



LEXINGTON POLICE
DEPARTMENT
MEMORANDUM
Lexington, Kentucky

DATE OF ISSUE

February 1, 2020

EFFECTIVE DATE

February 6, 2020

NUMBER

TS2020-011

TO:

Below Listed Volunteers

SUBJECT:

Letter of Appreciation
Greenhouse17 Shop and Share Project 2020

FROM:

Lieutenant Chris Spurlock
Training Section

This Letter of Appreciation is being presented to each of the below named individuals who assisted in the Greenhouse17 Shop and Share Project 2020. Involved were personnel from the Lexington Police Department, Recruit Class 01-2020, and community groups from Lexington and Georgetown. With their support Greenhouse17 managed to collect **\$100,000** in goods and services and **\$12,000** in gift cards – in the Lexington area alone. Greenhouse17 advised that it was one the smoothest years they have had to date. Thanks to all of those involved in the Shop and Share program, and more importantly, thank you for taking the time out to support your local community.

Kyle Blankenship

Hyun Choi

Nathaniel Church

Taylor Cordovano

Myles Foster

Daniel Helo

Richard Henderlight

James Jones

Andrew Kimbrough

John Wilhoit

Korey Hundley

Dustin Speath

Christopher Beard

Christian Soriano

Lucas Miller

Derrick Noe

Ronald Sims

Timothy Skaggs

Kelsey Young

Matthew Howard

Jordan Toler

Jordan Whitman

Caleb Croney

Charles Davis

Gregory Gerton

Derrick Glover

Sergeant Darin Salyer

Jamie Wilkerson

Officer Michael Jones

Officer Caleb Wade

Officer Jeremy Adkins and Family

Detective Kristie Smith

Officer Jeff Heiner

Officer Mckenzie Willoughby

Lexington Christian Baseball Team

Lieutenant Spurlock and Family

Jamie Wilkerson

Jerry Murillo

Officer Raymond Miller

Central Kentucky Xtreme Baseball Club

Players and Parents

Lieutenant Chris Spurlock

Lexington Police Department
BOA Training Unit

From: Brotherton, Matthew 36081
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2021 3:15 PM
To: Bastian, Jonathan 43208
Subject: FW: Officer Blankenship

Jonathan

Would you please forward the below email for inclusion into Officer Blankenship's personnel file?

Thank you.

Lt. M. L. Brotherton

Lexington Police Department
Bureau of Investigation
Public Integrity Unit
859 258 3628

From: Stacey Hinkebein [mailto:]
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2021 12:45 PM
To: Brotherton, Matthew 36081
Subject: Re: Officer Blankenship

Thank you. I filled out the form for Officer Blankenship but would also like to extend my thanks to the entire department. From the lady that took my call to speaking with you today, first class. I've had to contact the Lexington Police Department twice and both times were easy and helpful. If I can do anything more to brag on your department, let me know. I am a kindergarten teacher and I know that people are very quick to let everyone know when they have a complaint but not when someone does something great. Maybe if our society did more of that, it would be a better place.

We are currently working with Air BNB to cancel our "guests" month long reservation after only 2 weeks. I hope we don't have to contact you again but I'm worried what they will do to our sweet little house once they get word that they are being evicted for vandalizing, stealing property, having drug paraphernalia on property, etc. There are some crazy people in this world! I am grateful for Lexington Police Department.

Sincerely-
Stacey Hinkebein
Bardstown, KY
Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 28, 2021, at 11:45 AM, Matthew Brotherton <mbrotherton@lexingtonpolice.ky.gov> wrote:

Thank you so much for your call.

Feel free to email me or fill out the form at the bottom of page that I've linked below.

<https://www.lexingtonky.gov/public-integrity-unit>

Matt

Lt. M. L. Brotherton

Lexington Police Department
Bureau of Investigation
Public Integrity Unit

859 258 3628

From: Biroschik, David 33732
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2021 12:37 PM
To: Peterson, Brian 41044
Cc: Maynard, Brian 37511; 556-Public Integrity Unit
Subject: FW: Police public comment form - from website

Lieutenant Peterson

Please the compliment received below.

Lieutenant David Biroschik
Bureau of Investigation
Public Integrity Unit
(859)258-3625 – W

From: noreply@formstack.com [<mailto:noreply@formstack.com>]
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2021 12:34 PM
To: Comment
Subject: Police public comment form - from website



Formstack Submission For: [Police Comment Form](#)
Submitted at 01/28/21 12:34 PM

Lexington Police Public Comment Form

What type of comment are you submitting? (select one):	Compliment
Your name (optional):	Stacey Hinkebein
Your email address (optional):	<input type="text"/>
Your address (optional):	<input type="text"/>

Your phone number (optional):	<input type="text"/>
Location of Incident:	<input type="text"/>
Date/time of incident:	Jan 28, 2021 05:00 AM
Name and/or badge number of employee involved (if known):	Officer Blankenship
Name and/or badge number of employee involved (if known):	
Name and/or badge number of employee involved (if known):	
Name and/or badge number of employee involved (if known):	
Incident or case number (if known):	
We invested in a home in Lexington to use for our daughter who attends UK. She will occupy the residence in August. Until then we decided to try our hand at Air BNB. Our very first occupant has proved to be less than honest and has vandalized, stolen and basically destroyed our sweet little home. We suspect drug activity as well as other odd happenings. We had to go	

**Describe
what
happened:**

to the home to do an inspection and I was fearful for our safety. I called the Lexington Police Department just to ask for some guidance. Instead I was met with, “we will send an officer there to assist you.” We were shocked. Never did we expect this service but were SO incredibly grateful. Officer Blankenship called me while en route to assess the situation and advise us on what we could do. He was so kind, friendly and thorough. He stayed with us during the entire situation which made us feel safe. Even in the middle of a snow storm! He gave us suggestions but most importantly he made us feel at ease by assuring us he would drive by the residence to check on things for us. He also assured us that when our daughter moves in in August, he will continue to watch the area. I’m not sure if Officer Blankenship has children but just giving a parent that type of kindness is amazing. We continue to work with Air BNB to get these people out of our house and look forward to visiting the beautiful city of Lexington often. The Lexington Police Department and Officer Blankenship are truly one of a kind!

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Formstack, 11671 Lantern Road, Suite 300, Fishers, IN 46038

PERSONNEL ACTION REQUEST

Emp No. **58544**

**LEXINGTON
FAYETTE
COUNTY
GOVERNMENT**



DIVISION OF HUMAN RESOURCES
200 EAST MAIN ST, LEXINGTON, KY 40507
PHONE NUMBER: (859) 258-3030

Effective Date: **1/20/2020**

FIELD	CHANGE TO	
NAME	BLANKENSHIP, KYLE	
ADDRESS		
CITY/STATE/ZIP		
SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER		
PHONE		
DIVISION	550	
ACCOUNT NUMBER		
CHARGE TO FUND/PROGRAM		
EMPLOYMENT DATE	1/20/2020	
ANNIVERSARY DATE	1/20/2020	
DATE OF BIRTH		
CLASS CODE/TITLE	920/POLICE TRAINEE	
POSITION NUMBER		
JOB CODE/JOB DATE	1/20/2020	
PAY GRADE/STEP/STEP DATE	311N/STEP-1/1-20-2020	
BIWEEKLY BASE PAY	\$1,579.12	
RETIREMENT		
FICA (Y, N, OR M0	Y	
SEX/RACE	M/W	
BIWEEKLY ACTING PAY		
MARITAL STATUS (M, S)		
CDL (Y/N OR BLANK)	N	
SCHOOL TAX (Y OR N)	Y	
TRAINING INCENTIVE %	\$153.84	
POLICE EDUCATION INC		
LOCATOR NUMBER	505502	
EQUIPMENT ALLOWANCE	\$100.00	
COLLB CODE (PO, PL)	PO	
SPECIAL DUTY PAY		
UNIFORM ALLOWANCE		
SHIFT CODE	1ST	
HAZARDOUS PAY		
SUPPLEMENTAL PAY %		
STANDBY PAY		
VACATION BALANCE		
SICK BALANCE		
SICK BANK HOURS		
HOLIDAY SCHEDULE	8 HOUR	
HOLIDAY BANK HOURS		
COMP BALANCE		
APPOINTMENT	CHANGE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original (from eligible list)	<input type="checkbox"/> Name Change	<input type="checkbox"/> Deceased
<input type="checkbox"/> Promotional (from eligible list)	<input type="checkbox"/> Address Change	<input type="checkbox"/> Resignation
<input type="checkbox"/> Temporary (Full Time) for days	<input type="checkbox"/> Salary Change	<input type="checkbox"/> Discharge
<input type="checkbox"/> Temporary (Part Time) for days	<input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary Demotion	<input type="checkbox"/> Lay Off
<input type="checkbox"/> Seasonal	<input type="checkbox"/> Disciplinary Demotion	<input type="checkbox"/> Retirement
<input type="checkbox"/> Unclassified	<input type="checkbox"/> Phy Disability Demotion	<input type="checkbox"/> Suspension
<input type="checkbox"/> Re-employment	<input type="checkbox"/> Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Leave Without Pay
<input type="checkbox"/> Return from military	<input type="checkbox"/> Return from LWOP	<input type="checkbox"/> Termination (temporary, seasonal, or probationary)
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Time	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (explain in remarks)
<input type="checkbox"/> Part Time		

REMARKS: NEW EMPLOYEE - Police Trainee.....begin equipment allowance of (100.00) monthly and training inc biweekly (\$153.84)
Reports to - Sgt. Darin Salyer.

Employee Signature/Date

Dwayne Holman

Director Signature

2/4/2020

Commissioner Signature/Date



LEXINGTON
FAYETTE COUNTY
GOVERNMENT

PERSONNEL ACTION REQUEST

DIVISION OF HUMAN RESOURCES
200 EAST. MAIN ST, LEXINGTON, KY 40507
PHONE NUMBER: (859) 258-3030

Emp No. 58544

Effective Date: 1/4/2021

FIELD	WAS	CHANGE TO
NAME	Kyle Blankenship	
ADDRESS		
CITY/STATE/ZIP		
SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER		
PHONE		
DIVISION		
ACCOUNT NUMBER		
CHARGE TO FUND/PROGRAM		
EMPLOYMENT DATE		
ANNIVERSARY DATE		
DATE OF BIRTH		
CLASS CODE/TITLE		
POSITION NUMBER		
JOB CODE/JOB DATE		
PAY GRADE/STEP/STEP DATE		
BIWEEKLY BASE PAY		
RETIREMENT		
FICA (Y, N, OR M0		
SEX/RACE		
BIWEEKLY ACTING PAY		
MARITAL STATUS (M, S)		
CDL (Y/N OR BLANK)		
SCHOOL TAX (Y OR N)		
TRAINING INCENTIVE %		
POLICE EDUCATION INC		
LOCATOR NUMBER		
EQUIPMENT ALLOWANCE		
COLLB CODE (PO, PL)		
SPECIAL DUTY PAY		
UNIFORM ALLOWANCE		
SHIFT CODE		
HAZARDOUS PAY		
SUPPLEMENTAL PAY %		
STANDBY PAY		
VACATION BALANCE		
SICK BALANCE		
SICK BANK HOURS		
HOLIDAY SCHEDULE	8	10
HOLIDAY BANK HOURS		
COMP BALANCE		
APPOINTMENT	CHANGE	SEPARATION
<input type="checkbox"/> Original (from eligible list) <input type="checkbox"/> Promotional (from eligible list) <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary (Full Time) for days <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary (Part Time) for days <input type="checkbox"/> Seasonal <input type="checkbox"/> Unclassified <input type="checkbox"/> Re-employment <input type="checkbox"/> Return from military <input type="checkbox"/> Full Time <input type="checkbox"/> Part Time	<input type="checkbox"/> Name Change <input type="checkbox"/> Address Change <input type="checkbox"/> Salary Change <input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary Demotion <input type="checkbox"/> Disciplinary Demotion <input type="checkbox"/> Phy Disability Demotion <input type="checkbox"/> Transfer <input type="checkbox"/> Return from LWOP <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (explain in remarks)	<input type="checkbox"/> Deceased <input type="checkbox"/> Resignation <input type="checkbox"/> Discharge <input type="checkbox"/> Lay Off <input type="checkbox"/> Retirement <input type="checkbox"/> Suspension <input type="checkbox"/> Leave Without Pay <input type="checkbox"/> Termination (temporary, seasonal, or probationary) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (explain in remarks)

REMARKS: Holiday Schedule Update effective 1/4/2021.

James E. Lowe

Employee Signature/Date

Director Signature/ Date 6/4/2021

Commissioner Signature/Date



LEXINGTON
FAYETTE COUNTY
GOVERNMENT

PERSONNEL ACTION REQUEST

DIVISION OF HUMAN RESOURCES
200 EAST. MAIN ST, LEXINGTON, KY 40507
PHONE NUMBER: (859) 258-3030

Emp No. 58544

Effective Date: 7/12/2021

FIELD	WAS	CHANGE TO
NAME	KYLE BLANKENSHIP	
ADDRESS		
CITY/STATE/ZIP		
SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER		
PHONE		
DIVISION		
ACCOUNT NUMBER		
CHARGE TO FUND/PROGRAM		
EMPLOYMENT DATE		
ANNIVERSARY DATE		
DATE OF BIRTH		
CLASS CODE/TITLE		
POSITION NUMBER		
JOB CODE/JOB DATE		
PAY GRADE/STEP/STEP DATE		
BIWEEKLY BASE PAY		
RETIREMENT		
FICA (Y, N, OR M0		
SEX/RACE		
BIWEEKLY ACTING PAY		
MARITAL STATUS (M, S)		
CDL (Y/N OR BLANK)		
SCHOOL TAX (Y OR N)		
TRAINING INCENTIVE %		
POLICE EDUCATION INC		
LOCATOR NUMBER		
EQUIPMENT ALLOWANCE		
COLLB CODE (PO, PL)		
SPECIAL DUTY PAY		
UNIFORM ALLOWANCE		
SHIFT CODE		
HAZARDOUS PAY		
SUPPLEMENTAL PAY %		
STANDBY PAY		
VACATION BALANCE		
SICK BALANCE		
SICK BANK HOURS		
HOLIDAY SCHEDULE		
HOLIDAY BANK HOURS		
COMP BALANCE		
APPOINTMENT	CHANGE	SEPARATION
<input type="checkbox"/> Original (from eligible list) <input type="checkbox"/> Promotional (from eligible list) <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary (Full Time) for days <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary (Part Time) for days <input type="checkbox"/> Seasonal <input type="checkbox"/> Unclassified <input type="checkbox"/> Re-employment <input type="checkbox"/> Return from military <input type="checkbox"/> Full Time <input type="checkbox"/> Part Time	<input type="checkbox"/> Name Change <input type="checkbox"/> Address Change <input type="checkbox"/> Salary Change <input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary Demotion <input type="checkbox"/> Disciplinary Demotion <input type="checkbox"/> Phy Disability Demotion <input type="checkbox"/> Transfer <input type="checkbox"/> Return from LWOP <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (explain in remarks)	<input type="checkbox"/> Deceased <input type="checkbox"/> Resignation <input type="checkbox"/> Discharge <input type="checkbox"/> Lay Off <input type="checkbox"/> Retirement <input type="checkbox"/> Suspension <input type="checkbox"/> Leave Without Pay <input type="checkbox"/> Termination (temporary, seasonal, or probationary) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (explain in remarks)

REMARKS: effective 7/12/2021....Report to Sgt. Rob Sinnott

James E. Lowe

Employee Signature/Date

Director Signature/ Date 6/18/2021

Commissioner Signature/Date



Lexington-Fayette Urban County
Division of Police
PERSONNEL ORDER
Lexington, Kentucky

DATE OF ISSUE

September 24, 2020

EFFECTIVE DATE

September 21, 2020

NUMBER

PO:20-350

TO:

TRANSFER

AMENDS:

INDEX AS:

RECRUIT CLASS 12020

RESCINDS:

Effective Monday, September 21, 2020, the following Police Recruit Officers will be transferred from the Bureau of Administration, Training Section, to the Bureau of Patrol for budgetary purposes only:

Beard, Christopher
Blankenship, Kyle
Cervasio, Adam
Choi, Hyun
Church, Nathaniel
Cordovano, Taylor
Croney, Caleb
Davis, Charles
Foster, Myles
Gerton, Gregory
Gist, Jonathan
Glover, Derrick
Helo, Daniel

Henderlight, Charles
Hines, Talor
Hundley, Korey
Jones, James
Kennedy, Jacob
Sims, Ronald
Skaggs, Timothy
Soriano-Altamirano, Christian
Toler, Jordon
Whitman, Jordan
Wilhoit, John
Young, Kelsey

Lawrence B. Weathers
Chief of Police

LBW/rmh



LEXINGTON POLICE
DEPARTMENT
MEMORANDUM
Lexington, Kentucky

DATE OF ISSUE

January 22, 2020

EFFECTIVE DATE

January 20, 2020

NUMBER

TS2020-003

TO:	Assistant Chief Dwayne Holman Bureau of Administration	SUBJECT: Appointment of Police Recruit Trainees Class 12020
FROM:	Commander Roger Holland Jr. Training Section	

The Training Section requests that the following individuals be appointed to the position of Police Trainees, Grade 311N to be effective Monday, January 20, 2020. The Trainees will be assigned to the Bureau of Administration Training Section.

Beard, Christopher	Hundley, Korey
Blankenship, Kyle	Jones, James
Bojaski, Christina	Kennedy, Jacob
Campbell, Sean	Kimbrough, Andrew
Cantrell, Bradley	Maifeld, Miranda
Cervasio, Adam	McFarland, Michael
Choi, Hyun	Miller, Lucas
Church, Nathaniel	Moody, Jordan
Cordovano, Taylor	Noe, Derrick
Croney, Caleb	Peach, Daniel
Davis, Charles	Sieberts, Kyle
Foster, Myles	Sims, Ronald
Gerton, Gregory	Skaggs, Timothy
Gist, Jonathan	Soriano-Altamirano, Christian
Glover, Derrick	Spaeth, Dustin
Gochett, Kevin	Toler, Jordan
Helo, Daniel	Whitman, Jordan
Henderlight, Richard	Whilhoit, John
Hines, Talor	Young, Kelsey
Howard, Matthew	

Note: Miranda Maifeld was deferred from Recruit Class 42019

Please contact me if you need any additional information.
(Emailed)

Commander Roger Holland
Training Section
RH/sha'



LEXINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
PERSONNEL ORDER
Lexington, Kentucky

DATE OF ISSUE
May 5, 2020

EFFECTIVE DATE
May 4, 2020

NUMBER
PO:20-146

TO:
TRANSFER

AMENDS:


INDEX AS:
RECRUIT
KYLE BLANKENSHIP

RESCINDS:

Effective Monday, May 4, 2020, Recruit Kyle Blankenship will remain assigned to the Bureau of Administration, but will be transferred from the Training Section to the Administrative Section, Personnel Records Unit and placed in a work related modified duty status.

Lawrence B. Weathers
Chief of Police

LBW/dw

	Lexington Police Department PERSONNEL ORDER Lexington, Kentucky	DATE OF ISSUE 5/6/2020	EFFECTIVE DATE 5/04/2020	NUMBER- 20-015
SUBJECT: ASSIGNMENT		AMENDS:		
INDEX AS: RECRUIT KYLE BLANKENSHIP		RESCINDS:		

Effective Monday, May 04, 2020, while Recruit Kyle Blankenship is transferred to the Bureau of Administration, Administrative Section in a work related modified duty status; he will stay assigned to the **Bureau of Administration/Training Section**.

He will not be permitted to wear any part of the Lexington Police Department Uniform. She must report for duty in business casual attire (polo shirt, khaki pants or slacks, dress shoes, etc.) unless a medical condition dictates alternative attire supported by a medical statement. The supervisor in the temporary assignment may require additional appearance standards or temporarily modify attire relative to a particular assignment. Male sworn personnel are not permitted to grow a beard or long hair unless that appearance is associated with assignment the officer will eventually return to.

Every 30 days you must supply the Bureau of Administration an updated medical form, signed by your doctor, indicating your physical restriction, if any, and work you are able to perform.

Recruit Blankenship should contact Assistant Chief Holman for assignment.

(E-mailed)

Assistant Chief Dwayne Holman
Bureau of Administration



LEXINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
PERSONNEL ORDER
Lexington, Kentucky

DATE OF ISSUE
May 5, 2022

EFFECTIVE DATE
May 5, 2022

NUMBER
PO:22-151

TO:

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSIGNMENT –
LEVEL 2**

AMENDS:

INDEX AS:

**OFFICER
KYLE BLANKENSHIP**

RESCINDS:

Effective Thursday, May 5, 2022, Officer Kyle Blankenship/58544 will be transferred to a **Level 2** administrative assignment within the Bureau of Administration.

Officers transferred to a Level 2 administrative assignment will abide by the following duty restrictions, in accordance with General Order series 1992-07 Compensation, Benefits and Conditions of Work:

- a. The officer is directed to avoid the exercise of police authority, unless the situation creates a significant public safety hazard or emergency.
- b. The officer is not authorized to wear a department uniform or any clothing displaying the department badge or insignia.
- c. If the officer chooses to carry a weapon and badge, OC, or handcuffs, all carried items must be concealed unless the officer is inside a department building or facility.
- d. The officer is prohibited from wearing a duty belt or any duty belt accessories other than OC or handcuffs.
- e. The officer is prohibited from working or engaging in any off-duty employment that requires the use of, or potential use of, police authority.
- f. The officer is prohibited from working overtime assignments that require the use of, or potential use of, police authority.
- g. The officer's take home vehicle privilege is revoked.
- h. The officer may be authorized to participate in designated in-service, qualifications and other training as approved by the Chief of Police or designee.
- i. The officer's network and email access may be limited.
- j. Access to department facilities may be limited.
- k. The officer is expected to comply with all served criminal subpoenas.

Officer Blankenship should contact the Bureau of Administration Office for details on his assignment.

Lawrence B. Weathers
Chief of Police
LBW/rmh



LEXINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
PERSONNEL ORDER
Lexington, Kentucky

DATE OF ISSUE
August 9, 2022

EFFECTIVE DATE
August 10, 2022

NUMBER
PO:22-293

TO: TRANSFER	AMENDS:
INDEX AS: OFFICER KYLE BLANKENSHIP	RESCINDS:

Effective Wednesday, August 10, 2022, Officer Kyle Blankenship will be transferred from the Bureau of Administration, to the Bureau of Patrol, West Sector, Second Shift, Squad D.

Lawrence B. Weathers
Chief of Police

LBW/rmh



LEXINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
PERSONNEL ORDER
Lexington, Kentucky

DATE OF ISSUE

September 9, 2022

EFFECTIVE DATE

January 1, 2023

NUMBER

PO:22-338

TO:

RETURN TO DUTY

AMENDS:

INDEX AS:

OFFICER
KYLE BLANKENSHIP

RESCINDS:

Effective Sunday, January 1, 2023, Officer Kyle Blankenship will return to duty and will be assigned to the Bureau of Patrol, West Sector, Second Shift, Squad D.

Lawrence B. Weathers
Chief of Police

LBW/rmh



Lexington Police Department

Training Records



Kyle Blankenship
09/15/2022

Kyle Blankenship	2020 Spring Skills	10/27/2020
Kyle Blankenship	2021 In-Service	9/3/2021
Kyle Blankenship	2021 Spring skills	7/12/2021
Kyle Blankenship	Annual Legal Update	7/2/2022
Kyle Blankenship	Annual Legal Update	6/27/2021
Kyle Blankenship	Annual Legal Update	7/3/2020
Kyle Blankenship	Asset Forfeiture Procedures	12/15/2021
Kyle Blankenship	Asset Forfeiture Procedures	11/24/2020
Kyle Blankenship	CIT-40 hours	11/30/2020
Kyle Blankenship	Civil Disturbance Training	4/16/2021
Kyle Blankenship	COVID 19 Healthy at Work Requirements Course	5/21/2020
Kyle Blankenship	Documenting Searches and Handcuffing	10/9/2020
Kyle Blankenship	Flock Safety (LPR) Training	3/30/2022
Kyle Blankenship	Language Access Plan Course	12/15/2021
Kyle Blankenship	Language Access Plan Course	1/10/2021
Kyle Blankenship	Lexington Police Basic Training Academy	9/10/2020
Kyle Blankenship	Lexington Police Department In-Service 22	2/11/2022
Kyle Blankenship	Lexington Police RADAR Course	11/30/2020
Kyle Blankenship	LPD Body Worn Camera Continued Training	6/5/2022
Kyle Blankenship	LPD Property and Evidence Procedures Continued Training	5/14/2022
Kyle Blankenship	LPD Quarterly Training WRAP, Tac. Blanket, Pursuits, Injured Animals	8/5/2021
Kyle Blankenship	LPD Safe Driver Course	4/5/2021
Kyle Blankenship	LPD Safe Driver Course	5/15/2020
Kyle Blankenship	New Vista Crisis Outreach Team	2/19/2021
Kyle Blankenship	Off-Duty - PLE Group	2/17/2021
Kyle Blankenship	Off-Duty Employment Annual Review	1/10/2022
Kyle Blankenship	Preventing Harassment and Bias in the Workplace	4/5/2021
Kyle Blankenship	Prison Rape Elimination Act Annual Review	11/3/2021
Kyle Blankenship	Property & Evidence Annex Cell Phone Docking Station Training	7/29/2022
Kyle Blankenship	Search and Seizure Continued Training	6/5/2022
Kyle Blankenship	Taser CEW User Recertification	10/28/2020
Kyle Blankenship	Technical Services Vehicle Training for New Officers	12/20/2020
Kyle Blankenship	Traffic STOPS. Enforcement, and Safety	3/23/2022
Kyle Blankenship	Traffic STOPS. Enforcement, and Safety	8/21/2021
Kyle Blankenship	Unbiased Policing Course	4/17/2020
Kyle Blankenship	Weapons Mounted Light Training	2/15/2021



LEXINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
PERSONNEL ORDER
Lexington, Kentucky

DATE OF ISSUE

September 9, 2022

EFFECTIVE DATE

October 3, 2022

NUMBER

PO:22-337

TO:

SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY

AMENDS:

INDEX AS:

OFFICER
KYLE BLANKENSHIP

RESCINDS:

Effective, Monday, October 3rd – Saturday, December 31st, 2022, Officer Kyle Blankenship will be suspended without pay for three (3) months, for violation of General Order 1973-02K, Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers, Section 1.17 and Section 1.02 – Processing Property and Evidence & Misconduct.

Officer Blankenship is to surrender all police credentials and division-owned equipment. Officer Blankenship's suspension from duty eliminates his right to carry concealed deadly weapons, make arrests, and any other law enforcement duties.

The Urban County Council approved this suspension on September 8, 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lawrence B. Weathers".

Lawrence B. Weathers
Chief of Police

LBW/rmh

LEXINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
Discipline Recommendation for Council Approval

Form 123 (10/19)

On **May 20, 2022 and June 6, 2022** an internal formal complaint was made that
(Date)

Officer Kyle Blankenship #58544

(Rank / Name / Badge Number)

violated General Order:

General Order 1973-02K Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.17 Processing Property and Evidence and 1.02 Misconduct.

At the conclusion of the investigation, the employee met with Chief Lawrence B. Weathers and has accepted:

Three (3) month suspension without pay

(Recommended Discipline)

May read the information provided if additional information is requested by Council

Allegation:

On May 5, 2022 Officer Kyle Blankenship shopped his assigned vehicle at Fleet Services for routine maintenance. Several items of drug paraphernalia, narcotics and personal items of other subjects were located inside a box in the trunk of the vehicle. The items were obtained from investigations that did not result in criminal charges, but he failed to book the property as required by General Order 1991-13M Property and Evidence Procedures which states:

"Every item of property and evidence coming into an employee's custody as a result of their official duties will be placed under the control of Property and Evidence Unit before the employee goes off duty".

A review of Officer Blankenship's activity since January 1, 2022 revealed additional policy violations related to Property and Evidence Procedures, Search Records and Body Worn Camera procedures. The combination of these incidents are a violation of the disciplinary policy - 1.02 Misconduct which states:

"Officers shall conduct themselves at all times, both on and off duty, in such a manner as to reflect most favorably on the department and to not cast doubt on the officer's integrity, honesty, judgment, or character. This investigation resulted in the first sustained Formal Complaints since his employment on January 20, 2020.

Police Officers Bill of Rights

No further information may be disclosed regarding this matter per KRS 15.520 - Complaints against Police Officers - Manner of investigation and hearing, subsection (f) which states the following:

(f) When an police officer has been charged with a violation of departmental rules or regulations, no public statements shall be made concerning the alleged violation by any person or persons of the local unit of government or the police officer so charged, until final disposition of the charges.

LEXINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

AGREEMENT OF CONFORMITY WITH KRS 95.450 / 15.520 AND RELEASE

FORM 113 (8/20)

An allegation has been made that: Officer Kyle Blankenship #58544

has committed the offense of:

Processing Property and Evidence & Misconduct

which constitutes misconduct under the provisions of KRS 95.450 and/or KRS 15.520

(list other applicable law or rule)

General Order 1973-02K Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers Section 1.17 and Section 1.02

in that on the 5th day(s) of May, 20 2022 he/she allegedly:

On May 5, 2022 Officer Kyle Blankenship shopped his assigned vehicle at Fleet Services for routine maintenance. Several items of drug paraphernalia, narcotics, and personal items of other subjects were located inside a box in the trunk of the vehicle. The items were obtained from investigations that did not result in criminal charges, but he failed to book the property as required by General Order 1991-13M Property and Evidence Procedures which states:

"Every item of property and evidence coming into an employee's custody as a result of their official duties will be placed under the control of Property and Evidence Unit before the employee goes off duty".

A review of Officer Blankenship's activity since January 1, 2022 revealed additional policy violations related to Property and Evidence Procedures, Search Records and Body Worn Camera procedures. The combination of these incidents are a violation of the disciplinary policy - 1.02 Misconduct which states:

"Officers shall conduct themselves at all times, both on and off duty, in such a manner as to reflect most favorably on the department and to not cast doubt on the officer's integrity, honesty, judgment, or character.

I have read KRS 95.450, 95.460 and 15.520, and attest that I fully understand all rights guaranteed by these statutes, including the rights to have formal charges preferred and a hearing conducted on those charges.

Further, I, with knowledge of the provisions and my rights under KRS 95.450, 95.460, and 15.520 and in consideration of the recommendation of the Chief of Police of the Lexington Police Department, acknowledge that the appropriate punishment for this conduct is:

Three (3) month suspension without pay

I do hereby voluntarily accept the above disciplinary action, provided that the punishment awarded by the Urban County Council will not exceed the above recommendation of the Chief of Police.

If the Urban County Council rejects the above recommendation, I will be so notified, in which case I may withdraw my acceptance, and will be entitled to all rights, as applicable, under KRS 95.450, 95.460 and 15.520, and this agreement will not be used against me or by me in any hearing in determination of my guilt of punishment.

In further consideration of the acceptance of the above recommendation and penalty by the Urban County Council, I do for myself, my heirs, legal representatives, as assigns hereby expressly release and forever discharge the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government, its officers, agents, employees, and their successors and assigns from all claims, demands, actions, damages or causes of action and from all liability for damages of whatsoever kind, nature of description that I ever had, now have or may have against the aforementioned entities created by or arising out of the action contained herein.

 58544

Employee Signature

8-16-2022

Date



Chief of Police Signature

8-16-2022

Date

ACTION BY URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL

☒ APPROVE ABOVE RECOMMENDATION

☐ DISAPPROVE ABOVE RECOMMENDATION

 9/8/2022

Signature of Authorized Representative of
Urban County Council

SUSPENSION SERVICE GUIDELINES:

Suspensions will be served as outlined in General Order series 1973-02 Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers.



Lexington-Fayette Urban County
Division of Police
MEMORANDUM
Lexington, Kentucky

DATE OF ISSUE

August 8, 2022

EFFECTIVE DATE

NUMBER
COP:
22-0148

TO:

Kenneth Armstrong, Commissioner
Department of Public Safety

SUBJECT:

Disciplinary Recommendation
PIU2022F-008/010
Officer Kyle Blankenship

FROM:

Lawrence B. Weathers
Chief of Police

I met with Officer Kyle Blankenship on August 5, 2022, and have determined this as
“Improper Conduct” for violation of:

- General Order 1973-02K - Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.17 – Processing Property and Evidence
- General Order 1973-02K – Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.02 – Misconduct

I have recommended a three (3) month suspension without pay. I have included the summary of this formal complaint for your information. Reviewed PIU synopsis regarding the complaint.

Officer Blankenship accepted this discipline on August 5, 2022.

Lawrence B. Weathers
Chief of Police

LBW/rmh

Attachment

**LEXINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
FORMAL COMPLAINT FORM
FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**

FORM 111 (5/21)

File #: PIU 2022F-008

Employee Involved: Blankenship, Kyle			Employee #: 58544	Hire Date: 01/20/2020
Present Assignment: BOP				
Complainant: Lt. Jeremiah Davis			Complainant Address: 150 E. Main	
Complainant Phone #:	Alternate Complainant Phone #:		Complainant Email:	
Date of Incident: 05/05/2022	Time of Incident: Various	Location of Incident: Various	Date and Time Reported: 05/11/2022	How Reported: <input type="checkbox"/> Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Phone <input type="checkbox"/> Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email

DESCRIPTION OF ALLEGATIONS:

On Thursday, May 5, 2022 Officer Kyle Blankenship, 58544, shopped his assigned cruiser at Fleet Services. Discovered in his cruiser were several items of drug paraphernalia and narcotics, including marijuana and various pills and personal property of other subjects located inside of a box in the trunk of his assigned cruiser. Officer Blankenship advised that the items located were taken from various investigations that did not result in criminal charges for the items located, but that he did fail to book the property as required by General Order 1991 -13M Property and Evidence Procedures:

IV.D.4. "Every item of property and evidence coming into an employee's custody as a result of their official duties will be placed under the control of Property and Evidence Unit before the employee goes off duty."

As an Officer with LPD, Officer Blankenship is expected to book any property or evidence coming into his custody as a result of his official duties. He failed to so on at least five occasions.

If the above allegations are true, Officer Kyle Blankenship has violated General Order 1973-02K Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.17 Processing Property and Evidence:

"Property and evidence which is discovered, gathered, or received in connection with department responsibilities will be processed in accordance with established department procedures. Officers shall not purchase, convert to their own use, manufacture, conceal, falsify, destroy, remove, tamper with or withhold, or have any claim to found, impounded, abandoned, or recovered property - or any property held or released as evidence in connection with an investigation or other police action, except in accordance with established department procedures."

I swear/affirm that the facts set out in the allegations herein are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Complainant Signature: Jeremiah Davis

Date: 5/20/22

Subscribed and sworn before me this date: 5/20/22

(Date)

Claire R. McBride

(Notary)

My Commission Expires: 4/29/26

KYNP49962

Witness:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Recorded By: Bureau of Investigation, Public Integrity Unit

File #: PIU 2022F-008Employee: Blankenship, Kyle**CHIEF OF POLICE**

[Finding: PC=Proper Conduct, IC=Improper Conduct, IE=Insufficient Evidence, PF=Policy Failure, UC=Unfounded Complaint]

Finding Policy Violation

IC	General Order 1973-02K - Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.17 - Processing Property and Evidence

Chief of Police Recommendation: ☐ Case Be Closed ☐ Corrective Training ☒ Disciplinary Action (see below)Materials Reviewed: Reviewed PIU Summary

Comments:

Recommend three (3) month suspension without pay (PIU 2022F-008 & PIU 2022F-010 Combined)Signature: *Shirley B. Weather*Date: August 8, 2022**DISCIPLINARY REVIEW BOARD**

Finding

Policy Violation

Disciplinary Review Board Recommendation: ☐ Case Be Closed ☐ Corrective Training ☐ Disciplinary Action (see below)

Comments:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

CHIEF OF POLICE FINAL RECOMMENDATION☐ Case Be Closed ☐ Corrective Training ☐ Disciplinary Action (see below)

Comments:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY



LEXINGTON POLICE
DEPARTMENT
MEMORANDUM
Lexington, Kentucky

DATE OF ISSUE

July 13, 2022

EFFECTIVE DATE

NUMBER

PIU-075

TO:

Lawrence Weathers
Chief of Police

FROM:

Lieutenant Matt Brotherton
Bureau of Investigation - Public Integrity Unit

SUBJECT:

Summary of Formal Complaints on Officer Kyle Blankenship, PIU2022F-008 and PIU 2022F-010

Sir,

This memorandum will provide a summary of the investigation into the Formal Complaints filed by Lt. Jeremiah Davis on Officer Kyle Blankenship.

On 05/20/2022, Lt. Davis signed a formal complaint that alleged the following:

On Thursday, May 5, 2022 Officer Kyle Blankenship, 58544, shopped his assigned cruiser at Fleet Services. Discovered in his cruiser were several items of drug paraphernalia and narcotics, including marijuana and various pills and personal property of other subjects located inside of a box in the trunk of his assigned cruiser. Officer Blankenship advised that the items located were taken from various investigations that did not result in criminal charges for the items located, but that he did fail to book the property as required by General Order 1991 -13M Property and Evidence Procedures:

IV.D.4. "Every item of property and evidence coming into an employee's custody as a result of their official duties will be placed under the control of Property and Evidence Unit before the employee goes off duty."

As an Officer with LPD, Officer Blankenship is expected to book any property or evidence coming into his custody as a result of his official duties. He failed to so on at least five occasions.

If the above allegations are true, Officer Kyle Blankenship has violated General Order 1973-02K Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.17 Processing Property and Evidence:

"Property and evidence which is discovered, gathered, or received in connection with department responsibilities will be processed in accordance with established department procedures. Officers shall not purchase, convert to their own use, manufacture, conceal, falsify, destroy, remove, tamper with or withhold, or have any claim to found, impounded, abandoned, or recovered property - or any property held or released as evidence in connection with an investigation or other police action, except in accordance with established department procedures."

On 06/06/2022, after having filed the above formal, Lt. Davis filed an additional formal containing the following additional allegations:

Pursuant to the discovery of items of evidence located in Ofc. Blankenship's cruiser and subsequent Formal Charge placed on 05/20/2022, BOP conducted a review of Ofc. Blankenship's activity since January 1st, 2022. The review located the following concerns and additional potential policy violations:

1) Additional incidents of violations associated with General Order 1991 -13M Property and Evidence Procedures which states every item of property and evidence coming into an employee's custody as a result of their official duties will be placed under the control of Property and Evidence before the employee goes off duty.

2) Violations of Executive Order 2020-03 Documenting Searches and Handcuffing which states that a Search Record form will be completed by the officer who conducted the field search during their shift that the search was completed.

3) Violations of General Order 2015-15C Body Worn Camera which states that employees shall place their BWC in event mode prior to their arrival on a call for service or at the initiation of any other official contact. If an employee fails to record the entirety of their involvement in official contact, the employee shall verbally notify their supervisor prior to the end of their assignment and include the circumstances on the appropriate documents and Blueteam report, if applicable.

If the above allegations are true, Officer Blankenship has violated General Order 1973-02K Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.02 Misconduct since as an Officer with LPD, he is expected to conduct himself at all times in a such a manner as to reflect most favorably on the department and to not cast doubt on the officer's integrity, honesty, judgment, or character.

Due to these two formal complaints stemming from the same original incident, they will be summarized together in this memorandum.

Investigation

As stated in the first formal complaint, Fleet Services personnel detected a strong odor of suspected marijuana coming from a Lexington Police patrol car that was dropped off for service by Ofc. Kyle Blankenship. Lieutenants David Richardson, Brian Peterson, and Dan Burnett all responded to Fleet Services and inspected the trunk of the vehicle.

In the vehicle's trunk, the Lieutenants located multiple items of suspected narcotics and narcotics paraphernalia. The Lieutenants recovered the items, capturing their actions on BWC. This information formed the basis for the first formal complaint. The recovered items were booked into evidence by Lt. Burnett. Pursuant to the Formal Complaints, I reviewed the BWC footage.

Following the discovery of the items in Ofc. Blankenship's assigned patrol vehicle, Sgt. Wiggins conducted a review of Ofc. Blankenship's activity from 01/01/2022 to 05/04/2022. Additionally, Ofc. Blankenship was directed to write a memo concerning the items.

During the review of Ofc. Blankenship's activity, Sgt. Wiggins located the origin of the majority of items discovered in the trunk. The review determined that the items were encountered during police contacts with the community and that Ofc. Blankenship took them and clearly never booked them into evidence:

- Suspected marijuana (7.7 grams in packaging); —Traffic stop where driver was arrested for a warrant and the narcotics were located
- Suspected marijuana (12.8 grams in packaging); —Traffic stop where driver was given a warning notice; suspected marijuana handed over by driver
- 2 gabapentin (800mg) oval pills and 1 hydrocodone/acetaminophen (10mg) pill; —Dispatched to a person down; seized the items during a search of a vehicle. No charges.
- A plastic baggie containing suspected heroin (.1 grams in packaging); undetermined origin
- Three folded-up pieces of paper containing suspected heroin (total weight 1.7 grams in packaging); undetermined origin.
- Multiple glass pipes, syringes, and scales; recovered during multiple encounters

Sgt. Wiggins located multiple instances where Ofc. Blankenship conducted a search but did not complete a search record as directed by policy:

- February 23, 2022 () -Searches were conducted of a garage, residence, and vehicle. Sgt. Wiggins addressed the search with Ofc. Blankenship and discussed the appearance that the consent given would not have withstood a challenge due to the officers on scene pressuring the homeowner.
- February 28, 2022 () - Consent search of a vehicle where 4 needles were recovered.
- March 9, 2022 () - During a plain smell search during a traffic stop, Ofc. Blankenship discovers a small pan containing suspected marijuana and dumps it onto the ground.

Two spent shell casings, two operator's licenses, and a set of keys were also located in the patrol car's trunk. The spent shell casings were from March 30, 2022 () where Ofc. Blankenship was dispatched to find casings but did not book them in. Ofc. Blankenship made no effort to return the operator's license or the keys to their owners.

Additionally, Sgt. Wiggins located multiple instances where Ofc. Blankenship activated his BWC late and stopped recording prematurely, in violation of policy, and did not complete a failure-to-activate Blue Team report.

- January 11, 2022 ()-Ofc. Blankenship turns off his BWC at FCDC during the search of the arrestee.
- January 13, 2022 ()-The BWC of the interaction starts during a search of a vehicle; it is unknown why the vehicle was stopped or searched.
- January 26, 2022 ()-BWC starts after a suspect is arrested and Ofc. Blankenship is transporting him to FCDC.

During the review of Ofc. Blankenship's activity, Sgt. Wiggins observed an incident from April 17, 2022() where, during a DUI arrest, Ofc. Blankenship located two pill bottles inside the arrestee's vehicle glove box. Sgt. Wiggins determined that the pill bottles were not booked into evidence. When informed of this issue, Ofc. Blankenship (with Lt. Davis' permission) went to his assigned vehicle and searched the trunk. He discovered that the two pill bottles had fallen into his riot bag and been lost. Ofc. Blankenship then booked the bottles into evidence.

Pursuant to the discovery of the suspected narcotics in Ofc. Blankenship's assigned vehicle, he was sent for drug-testing; the results were negative.

Interviews with Officer Kyle Blankenship

Officer Blankenship was interviewed in the PIU office on two occasions, 06/10/2022 and 06/27/2022. The first interview was conducted and then the second interview was conducted after Ofc. Blankenship was given the opportunity to review the follow-up memo completed by Sgt. Wiggins.

During the interviews, Ofc. Blankenship acknowledged that he did not book in the listed items and placed them in his trunk. He also acknowledged that he did not activate his BWC according to policy. Ofc. Blankenship also did not dispute that he disposed of suspected marijuana by dumping it in the street.

Ofc. Blankenship did take responsibility for his actions and what he admitted were clear policy violations; he did offer up a justification for his behavior by stating that he was a high-activity officer who focused on going from call to call, attempting to be as productive as possible. He agreed that he did not book in amounts of narcotics that he believed personally were not of a sufficient amount to merit his placing of charges.

Ofc. Blankenship recognized that his work was "sloppy" and that it reflected poorly on his work-performance.

Conclusion

In regards to the specific allegations in the first formal:

General Order 1991 -13M Property and Evidence Procedures:

IV.D.4. "Every item of property and evidence coming into an employee's custody as a result of their official duties will be placed under the control of Property and Evidence Unit before the employee goes off duty."

Officer Blankenship does not dispute that the items of evidence in his trunk were placed there by him and seized during law-enforcement encounters. He also does not dispute that:

As an Officer with LPD, Officer Blankenship is expected to book any property or evidence coming into his custody as a result of his official duties. He failed to do so on at least five occasions.

On individual, separate law-enforcement encounters, Ofc. Blankenship took custody of the contraband.

Officer Blankenship did not dispute any of the allegations in either of the submitted formal complaints. Though he sought to defend himself by arguing that he was too busy to stop and book in the seized contraband, he recognized that he did have multiple opportunities during down time to book in the items as directed by policy. Officer Blankenship stated that in the future, he would keep evidence bags and proper packaging items in the cab of his vehicle, to help facilitate appropriate evidence collection practices. Officer Blankenship stated that his actions violated evidence policies.

The narcotics located in the vehicle were not evidence in any pending criminal cases. Officer Blankenship was making the determination not to place criminal charges relating to the narcotics that he found and did not dispose of or book in as evidence.

In regards to the specific allegations in the second formal:

General Order 1973-02K Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.02 Misconduct since as an Officer with LPD, he is expected to conduct himself at all times in a such a manner as to reflect most favorably on the department and to not cast doubt on the officer's integrity, honesty, judgment, or character.

The components of the Misconduct allegation are that he did not book in evidence properly, that he failed to complete search records appropriately, and that he violated BWC policies on multiple occasions. Officer Blankenship did not dispute any of the allegations levied against him.

Officer Blankenship acknowledged that he was not performing according to the named policies and expectations and that it reflected poorly on him and the agency.

Lieutenant Matt Brotherton
Bureau of Investigation
Public Integrity Unit

cc: file – PIU2022F-008



LEXINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
PERSONNEL ORDER
Lexington, Kentucky

DATE OF ISSUE

September 9, 2022

EFFECTIVE DATE

October 3, 2022

NUMBER

PO:22-337

TO:

SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY

AMENDS:

INDEX AS:

OFFICER
KYLE BLANKENSHIP

RESCINDS:

Effective, Monday, October 3rd – Saturday, December 31st, 2022, Officer Kyle Blankenship will be suspended without pay for three (3) months, for violation of General Order 1973-02K, Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers, Section 1.17 and Section 1.02 – Processing Property and Evidence & Misconduct.

Officer Blankenship is to surrender all police credentials and division-owned equipment. Officer Blankenship's suspension from duty eliminates his right to carry concealed deadly weapons, make arrests, and any other law enforcement duties.

The Urban County Council approved this suspension on September 8, 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lawrence B. Weathers".

Lawrence B. Weathers
Chief of Police

LBW/rmh

LEXINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
Discipline Recommendation for Council Approval

Form 123 (10/19)

On **May 20, 2022 and June 6, 2022** an internal formal complaint was made that
(Date)

Officer Kyle Blankenship #58544

(Rank / Name / Badge Number)

violated General Order:

General Order 1973-02K Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.17 Processing Property and Evidence and 1.02 Misconduct.

At the conclusion of the investigation, the employee met with Chief Lawrence B. Weathers and has accepted:

Three (3) month suspension without pay

(Recommended Discipline)

May read the information provided if additional information is requested by Council

Allegation:

On May 5, 2022 Officer Kyle Blankenship shopped his assigned vehicle at Fleet Services for routine maintenance. Several items of drug paraphernalia, narcotics and personal items of other subjects were located inside a box in the trunk of the vehicle. The items were obtained from investigations that did not result in criminal charges, but he failed to book the property as required by General Order 1991-13M Property and Evidence Procedures which states:

"Every item of property and evidence coming into an employee's custody as a result of their official duties will be placed under the control of Property and Evidence Unit before the employee goes off duty".

A review of Officer Blankenship's activity since January 1, 2022 revealed additional policy violations related to Property and Evidence Procedures, Search Records and Body Worn Camera procedures. The combination of these incidents are a violation of the disciplinary policy - 1.02 Misconduct which states:

"Officers shall conduct themselves at all times, both on and off duty, in such a manner as to reflect most favorably on the department and to not cast doubt on the officer's integrity, honesty, judgment, or character. This investigation resulted in the first sustained Formal Complaints since his employment on January 20, 2020.

Police Officers Bill of Rights

No further information may be disclosed regarding this matter per KRS 15.520 - Complaints against Police Officers - Manner of investigation and hearing, subsection (f) which states the following:

(f) When an police officer has been charged with a violation of departmental rules or regulations, no public statements shall be made concerning the alleged violation by any person or persons of the local unit of government or the police officer so charged, until final disposition of the charges.

LEXINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

AGREEMENT OF CONFORMITY WITH KRS 95.450 / 15.520 AND RELEASE

FORM 113 (8/20)

An allegation has been made that: Officer Kyle Blankenship #58544

has committed the offense of:

Processing Property and Evidence & Misconduct

which constitutes misconduct under the provisions of KRS 95.450 and/or KRS 15.520

(list other applicable law or rule)

General Order 1973-02K Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers Section 1.17 and Section 1.02

in that on the 5th day(s) of May, 20 2022 he/she allegedly:

On May 5, 2022 Officer Kyle Blankenship shopped his assigned vehicle at Fleet Services for routine maintenance. Several items of drug paraphernalia, narcotics, and personal items of other subjects were located inside a box in the trunk of the vehicle. The items were obtained from investigations that did not result in criminal charges, but he failed to book the property as required by General Order 1991-13M Property and Evidence Procedures which states:

"Every item of property and evidence coming into an employee's custody as a result of their official duties will be placed under the control of Property and Evidence Unit before the employee goes off duty".

A review of Officer Blankenship's activity since January 1, 2022 revealed additional policy violations related to Property and Evidence Procedures, Search Records and Body Worn Camera procedures. The combination of these incidents are a violation of the disciplinary policy - 1.02 Misconduct which states:

"Officers shall conduct themselves at all times, both on and off duty, in such a manner as to reflect most favorably on the department and to not cast doubt on the officer's integrity, honesty, judgment, or character.

I have read KRS 95.450, 95.460 and 15.520, and attest that I fully understand all rights guaranteed by these statutes, including the rights to have formal charges preferred and a hearing conducted on those charges.

Further, I, with knowledge of the provisions and my rights under KRS 95.450, 95.460, and 15.520 and in consideration of the recommendation of the Chief of Police of the Lexington Police Department, acknowledge that the appropriate punishment for this conduct is:

Three (3) month suspension without pay

I do hereby voluntarily accept the above disciplinary action, provided that the punishment awarded by the Urban County Council will not exceed the above recommendation of the Chief of Police.

If the Urban County Council rejects the above recommendation, I will be so notified, in which case I may withdraw my acceptance, and will be entitled to all rights, as applicable, under KRS 95.450, 95.460 and 15.520, and this agreement will not be used against me or by me in any hearing in determination of my guilt of punishment.

In further consideration of the acceptance of the above recommendation and penalty by the Urban County Council, I do for myself, my heirs, legal representatives, as assigns hereby expressly release and forever discharge the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government, its officers, agents, employees, and their successors and assigns from all claims, demands, actions, damages or causes of action and from all liability for damages of whatsoever kind, nature of description that I ever had, now have or may have against the aforementioned entities created by or arising out of the action contained herein.

 58544

Employee Signature

8-16-2022

Date



Chief of Police Signature

8-16-2022

Date

ACTION BY URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL

☒ APPROVE ABOVE RECOMMENDATION

☐ DISAPPROVE ABOVE RECOMMENDATION

 9/8/2022

Signature of Authorized Representative of
Urban County Council

SUSPENSION SERVICE GUIDELINES:

Suspensions will be served as outlined in General Order series 1973-02 Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers.



Lexington-Fayette Urban County
Division of Police
MEMORANDUM
Lexington, Kentucky

DATE OF ISSUE

August 8, 2022

EFFECTIVE DATE

NUMBER
COP:
22-0148

TO:

Kenneth Armstrong, Commissioner
Department of Public Safety

SUBJECT:

Disciplinary Recommendation
PIU2022F-008/010
Officer Kyle Blankenship

FROM:

Lawrence B. Weathers
Chief of Police

I met with Officer Kyle Blankenship on August 5, 2022, and have determined this as
“Improper Conduct” for violation of:

- General Order 1973-02K - Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.17 – Processing Property and Evidence
- General Order 1973-02K – Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.02 – Misconduct

I have recommended a **three (3) month suspension without pay**. I have included the summary of this formal complaint for your information. Reviewed PIU synopsis regarding the complaint.

Officer Blankenship accepted this discipline on August 5, 2022.

Lawrence B. Weathers
Chief of Police

LBW/rmh

Attachment

**LEXINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
FORMAL COMPLAINT FORM
FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**

FORM 111 (5/21)

File #: PIU2022F-010

Employee Involved: Blankenship, Kyle			Employee #: 58544	Hire Date: 01/20/2020
Present Assignment: Bureau of Patrol				
Complainant: Lt. Jeremiah Davis		Complainant Address: 150 E. Main		
Complainant Phone #:	Alternate Complainant Phone #:	Complainant Email:		
Date of Incident: Various	Time of Incident: Various	Location of Incident: Fayette County	Date and Time Reported: 05/31/2022 @ 2035	How Reported: <input type="checkbox"/> Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Phone <input type="checkbox"/> Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email

DESCRIPTION OF ALLEGATIONS:

Pursuant to the discovery of items of evidence located in Ofc. Blankenship's cruiser and subsequent Formal Charge placed on 05/20/2022, BOP conducted a review of Ofc. Blankenship's activity since January 1st, 2022. The review located the following concerns and additional potential policy violations:

- 1) Additional incidents of violations associated with General Order 1991 -13M Property and Evidence Procedures which states every item of property and evidence coming into an employee's custody as a result of their official duties will be placed under the control of Property and Evidence before the employee goes off duty.
- 2) Violations of Executive Order 2020-03 Documenting Searches and Handcuffing which states that a Search Record form will be completed by the officer who conducted the field search during their shift that the search was completed.
- 3) Violations of General Order 2015-15C Body Worn Camera which states that employees shall place their BWC in event mode prior to their arrival on a call for service or at the initiation of any other official contact. If an employee fails to record the entirety of their involvement in official contact, the employee shall verbally notify their supervisor prior to the end of their assignment and include the circumstances on the appropriate documents and Blueteam report, if applicable.

If the above allegations are true, Officer Blankenship has violated General Order 1973-02K Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.02 Misconduct since as an Officer with LPD, he is expected to conduct himself at all times in a such a manner as to reflect most favorably on the department and to not cast doubt on the officer's integrity, honesty, judgment, or character.

I swear/affirm that the facts set out in the allegations herein are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Complainant Signature: Jeremiah A Davis

Date: 6/6/22

Subscribed and sworn before me this date: 6/6/22
(Date)

Melanie R Volaw KYNP20919
(Notary)

My Commission Expires: 2-3-2025

Witness:

Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____

Recorded By: Bureau of Investigation, Public Integrity Unit

File #: PIU2022F-010Employee: Blankenship, Kyle**CHIEF OF POLICE**

[Finding: PC=Proper Conduct, IC=Improper Conduct, IE=Insufficient Evidence, PF=Policy Failure, UC=Unfounded Complaint]

Finding

Policy Violation

IC	General Order 1973-02K - Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.02 - Misconduct

Chief of Police Recommendation: ☐ Case Be Closed ☐ Corrective Training ☒ Disciplinary Action (see below)

Materials Reviewed:

Reviewed PIU Summary

Comments:

Recommend three (3) month suspension without pay (PIU 2022F-008 & PIU 2022F-010 Combined)

Signature:

*Lawrence B. Weather*Date: August 8, 2022**DISCIPLINARY REVIEW BOARD**

Finding

Policy Violation

Disciplinary Review Board Recommendation: ☐ Case Be Closed ☐ Corrective Training ☐ Disciplinary Action (see below)

Comments:

Signature: _____

Date: _____

CHIEF OF POLICE FINAL RECOMMENDATION☐ Case Be Closed ☐ Corrective Training ☐ Disciplinary Action (see below)

Comments:

Signature: _____

Date: _____

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY



LEXINGTON POLICE
DEPARTMENT
MEMORANDUM
Lexington, Kentucky

DATE OF ISSUE
July 13, 2022

EFFECTIVE DATE

NUMBER
PIU-075

TO:

Lawrence Weathers
Chief of Police

FROM:

Lieutenant Matt Brotherton
Bureau of Investigation - Public Integrity Unit

SUBJECT:

Summary of Formal Complaints on Officer Kyle Blankenship, PIU2022F-008 and PIU 2022F-010

Sir,

This memorandum will provide a summary of the investigation into the Formal Complaints filed by Lt. Jeremiah Davis on Officer Kyle Blankenship.

On 05/20/2022, Lt. Davis signed a formal complaint that alleged the following:

On Thursday, May 5, 2022 Officer Kyle Blankenship, 58544, shopped his assigned cruiser at Fleet Services. Discovered in his cruiser were several items of drug paraphernalia and narcotics, including marijuana and various pills and personal property of other subjects located inside of a box in the trunk of his assigned cruiser. Officer Blankenship advised that the items located were taken from various investigations that did not result in criminal charges for the items located, but that he did fail to book the property as required by General Order 1991 -13M Property and Evidence Procedures:

IV.D.4. "Every item of property and evidence coming into an employee's custody as a result of their official duties will be placed under the control of Property and Evidence Unit before the employee goes off duty."

As an Officer with LPD, Officer Blankenship is expected to book any property or evidence coming into his custody as a result of his official duties. He failed to so on at least five occasions.

If the above allegations are true, Officer Kyle Blankenship has violated General Order 1973-02K Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.17 Processing Property and Evidence:

"Property and evidence which is discovered, gathered, or received in connection with department responsibilities will be processed in accordance with established department procedures. Officers shall not purchase, convert to their own use, manufacture, conceal, falsify, destroy, remove, tamper with or withhold, or have any claim to found, impounded, abandoned, or recovered property - or any property held or released as evidence in connection with an investigation or other police action, except in accordance with established department procedures."

On 06/06/2022, after having filed the above formal, Lt. Davis filed an additional formal containing the following additional allegations:

Pursuant to the discovery of items of evidence located in Ofc. Blankenship's cruiser and subsequent Formal Charge placed on 05/20/2022, BOP conducted a review of Ofc. Blankenship's activity since January 1st, 2022. The review located the following concerns and additional potential policy violations:

1) Additional incidents of violations associated with General Order 1991 -13M Property and Evidence Procedures which states every item of property and evidence coming into an employee's custody as a result of their official duties will be placed under the control of Property and Evidence before the employee goes off duty.

2) Violations of Executive Order 2020-03 Documenting Searches and Handcuffing which states that a Search Record form will be completed by the officer who conducted the field search during their shift that the search was completed.

3) Violations of General Order 2015-15C Body Worn Camera which states that employees shall place their BWC in event mode prior to their arrival on a call for service or at the initiation of any other official contact. If an employee fails to record the entirety of their involvement in official contact, the employee shall verbally notify their supervisor prior to the end of their assignment and include the circumstances on the appropriate documents and Blueteam report, if applicable.

If the above allegations are true, Officer Blankenship has violated General Order 1973-02K Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.02 Misconduct since as an Officer with LPD, he is expected to conduct himself at all times in a such a manner as to reflect most favorably on the department and to not cast doubt on the officer's integrity, honesty, judgment, or character.

Due to these two formal complaints stemming from the same original incident, they will be summarized together in this memorandum.

Investigation

As stated in the first formal complaint, Fleet Services personnel detected a strong odor of suspected marijuana coming from a Lexington Police patrol car that was dropped off for service by Ofc. Kyle Blankenship. Lieutenants David Richardson, Brian Peterson, and Dan Burnett all responded to Fleet Services and inspected the trunk of the vehicle.

In the vehicle's trunk, the Lieutenants located multiple items of suspected narcotics and narcotics paraphernalia. The Lieutenants recovered the items, capturing their actions on BWC. This information formed the basis for the first formal complaint. The recovered items were booked into evidence by Lt. Burnett. Pursuant to the Formal Complaints, I reviewed the BWC footage.

Following the discovery of the items in Ofc. Blankenship's assigned patrol vehicle, Sgt. Wiggins conducted a review of Ofc. Blankenship's activity from 01/01/2022 to 05/04/2022. Additionally, Ofc. Blankenship was directed to write a memo concerning the items.

During the review of Ofc. Blankenship's activity, Sgt. Wiggins located the origin of the majority of items discovered in the trunk. The review determined that the items were encountered during police contacts with the community and that Ofc. Blankenship took them and clearly never booked them into evidence:

- Suspected marijuana (7.7 grams in packaging); —Traffic stop where driver was arrested for a warrant and the narcotics were located
- Suspected marijuana (12.8 grams in packaging); —Traffic stop where driver was given a warning notice; suspected marijuana handed over by driver
- 2 gabapentin (800mg) oval pills and 1 hydrocodone/acetaminophen (10mg) pill; —Dispatched to a person down; seized the items during a search of a vehicle. No charges.
- A plastic baggie containing suspected heroin (.1 grams in packaging); undetermined origin
- Three folded-up pieces of paper containing suspected heroin (total weight 1.7 grams in packaging); undetermined origin.
- Multiple glass pipes, syringes, and scales; recovered during multiple encounters

Sgt. Wiggins located multiple instances where Ofc. Blankenship conducted a search but did not complete a search record as directed by policy:

- February 23, 2022 () -Searches were conducted of a garage, residence, and vehicle. Sgt. Wiggins addressed the search with Ofc. Blankenship and discussed the appearance that the consent given would not have withstood a challenge due to the officers on scene pressuring the homeowner.
- February 28, 2022 () - Consent search of a vehicle where 4 needles were recovered.
- March 9, 2022 () - During a plain smell search during a traffic stop, Ofc. Blankenship discovers a small pan containing suspected marijuana and dumps it onto the ground.

Two spent shell casings, two operator's licenses, and a set of keys were also located in the patrol car's trunk. The spent shell casings were from March 30, 2022 () where Ofc. Blankenship was dispatched to find casings but did not book them in. Ofc. Blankenship made no effort to return the operator's license or the keys to their owners.

Additionally, Sgt. Wiggins located multiple instances where Ofc. Blankenship activated his BWC late and stopped recording prematurely, in violation of policy, and did not complete a failure-to-activate Blue Team report.

- January 11, 2022 ()-Ofc. Blankenship turns off his BWC at FCDC during the search of the arrestee.
- January 13, 2022 ()-The BWC of the interaction starts during a search of a vehicle; it is unknown why the vehicle was stopped or searched.
- January 26, 2022 ()-BWC starts after a suspect is arrested and Ofc. Blankenship is transporting him to FCDC.

During the review of Ofc. Blankenship's activity, Sgt. Wiggins observed an incident from April 17, 2022) where, during a DUI arrest, Ofc. Blankenship located two pill bottles inside the arrestee's vehicle glove box. Sgt. Wiggins determined that the pill bottles were not booked into evidence. When informed of this issue, Ofc. Blankenship (with Lt. Davis' permission) went to his assigned vehicle and searched the trunk. He discovered that the two pill bottles had fallen into his riot bag and been lost. Ofc. Blankenship then booked the bottles into evidence.

Pursuant to the discovery of the suspected narcotics in Ofc. Blankenship's assigned vehicle, he was sent for drug-testing; the results were negative.

Interviews with Officer Kyle Blankenship

Officer Blankenship was interviewed in the PIU office on two occasions, 06/10/2022 and 06/27/2022. The first interview was conducted and then the second interview was conducted after Ofc. Blankenship was given the opportunity to review the follow-up memo completed by Sgt. Wiggins.

During the interviews, Ofc. Blankenship acknowledged that he did not book in the listed items and placed them in his trunk. He also acknowledged that he did not activate his BWC according to policy. Ofc. Blankenship also did not dispute that he disposed of suspected marijuana by dumping it in the street.

Ofc. Blankenship did take responsibility for his actions and what he admitted were clear policy violations; he did offer up a justification for his behavior by stating that he was a high-activity officer who focused on going from call to call, attempting to be as productive as possible. He agreed that he did not book in amounts of narcotics that he believed personally were not of a sufficient amount to merit his placing of charges.

Ofc. Blankenship recognized that his work was "sloppy" and that it reflected poorly on his work-performance.

Conclusion

In regards to the specific allegations in the first formal:

General Order 1991 -13M Property and Evidence Procedures:

IV.D.4. "Every item of property and evidence coming into an employee's custody as a result of their official duties will be placed under the control of Property and Evidence Unit before the employee goes off duty."

Officer Blankenship does not dispute that the items of evidence in his trunk were placed there by him and seized during law-enforcement encounters. He also does not dispute that:

As an Officer with LPD, Officer Blankenship is expected to book any property or evidence coming into his custody as a result of his official duties. He failed to do so on at least five occasions.

On individual, separate law-enforcement encounters, Ofc. Blankenship took custody of the contraband.

Officer Blankenship did not dispute any of the allegations in either of the submitted formal complaints. Though he sought to defend himself by arguing that he was too busy to stop and book in the seized contraband, he recognized that he did have multiple opportunities during down time to book in the items as directed by policy. Officer Blankenship stated that in the future, he would keep evidence bags and proper packaging items in the cab of his vehicle, to help facilitate appropriate evidence collection practices. Officer Blankenship stated that his actions violated evidence policies.

The narcotics located in the vehicle were not evidence in any pending criminal cases. Officer Blankenship was making the determination not to place criminal charges relating to the narcotics that he found and did not dispose of or book in as evidence.

In regards to the specific allegations in the second formal:

General Order 1973-02K Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.02 Misconduct since as an Officer with LPD, he is expected to conduct himself at all times in a such a manner as to reflect most favorably on the department and to not cast doubt on the officer's integrity, honesty, judgment, or character.

The components of the Misconduct allegation are that he did not book in evidence properly, that he failed to complete search records appropriately, and that he violated BWC policies on multiple occasions. Officer Blankenship did not dispute any of the allegations levied against him.

Officer Blankenship acknowledged that he was not performing according to the named policies and expectations and that it reflected poorly on him and the agency.

Lieutenant Matt Brotherton
Bureau of Investigation
Public Integrity Unit

cc: file – PIU2022-010