers, they know when their officers are working.

They also give instructions to their officers, you should do some traffic enforcement here or there, and they're expected to do what their sergeant tells them. And when they don't, then there are consequences for not doing what you're supposed to be doing.

Q. There have been -- there is a sergeant at least that complained that he received directions from

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If they don't do their job, then, yes, they probably are rated below expectations or unsatisfactory.

- Q. It's my understanding that with some officers that have been rated below expectation on traffic law enforcement that they're pointed to district averages when they inquire as to how many citations should I be writing in order to improve this?
- A. Well, I'm not -- I don't know that, okay. I don't -- I'm the police Chief, but I don't do everything here at the police department. It's all delegated down to other people, and each division is run by a major who sets certain policies as to what, you know, what they expect from their officers.

No major says you got to write this many tickets, I guarantee you that because that's a quota system, but there is some expectation that officers do their job, which a part of that job is writing traffic citations and enforcing the traffic laws.

Now, but that's never a black or white issue because, you know, somebody may be low in traffic citations, but does something else, some officers belong to our tactical response team, and they spend a lot of time off on tactical response calls.

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above to rate down certain patrol officers that he thought were doing a good job overall, but he was told to rate them down in traffic law enforcement because they weren't writing enough citations.

He didn't think that that was appropriate for the officer because he thought that the officer was contributing in other ways. Is that a complaint that you've heard?

A. Not really. I'm sure you could find some individual instance of everything around here at one time over, you know, many, many years. But this organization is a paramilitary organization, and a sergeant has a lieutenant who is their boss.

And just like in any organization sometimes the boss doesn't agree with what the sergeant is doing or not doing and gives that person particular instructions. Like that officer's traffic law enforcement is not acceptable.

You know, we have officers that go a year at work and write five or six traffic tickets. Now, what I would say to you, sir, is in a year's driving around, do you see five or six traffic accidents in your daily driving around. Of course, you do, and so does everybody else and so do those police officer.

And their job is to take action on it,

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different from you, which is not to take action. But their job is to take action on those kind of things, when they don't, they're not doing their job.

- Q. Okay. So there is a -- is there a number below which --
 - A. There is no number.
 - 0kav.

A. You can take that right out of your vocabulary. There is no number here that says you got to write a certain amount. It's always like I said, it's a little bit in the gray area.

You look at the officer's overall productivity, how much time they had to do traffic law enforcement. You know, you're running from call to call to call all day long, assigned calls over the radio, you might not have time to do any traffic enforcement in one day. A sergeant realizes that.

You have five or six hours of patrol time and nothing to show for five or six hours of patrol time, the sergeant might well say to an officer, what were you doing.

You know you had these three intersections or this stretch of road or this complaint in your area about traffic or can be vagrants or it can be, you know, people using drugs.

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It could be a whole variety of things depending on which zone and what the problems are in that zone. Traffic enforcement just being just one of those things that we would work on.

Q. Have sergeants complained about not having people to do backup because they're involved in traffic enforcement, patrol officers now I'm talking about?

MR. MAKHOLM: Objection to form.

BY MR. MAGRI:

Q. Have you heard that complaint come up the chain?

MR. MAKHOLM: Go ahead.

BY MR. MAGRI:

- A. No.
- Q. How about where patrol officers write things like "per supervisor" on various forms?
- A. I have never heard of that. I'm not sure that -- you know, like I said, I'm not sure what you're referring to. What do you mean "per supervisor?" Wrote a traffic ticket per supervisor?
 - Q. Right.
- A. In other words went out and caught a speeder riding down the road and said per supervisor I wrote a traffic citation today?

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Q. No, I'm saying where they've called the supervisor up and the -- at the crash scene saying they didn't really know who to write it to and the supervisor told him who he thought it ought to be written to and they've written per supervisor on the form?

A. I don't see anything inappropriate with that. Maybe that officer wants that supervisor to go to court with him because he's told everybody at the scene I couldn't figure it out, gets to court and his attorney says, well, you couldn't figure it out, could you. Said, well, why did you do it, why did you give him a traffic citation.

Well, see, in my notes here I wrote per my supervisor. I gave him the circumstances or they came by the scene or she came by the scene, and I issued the citation.

- Q. Is that something you're familiar with or are you --
- A. No, I've never heard of it or seen it before.
 - Q. Okay.
- A. I was in this business, the real police business, which was writing tickets and putting people in jail and things like that for many, many years, and

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I can't ever recall anybody writing it.

Me ever writing it in a report nor when I was a sergeant ever having an officer write it in, and I gave plenty of officers direction as a sergeant and when to make an arrest, when not to make an arrest, unarrest people they had arrested and those kind of things. That's just part of being a supervisor.

- Q. Okay. Hold on one second. I'm moving through these things, though it may not appear to be that way. With regard to the pension payments, do you pay the same amount every year in your pension?
 - A. No.
- ${\tt Q.}\quad \mbox{How does that -- how is that determined how much you pay?}$
- A. Well, you know, I don't really know because I've never really been on the pension board, but it's my understanding that it's based on how well the pension fund does generally associated with the economy and the market and our investment counselor as long as the investment counselor is able to invest the money and make good financial decisions.

And the fund makes a lot of money, our contributions go down. If, in fact, the fund has bad years, then our contributions go up.

O. What are the sources for contributions to

your knowledge?

- A. The police officers contribute, the City contributes, the 185 money is a contributor, and the interest that the fund makes goes back into the fund.
 - Q. Is the City's amount set?
- A. Yes. It's -- I think -- I think by contract it's 1.33 of the officers. So whatever the officer pays, the City pays 1.33 of that.
- Q. Is that the same every year, or does it vary like the officers?
- A. Well, it will vary like ours because as ours goes up, the City's goes up because it's 1.33. So they're always paying essentially a third more than we are. They're equal us plus another third.
 - Q. All right.
- A. That's my understanding of it, but once again I need to qualify this that I'm not by any stretch of the imagination --
 - 0. I understand.
- A. -- a pension -- real knowledgeable about how the pension is financed.
- Q. How about the state contribution, is that affected by how well the investments of the pension plan do, if you know?
 - MR. MAKHOLM: Objection to form.

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Q. Private property meaning?

- A. Like in a parking lot of a mall. There are plenty of agencies that do investigate those kind of accidents. We don't.
- Q. I see. Where a fender-bender in a mall parking lot?
 - A. Right.
 - Q. I see, okay.
- A. Or any kind of private property. And if it's a delayed accident report, we don't generally send an officer to investigate that unless there are, you know, criminal charges or some, you know, serious injury or something of that nature.

Those are two, and there might be another one or two, I don't know, but I'd have to actually refresh myself from the SOP to be sure; but I know that we don't send them to every investigation that we could.

- Q. Do you know what SOP that would be?
- A. You must think I'm a lot smarter than I really am.
 - Q. You've done pretty well so far.
- A. Let me look here. It might be the 400 statutes. It's SOP 401.3, Private Property Crashes.

 "Private property crashes shall not be investigated by

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BY MR. MAGRI:

- A. I don't know to be honest with you. I don't know if -- the only thing I can assume is from what you said earlier about them is that it's not, that it's some sort of fixed amount based on premiums or something of that nature. That's what you kind of indicated to me when you were speaking here, or I gleaned that from you. I might be incorrect.
- Q. Does the Tampa Police Department have a policy, practice or custom of issuing citations in crash cases where a reasonable investigation has not occurred or such investigation has disclosed that either no citation would be appropriate or that a less severe citation would be appropriate?
 - A. No.
- Q. There was a time when TPD did not send officers to every crash, isn't that correct?
 - A. That's still true today.
- Q. Okay. What is Tampa's policy with regard to sending officers to crashes?
- A. Okay. Well, I'm going to be going from memory here, and I haven't reviewed this policy in a while. But if we have private property crashes where there are no injuries and no criminal violations, we do not send any officer to those crash sites.

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this department unless they meet one of the following:
Death or personal injury, DUI, reckless driving, hit
and rum or a government vehicle."

"Delayed Traffic Crashes. When reporting delayed traffic crashes where all parties exchange mandatory information or those satisfied prior to any party leaving, drivers report of traffic crash form shall be furnished."

We will just hand it to them, we won't actually do the investigation. And in those cases there would be no traffic citation either.

"Delayed traffic crash reports with investigative leads regardless of time shall be initiated whether on private property or street crashes, unless both parties settled at the scene and then later notified police." So that's the other one.

- Q. Okay. Do you have the long form, short form policy in there?
- A. Yeah, actually I think this is it. Yes, for a long form, "A motor vehicle crash which results in death or personal injury, personal injury includes any possible injury such as complaint of pain, a motor vehicle crash involving a violation of Florida Statutes" 316.27 -- I'm sorry, ".027, Subsection 2, hit and run felony."

Florida State Statutes 316.061, Subsection 1, Hit and Run, attended property misdemeanor; Florida State Statutes 316.063, leaving the scene, unattended property misdemeanor because violation of this statute is a misdemeanor.

"Investigation reporting is required regardless of whether the accident occurred on public or private property and regardless of whether the investigative leads are known. Hit and run reports without investigative leads shall be retained in the districts."

"Florida State Statutes 316.193, DUI; Florida State Statutes 316.192, reckless driving, government vehicles and government property. Traffic crashes not meeting the above-mentioned criteria shall be documented on Florida crash report short form."

- Q. Okay. What about careless driving, is that listed?
- A. No, that's not included. That's a short form, unless there is a hit and run involved with it or a DUI or a leaving the scene or personal injury or death.
- Q. Okay. It's been reported that there was a time when TPD did not investigate minor crashes apart from the ones that you've identified, but crashes

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Q. Well, let me say this, and see if this strikes anything with you. We've heard that there was a time when dispatchers would try to get a sense from the callers as to what kind of an accident was involved and if it was a minor accident, see if the parties could handle it on their own, but that that policy has been changed in recent years to now require dispatch whenever a call comes in?

A. That probably occurred while I was gone. There are, as I read to you, there are some reasons why we don't do traffic accidents. And, let's say, and one of those was where the parties have agreed and exchanged information at the scene, gone home and then have called the police.

Now, if a dispatcher -- if somebody calls into dispatch and tells them that, yes, I was involved in a very minor traffic accident, there were no injuries, there were no criminal charges involved, we did exchange information.

At that time I didn't want a traffic accident report made so we both agreed and went home our separate ways, but now that I've been home and talked to my husband and it's six hours later I'd like a traffic accident done.

By policy we do not do those traffic

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where there wasn't a significant amount of property damage. Do you recall such a --

A. Yes, I think what you're referring to is, yeah, a very minor accident, and what we do is we go to the scene of those accidents and then provide those people with the forms to fill out.

I think we provide them with a short form accident actually, and they complete their own; but I don't know what that traffic damage is, I'm not particularly familiar with that.

Again, I'd have to research the SOPs. And we've gotten lucky with two so far. This next one will take a while for me to find.

- ${\tt Q.}\,$ Okay. Is there an SOP that has an amount or something of that sort?
- A. There's got to be something because I am familiar with what you're talking about, but I just don't know the -- you know, some of these things tend to change, and they've all come into play since I was actually doing this kind of work. So to some degree you fall out of the knowledge base a little bit on these things.
 - I understand.
- A. I'm going to have to have more time to review it.

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accidents, and when they told the dispatcher that, if she was aware or he was aware of the policy, they would tell them that we're not going to dispatch a call.

That is their job to somewhat triage the calls. And when they know that we don't investigate those accidents, then there's no reason to send a police officer to those locations.

- Q. Okay. What this officer was discussing was a perceived change in the -- going after -- not a situation like that, for instance, where a dispatcher wouldn't send you to a type of accident that wouldn't be investigated by the department, but -- in one of those categories, but in terms of seriousness of accidents there was a time when there was an effort to have the police be more involved in the somewhat more serious accidents than they feel they are now. Any --
- A. I'm not -- I really have to know more what they were talking about and under what circumstances. Our SOP today is pretty clear on what kind of accidents you go to and which ones you don't go to.
 - Q. Right.
- A. And even a minor accident, if they called you to the scene and we're there, then we would investigate that.

Q. So if it's not in one of these locations or if it's not a type of accident that you don't --

A. You know, I kind of recall and I'd have to go back, but there was a time here when there was a dollar figure estimated that we wouldn't investigate underneath a certain dollar number.

But what happened was, if I recall correctly, and once again this is very sketchy just from memory many, many years ago, that we had so many complaints from the citizens about not coming out and investigating their traffic accidents that we changed that policy. And I don't even think it was in effect very long.

Q. Now, why does citizens want officers to come out to their ${\hbox{\scriptsize --}}$

MR. MAKHOLM: Objection, any way the chief would know that?

MR. MAGRI: Well --

MR. MAKHOLM: How would the Chief know why people call or why people wouldn't call or wouldn't want them to come out. I object to the question. I object to the form.

MR. MAGRI: Maybe I didn't phrase it right if that's the interpretation of my question that you have. So let me do it the right way.

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can then take forward to their insurance company and get their car fixed.

- Q. Okay. Does the crash report identify who's at fault?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. Does that impact in terms of getting their car fixed, or what is it that they want about it?
- A. I don't know -- other than I'm assuming that they want an official document that says I was involved in the accident, here's the other driver's information, you know, this isn't -- you know, somebody exchanges names with you, you don't know if that's fictitious or not. I think it's a sense of security.
- Q. Okay. Is there a thing where officers -- is there a circumstance where officers will write a crash report, but not a citation?
- A. Of course.
 - Q. Short form, long form or both?
- A. Probably both. There are plenty of times that if you can't determine who was at fault in the accident you wouldn't write a citation. Officer discretion -- I'm sure there are some very, very minor accidents where maybe somebody backed into a car as they were backing out of their driveway and put a

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BY MR. MAGRI:

- Q. Based on your contact with communities and the communities speaking, based on your understanding behind the complaints that certain citizens had that officers weren't coming out, based on an understanding you previously expressed in this depo about how both parties including the not at fault party deserve proper police action on a citation, what is your understanding of how -- of what it is that the community wants with regard to citations and why it wants the police to come to the scene of accidents to--
- A. I'm not sure that people want police to come to the scene of a traffic accident and write somebody a traffic ticket. I mean, I have investigated accidents where the other party was adamant that the other person get a traffic citation.

But the truth is that much, much more it's the other way. People say I just want an accident report, I really don't want -- you know, you don't have to charge him, please don't charge him, or I don't care if he gets a ticket, I'm not here to give him a ticket, I just want a police report.

People really want the police report in my opinion because it's an official document that they

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little dent in something and maybe they just wrote the report for them.

I'm sure officers have used their discretion in that way, too, when, in fact, the SOP addresses very, very minor violations.

Q. Do citations have an effect on people's insurance?

MR. MAKHOLM: Object to form.

BY MR. MAGRI:

A. I don't know how the insurance companies decide how much your insurance rates goes up. I'll probably be able to tell you next year since I got two traffic tickets this year whether mine went up because of that, but I don't know what criteria they use.

I've always generally heard, just probably like all the public has that the more traffic tickets you get, it can affect your insurance rates.

- Q. Someone once said to me that from the insurance companies' standpoint, they don't treat people who get citations as safer drivers. Do you have any contrary evidence to that?
- A. I really don't know how the insurance companies, you know, rate people.
- Q. Do you periodically review the policies of the police department to see how they're filtering

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down to the people below you? MR. MAKHOLM: Object to form.

BY MR. MAGRI:

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- A. I don't quite follow what you mean filtering down. We create an SOP book.
 - Q. Right.
- We give that to every employee here. They're expected to know it.
- Q. Is how they're carrying out their duties under those SOPs, is that reviewed or checked?
- A. Oh, constantly. That's the whole -- that's the whole organizational structure of the police department, it's a paramilitary organization. Officers are checked by their sergeant or their corporal.

The sergeants and corporals are checked by the lieutenants. The captains review their work. The majors review their work. The assistant chiefs review their work, and I review the assistant chiefs' work. So it's kind of an upward process with review at every

Are you familiar with the fact that several police officers are concerned about the emphasis on writing citations from a number of different perspectives?

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A. When you have an organization of a thousand people, I'm sure we have an opinion on one thing or another about everything here at the police department. I can tell you that, you know, police officers don't particularly relish writing traffic tickets.

I think the public has a misperception that police officers like to write traffic tickets. They don't. It's the one time that you come in contact with the average citizen. It's usually a negative contact if you're writing them a traffic citation, and usually they're not happy.

And just like anybody else, you know, police officers are human and they don't like to be causing people to be unhappy and to have to go through those situations. That's one thing.

A lot of police officers sympathize with people about how expensive traffic tickets are. You know, I've been through that myself. You know, you write somebody that, you know, makes 4 or \$500.00 a

A traffic citation for 150 or \$200.00, you're taking food out of their kids' mouths, and their rent's got to be paid and their house payment has got to be paid.

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And those are things that go through police officers' minds, too. So it's not just a cut and dry kind of situation. But on the same token, it is their job to write traffic citations, enforce the traffic laws. So there's kind of a tug of war. But police officers as a general rule do not enjoy writing traffic tickets.

- Q. Have there been -- with the amount of citations increasing at the rate they are, have the complaints become greater in recent years?
 - From officers?
 - Yeah. Q.
- No, no. I don't -- you know, those kind of complaints really don't filter up. Officers don't stop me and complain about how much traffic citations are costing citizens. It's just not something that, you know, they're, you know, going to talk to me about.

They complain about other things, but that's not one of them. But I know when I was writing tickets and I was a patrol officer, that was a concern with me and most other officers too, and we would talk about such things.

It didn't mean we didn't do our job, but those were, you know, somebody could give you a

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hard-luck story every once in a while about, you know, how they were financially destitute and you might cut them a break that you may be not well have done to somebody who could have afforded a ticket. I mean, it's not always just a black or white situation 6 whether you write a traffic ticket. 7

- Q. When one car hits another car in the rear, is the car that did the hitting always at fault?
- A. Oh, absolutely not. I had a car one time in a traffic accident coming down the road, lost control, did a 180 degrees, slid across the road and smacked a car right in the front end that was parked. Sure wasn't the parked car's fault.
- Q. Any other instances where you could think of?
 - Not right off the bat. Α.
- What about a situation where almost -- well, I'll give you one. Where there was a fellow who eventually it caught up to him, but he had probably 16, 18 instances where he was in accidents where almost always older people hit him in either the rear or the side and ultimately it turns out that this guy was a accident causer. But is there ever an instance where people who get hit in the rear can cause the accident themselves?

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A. Sure, or can be at least a contributing factor. You know, if somebody slams on their brakes in the middle of the road for no apparent reason at all and come to a, you know, a screeching halt and somebody slides into the rear end of them, they are a contributing factor to that accident.

That doesn't mean the person who hit them in the rear doesn't also share some of the liability of being wrong by not being able to keep their car at a distance that they could control it no matter what the person did in front of them, but the other person did something that was so outrageous that they also contributed to the fact that they got hit in the rear end. So in that case, that's a perfect example of both people having culpability.

- Q. What if you had a situation where somebody is doing all of the textbook things, follows the right -- you know, following somebody at exactly what the drivers education book says you're supposed to follow people at?
 - A. Two seconds behind them.
 - Q. Yeah, for every -- yeah, that's right.
 - A. The new thing is two seconds.
- Q. The new thing is two seconds, yeah. And you're supposed to be able to count it, pick an object

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distance that you can, in fact, stop before you run into the back of them.

Q. Okay.

A. I mean, you've been driving down the interstate, I'm sure, and all of a sudden everybody ahead of you at a 70 miles an hour interstate is dead stopped in the road. You have to stop. You have to be far enough behind that you can come to a stop, too.

MR. MAGRI: Off the record.

(At this time a discussion was held off the record.)

BY MR. MAGRI:

Q. What does at fault mean to you? MR. MAKHOLM: Object to form.

BY MR. MAGRI:

- Q. I think in your Affidavit you may have used that term, let me pull it up. It says Dr. Orban -- at the time found plaintiff Dr. Orban at fault. What's that mean to you?
 - A. That she was culpable in the accident.
 - Q. And by culpable you mean what?
- A. That she was -- did something that violated the traffic statutes to cause that accident or to contribute to the causation of that accident.
 - Q. Is there -- if Internal Affairs complaints

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and then count it, right?

- A. Right.
- Q. Yeah. What if a person is doing that and something -- and the person in front of them does something absolutely weird for no reason at all, slams their brakes on, just stops dead in the street?
 - A. Then they contributed to the accident.
- Q. But even though you're following them at two seconds behind, if you're not able to stop in time?
 - A. You still have some culpability, sure.
 - Q. And the theory of that is?
- A. That you have to maintain control of your vehicle and keep it at a safe distance at all times to be able to stop in case something happens up in that car ahead of you.

Actually, if you're following the two-second rule you should be able to stop your car even if they slam on their brakes and come to a sudden stop because the reason that is in effect is because you cannot predict why somebody might slam on their brakes.

A child run out in front of them, an animal run out in front of them, and you will have that panic emergency stop. And you're obligated if you're following that vehicle to keep your vehicle at such a

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come in over traffic accidents or traffic citations, is that -- are they investigated or recorded?

- A. Every complaint that we get is investigated to some degree.
- Q. Do you know whether you can determine how many complaints are coming in over traffic accidents or citations to Internal Affairs?
- A. Well, we know what our complaints are, yes, we could go back and research it, we can figure out how many complaints. I mean, what kind of time frame are you talking about?
 - Q. Oh, in the last --
 - A. Last year, two years?
 - Q. Yeah, two or three years, let's say.
- A. Yeah, we could go back and we would probably have to hand search them, but we could tell how many complaints were Internal Affairs. A lot of complaints don't go to Internal Affairs.
- Q. When you say you probably have to hand search them, what do you mean?
 - A. I'm sorry?
- Q. Where you say you have to hand search them, what do you mean?
- A. You have to actually go back through the records, or where they're on the computer you have to

number for you.

traffic accident.

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call you up two days later and say, oh, I'm hurting

2 now.
3 Q. Let me show you something. Take a look at this.

MR. MAGRI: This is Exhibit C, the long form crash report.

MR. MAKHOLM: Okay.

BY MR. MAGRI:

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- Q. Where it has safety equipment. See where it has 2, 4?
 - A. Um-hmm.
 - Q. What does that mean?
 - A. Two means seat belt, shoulder harness, and four means air bag.
 - Q. And what does that reflect to you?
- A. That they were wearing a seat belt, shoulder harness and that the air bag deployed.
 - Q. Okay. And if that wasn't accurate, that's something that should be corrected, right, or changed?
 - A. Yes, if those things did, in fact, occur then they should be changed.
 - Q. Okay.
- A. Now, once again, I don't think the air bag is -- you can debate whether that deployed or not, but you can debate whether somebody was wearing a seat

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Q. How many complaints a year does a police department like this get?

physically run through them. We don't have just a

program we can put, you know, complaints involving

Probably have -- somebody would have to

physically go back through each case to see what they

involved so that they could determine if it involved a

traffic accidents, punch a button and kick out a

- A. In Internal Affairs, I'd be guessing. I'd be guessing, but probably -- well, there are all kinds of complaints, but, you know, what we call Internal Affairs complaints probably 125.
- Q. Okay. If crash reports contain inaccurate information, does TPD have a policy about correcting them?
- A. Yeah, we can if -- there's a form that you fill out for an accident that you put something that was incorrect to fix it and send it back into Tallahassee. There's a mechanism for doing that.
- Q. Is there a standard operating procedure with regard to when you do those things?
- A. No, but whenever you make a mistake, you do it, I mean it's pretty clear. You know, it has to be

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determined that you made a mistake. Lots of times people don't agree with what you did, that's not necessarily a mistake.

But if you put down the wrong street, that's clearly a mistake. And, in fact, it's -- lots of times you'll get your case dismissed in court because you put down the wrong street, put down the incorrect address of where something occurred.

- Q. Okay.
- A. So that would be something that would be corrected. But who's at fault or who the officer put at fault in the report, lots of times if somebody was found at fault in the report doesn't think they are at fault. And, of course, that's just a matter of opinion, though, that's not a mistake in the report.
- $\ensuremath{\mathtt{Q}}.$ What about things like whether it was wet or dry out?
- A. The pavement was wet and, in fact, it said it was dry, then that's a mistake, yeah, should reflect that the pavement was wet.
- Q. Same would be true report of injury versus no report of injury or air bag deployment?
- A. Those are pretty clear-cut things. If the person complained of injury, lots of times people will say I'm not hurt at all at an accident scene and they

belt or not.

Q. Based on whether they've got it on part of them or not, or?

- A. Well, you know, based on somebody there says they were not wearing a seat belt.
 - Q. Oh, I see.
- A. And when the officer gets there says, oh, yeah, I had my seat belt on then, you know.
- Q. Do you know why Captain Marks resigned, was that during your tenure?
 - A. She didn't resign, she retired.
- Q. She retired, okay. With regard to -- and I'm almost done, Chief, because I don't want to take up any more of your time, but I appreciate your willingness to sit here. Has there been a reduction in squad numbers in south Tampa?
 - A. A reduction in squad numbers, ves.
 - Q. How about in officers?
 - A. No, been an increase.
- Q. There's been an increase?
 - A. Correct.
 - 0. How so?
- A. We redeployed the police department, and when we did that we made the squads larger so that one sergeant in the past had 8 officers and a corporal

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SHEET 18 PAGE 66 PAGE 68 68 working for him. Now many of them have 12 officers 1 THE WITNESS: It's not a problem. 2 and a corporal working for them. 2 MR. MAKHOLM: Chief, you know you have the 3 So we made them larger, but the same number 3 option to waive or read. I would suggest that of people are deployed in the patrol division. And 4 you read if this is ordered. then we put into each patrol division two squads which 5 5 THE WITNESS: Okay, I'll read it. were not there before and one SAC squad, which was not 6 there before. So we increased each patrol division 7 7 (At this time the deposition 8 by, you know, roughly 30 officers. 8 in the above-captioned matter And that would be true in south Tampa? 9 9 was concluded.) Q. 10 Α. That would be true in all three of our 10 districts. 11 11 12 O. All of them? 12 Well, and, of course, you have to kind of 13 13 understand what we did. We took the City, let's just 14 14 15 say this -- these two pieces of paper were the City. 15 16 They were two districts. 16 We created three districts out of that, 17 17 18 divided up the existing officers that were in those 18 two districts into the three districts. So 19 geographically there's essentially the same number of 20 20 21 officers. 21 22 And then to each one of those three 22 23 districts, we put about an additional 30 people into. 23 So it was really like 90 people over the course of 24 24 25 25 three districts. So it was really more than just if D & D REPORTING SERVICES, INC. (727) 468-2002 D & D REPORTING SERVICES, INC. (727) 468-2002 PAGE 67 PAGE 69 67 69 you were thinking of two districts when we changed the 1 2 deployment from two to three. CERTIFICATE OF OATH Has there been an increase in the number of 3 3 STATE OF FLORIDA 4 traffic squad officers? COUNTY OF PINELLAS) The traffic squads do not work in the 5 5 I, CARLA DEE ALLEN, Court Reporter, districts. They work out of special operations under certify that I was authorized to and did Major Bennett. And not since I have been here have we stenographically report the foregoing deposition and 7 increased the number of officers that are on the two 8 that the transcript is a true record of the testimony 8 9 traffic units. 9 given by the witness. Well, we have -- each cycle has its own 10 I further certify that I am not a 10 11 traffic unit, and each cycle has its own DUI unit. So 11 relative, employee, attorney, or counsel of any of the we consider also traffic because they write traffic 12 parties, nor am I a relative or employee of any of the 12 tickets as well as do DUI investigations. 13 parties' attorney or counsel connected with the 13 O. So the second traffic squad was before your 14 action, nor am I financially interested in the action. 14 15 time, it was created before your time? 15 I, the undersigned authority, certify 16 The two traffic units, yes. We split them that STEVEN HOGUE personally appeared before me and 16 from one traffic unit into two. We just took them and 17 was duly sworn. 17 18 put one on one cycle and one on the other cycle. If 18 WITNESS my hand and official seal this 19 we had 14 officers, it was split 7 to 7 on the cycles, 19 30TH day of JANUARY, 2006. 20 same number of people out there. 20 21 21 0. Okay. 22 Just a different way of deployment. 22 CARLA DEE ALLEN Α. MR. MAGRI: Thank you. I don't have any 23 23 NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF FLORIDA other questions at this point, thanks. Thanks 24 24 COURT REPORTER 25 for spending the time. 25

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