



CITY OF ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS

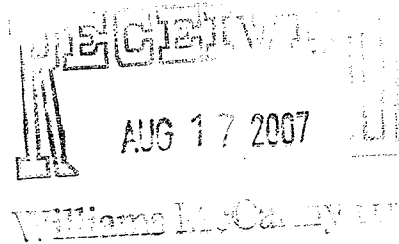
LAWRENCE J. MORRISSEY
MAYOR

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING
420 WEST STATE STREET
ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS 61101-1207

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CHET EPPERSON
CHIEF OF POLICE

August 16, 2007

Detective Jason Bailey
Rockford Police Department
420 West State Street
Rockford, IL 61101



Detective Bailey:

An internal investigation has been conducted and concluded regarding your on-duty conduct as a Police Officer.

Effective immediately, you are being placed on administrative duties pending the final outcome of the discipline proceedings.

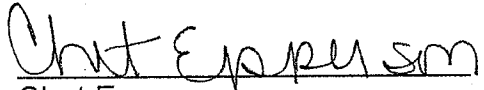
During the period of this administrative assignment, you may not act as a police officer in any situation, including when "off duty". You are also prohibited from carrying any firearm in your capacity as a police officer, working any police-related employment, either for this department or any public or private employer. You are no longer able to act in the capacity of a police officer until the final outcome of this discipline is decided.

Your work hours are changed to 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, with all administrative holidays off, and include a one-hour lunch. You are being reassigned to the Records Division.

You are to report directly to the Records Division on a daily basis. Your employee access card will be changed to employee entrance access only and operational from 0730 hours until 1730 hours Monday through Friday. Outside of the restrooms and break area, you may not enter any other areas of the department without permission from the Deputy Chief of Administration or myself.

This order will remain in effect until modified or rescinded by me. If you have any questions regarding this matter, contact me immediately,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chet Epperson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Chet Epperson
Chief of Police

cc: City Attorney John Giliberti
Rockford Fire and Police Commission

CITY OF ROCKFORD

BOARD OF FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSIONERS

In Re Matter of:)
)
)
 Officer Jason Bailey)

COMPLAINT

I, Chet Epperson, Chief of Police for the City of Rockford, Illinois, hereby allege the following against Officer Jason Bailey:

COUNT 1

1. On or about February 21, 2007, at or about 4:48 p.m., Officer Bailey while using a Rockford Police Department issued computer, posted a message on the Rockford Register Star's website's internet forum "StoryChat" that was not in performance of any police assigned duty.

COUNT 2

2. On or about February 22, 2007, at or about 9:20 a.m., Officer Bailey while on-duty and using a Rockford Police Department issued computer, posted a message on the Rockford Register Star's website's internet forum "StoryChat" that stated, "I am assuming you grew up eating lead paint chips...or your parents are siblings", and "you don't have the mental capabilities to sort nuts and bolts at Growth Enterprise." Said message was in reply to a posting by another "StoryChat" user and was not in performance of any police assigned duty.

COUNT 3

3. On or about February 27, 2007, at or about 10:59 a.m., Officer Bailey while on-duty and using a Rockford Police Department issued computer, posted a message on the Rockford Register Star's website's internet forum "StoryChat" that stated, "your life is so pathetic...discussing with yourself how you are going to get to the gas station 2000 feet away to buy 2 single menthols and a bag of hot fries." Said message was in reply to a posting by another "StoryChat" user and was not in performance of any police assigned duty.

COUNT 4

4. On or about March 13, 2007, at or about 3:25 p.m., Officer Bailey while on-duty and using a Rockford Police Department issued computer, posted a message on the Rockford Register Star's website's internet forum "StoryChat" that stated, "Beattie Park is a toilet for the homeless population." Said message was not in performance of any police assigned duty.

COUNT 5

5. On or about March 22, 2007, at or about 8:23 a.m., Officer Bailey while on-duty and using a Rockford Police Department issued computer, posted a message on the Rockford Register Star's website's internet forum "StoryChat". Said message was in reply to a posting by another "StoryChat" user and was not in performance of any police assigned duty.

COUNT 6

6. On or about March 22, 2007, at or about 2:37 p.m., Officer Bailey while on-duty and using a Rockford Police Department issued computer, posted a message on the Rockford Register Star's website's internet forum "StoryChat". Said message was in reply to

a posting by another "StoryChat" user and was not in performance of any police assigned duty.

COUNT 7

7. On or about March 27, 2007, at or about 2:35 p.m., Officer Bailey while on-duty and using a Rockford Police Department issued computer, posted a message on the Rockford Register Star's website's internet forum "StoryChat". Said message was in reply to a posting by another "StoryChat" user and was not in performance of any police assigned duty.

COUNT 8

8. On or about March 27, 2007, at or about 9:18 p.m., Officer Bailey while using a Rockford Police Department issued computer, posted a message on the Rockford Register Star's website's internet forum "StoryChat". Said message was in reply to a posting by another "StoryChat" user and was not in performance of any police assigned duty.

COUNT 9

9. On or about March 28, 2007, at or about 10:57 a.m., Officer Bailey while on-duty and using a Rockford Police Department issued computer, posted a message on the Rockford Register Star's website's internet forum "StoryChat" that stated, "I think it's more like, "The little Prince who wanted to be queen!" Said message was in reply to a posting by another "StoryChat" user on an article in the Register Star entitled "Morrissey favors new lobbying effort" and said message was not in performance of any police assigned duty.

COUNT 10

10. On or about March 28, 2007, at or about 4:16 p.m., Officer Bailey while on-duty and using a Rockford Police Department issued computer, posted a message on the Rockford Register Star's website's internet forum "StoryChat". Said message was in reply to a posting by another "StoryChat" user and was not in performance of any police assigned duty.

COUNT 11

11. On or about March 29, 2007, at or about 11:02 a.m., Officer Bailey while on-duty and using a Rockford Police Department issued computer, posted a message on the Rockford Register Star's website's internet forum "StoryChat" that stated, "I am guessing you were an ugly or obese child" and "you can not have so much hate for a profession because of your physical and mental shortcomings". Said message was in reply to a posting by another "StoryChat" user who suspected Officer Bailey's "StoryChat" postings were made by a police officer. Said message by Officer Bailey was not in performance of any police assigned duty.

COUNT 12

12. On or about April 3, 2007, at or about 8:27 a.m., Officer Bailey while on-duty and using a Rockford Police Department issued computer, posted a message on the Rockford Register Star's website's internet forum "StoryChat" that stated, "Thank goodness our Police Chief has been able to define that area as a 'Hot Spot' through statistical DATA...I mean without that data I might have taken my kids over there for a carriage ride." Said message by Officer Bailey was not in performance of any police assigned duty.

COUNT 13

13. On or about April 4, 2007, at or about 8:29 a.m., Officer Bailey while on-duty and using a Rockford Police Department issued computer, posted a message on the Rockford Register Star's website's internet forum "StoryChat". Said message by Officer Bailey was not in performance of any police assigned duty

COUNT 14

14. On or about April 4, 2007, at or about 9:01 a.m., Officer Bailey while on-duty and using a Rockford Police Department issued computer, posted a message on the Rockford Register Star's website's internet forum "StoryChat" that stated, "Rockford is not a safe community and never will be under the Morrissey Administration"; "This City has some major demographic issues that correlate directly with the crime problem. None of these issues have been addressed by the Morrissey/Epperson puppet show"; "This city has long been recognized in negative fashion for it's crime rate. So why are we using the Rockford Police officers as political pawns for Morrissey. His pirated "Broken Windows" style of policing is not working. If you don't mind seeing thousands of tax dollars going toward a 10 or 20 block area to enforce BS violations for a minimally funded WEED AND SEED program then you may be happy with Morrissey/Epperson." Said message by Officer Bailey was not in performance of any police assigned duty.

COUNT 15

15. On or about April 4, 2007, at or about 11:13 a.m., Officer Bailey while on-duty and using a Rockford Police Department issued computer, posted a message on the Rockford Register Star's website's internet forum "StoryChat" that stated, "So keep praying for your 1000 feet of 3.5 million dollar riverwalk and your Kayak park because nobody will

remember this homicide in 4 days time." Said message by Officer Bailey was in reply to a posting by another "StoryChat" user not in performance of any police assigned duty

COUNT 16

16. On or about April 8, 2007, at or about 9:49 p.m., Officer Bailey while using a Rockford Police Department issued computer, posted a message on the Rockford Register Star's website's internet forum "StoryChat" that stated, "...the Police Department has become overly politicized by the second choice, puppet chief that was chosen be default."; "Now the city has a chief that has nearly severed all ties with Federal Law Enforcement and feels he needs to boast every time a grafitti artist is arrested."; "It is time for this chief to reign in his 24 years of POLICE experience and take control of his police department. Instead, we have a 2 year, one term mayor with some major "I want to be Rudy" issues running a once highly praised police force. Let the Police Department do the policing and Larry can stick to securing downtown properties for his daddy." Said message by Officer Bailey was not in performance of any police assigned duty

COUNT 17

17. On or about April 12, 2007, at or about 11:53 p.m., Officer Bailey while using a Rockford Police Department issued computer, posted a message on the Rockford Register Star's website's internet forum "StoryChat" that stated, "Never fear citizens of Rockford! The current Police Administration is focusing wholeheartedly on our dangerous grafitti and panhandling problem."; "Wake up and smell the roses...Morrissey and his handpuppet Chief are not concerned with the violence in this city! They only tout their achievements of arresting litterers, loiterers, and spraypainters." Said message by Officer Bailey was not in performance of any police assigned duty.

COUNT 18

18. On or about April 14, 2007, at or about 10:51 p.m., Officer Bailey while using a Rockford Police Department issued computer, posted a message on the Rockford Register Star's website's internet forum "StoryChat" that stated, "Epperson has zero if any real law enforcement knowledge and publicly states that his policies and procedures come from books he read."; "Rockford needs a major overhaul and it starts at the top. I agree that the next chief should be harvested from elsewhere. Perhaps someone who has actually investigated a crime....not read a book on how to solve it. This city deserves better than a second choice, I better save my political ass by choosing this guy' chief that can lead the police department with character, and not be reciting a book he read in 7th grade." Said message by Officer Bailey was not in performance of any police assigned duty.

COUNT 19

19. On or about May 1, 2007, at or about 6:39 a.m., Officer Bailey while on-duty, working overtime, and using a Rockford Police Department issued computer, posted a message on the Rockford Register Star's website's internet forum "StoryChat" that stated, "From the early 19990's until Epperheads administration was implanted by default, RHA was policed with a special unit who permanently walked and talked with the residents. These officers were removed so Epperhead could create M3, a group of 30+ officers who are not allowed to leave weed and seed areas. So while Epperhead may be telling the media that the officers will be walking and talking with the residents of RHA on a permanent basis...you can look for them to be issuing crosswalk citations on a Friday night or event directing traffic after a Metro Center event. And my next question is....with all the weeding on the west side...when does the seeding faze take effect....it still looks like post Katrina New Orleans

over there." Said message by Officer Bailey was not in performance of any police assigned duty.

COUNT 20

20. On or about May 2, 2007, at or about 8:26 a.m., Officer Bailey while on-duty and using a Rockford Police Department issued computer, posted a message on the Rockford Register Star's website's internet forum "StoryChat" that stated, "...perhaps the reason former Chiefs of the Rockford Police Department have faced less scrutiny is because prior Chiefs did not stand in front of a camera on a weekly basis boasting of their fresh approach to policing that will certainly reduce crime. Well crime has not reduced so this Chief must pay up and face the scrutiny he invited with his boastings. Epperheads ideas are not fresh..nor are they his. Epperson can quote all the 'scholars' he can muster....but someone in his position needs to be a leader and that is something you can't buy from Rockford College." Said message by Officer Bailey was not in performance of any police assigned duty.

COUNT 21

21. On or about May 19, 2007, at or about 6:29 a.m., Officer Bailey while using a Rockford Police Department issued computer, posted a message on the Rockford Register Star's website's internet forum "StoryChat" that stated, "First off I must assume that Sadie Gruman received a free lunch on Epperson after submitting this piece."; "This is nothing more than a publicity stunt so this chief can go on the news again and say he did something different, while bashing the hard working police officers in this community for prior efforts."; "But that was back when we did not have a Chief who had a press conference when he farted." Said message by Officer Bailey was not in performance of any police assigned duty

COUNT 22

22. On or about May 23, 2007, at or about 7:23 a.m., Officer Bailey while using a Rockford Police Department issued computer, posted a message on the Rockford Register Star's website's internet forum "StoryChat". Said message by Officer Bailey was not in performance of any police assigned duty.

COUNT 23

23. On or about May 29, 2007, at or about 2:49 p.m., Officer Bailey while on-duty and using a Rockford Police Department issued computer, posted a message on the Rockford Register Star's website's internet forum "StoryChat" that stated, "We have no legitimate businesses downtown because downtown Rockford is the social service mecca of the Midwest. Every street, every corner and every sidewalk in downtown Rockford is littered with homeless, invalids, drug addicts, drunks, social misfits, mentally challenged, convicted felons on parole and prostitutes."; "I work in the downtown area and become disgusted every morning when I drive into work to see the parade of homeless walking from one homeless shelter to the next...then on to one of the numerous pantry's confined to the downtown area!!" Said message by Officer Bailey was not in performance of any police assigned duty

The actions of Officer Bailey as described above in Counts 1 through 23 listed above constitute violations of the following Rules and Regulations of the Rockford Police Department:

Section II, Paragraph 1: "All sworn personnel shall devote themselves to the attainment of department goals, and will conduct themselves at all times in such a manner as

to reflect credit upon the department with emphasis on personal integrity and professional devotion to the law enforcement profession."

Section III, Paragraph 2: "Any action or conduct which impedes the Department's efforts to achieve its goals, or which brings discredit upon the department."

Section III, Paragraph 9: "Incompetency or inefficiency in the performance of any assigned duty."

Section III, Paragraph 47: "Use department stationary for personal correspondence or use department property for private purposes."

Section III, Paragraph 48: "Any other act or omission of an act contrary to good order and discipline or constituting a violation of any of the provisions of the Rules and Regulations of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners, the Rules and Regulations of the Rockford Police Department, the written Orders of the Rockford Police Department, or in the case on the non-sworn employees, any violations of the Rules and Regulations of the Civil Service Commission governing competitive class employees."

The actions of Officer Bailey as described above in Counts 12,14,16,17,18,19,20 and 21 constitute an additional violation of the following Rules and Regulations of the Rockford Police Department:

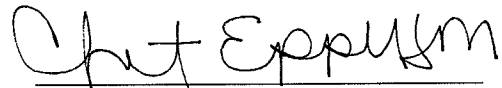
Section III, Paragraph 5: "Insubordination or disrespect toward a superior officer."

The actions of Officer Bailey as described above in Counts 2,3,9,11 and 23 constitute additional violations of the following Rules and Regulations of the Rockford Police Department:

Section III, Paragraph 7: "Use of coarse and disrespectful language toward any fellow officer or other person."

WHEREFORE, I respectfully request that a hearing be held in regard to this
Complaint.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chet Epperson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Chet Epperson
Chief of Police

Date filed: August 17, 2007