

# Daytona Beach Police Department

Craig A. Capri, Chief of Police

## MEMORANDUM

To: Officer R. Ditton

From: Craig A. Capri, Chief of Police *CAC*

Subject: **Notice of Proposed Discipline: Three Day (36-Hour) Suspension**  
**Departmental Standards Directive 200.6 – Code of Conduct/Ethics**  
**Departmental Standards Directive 200.12 – Code of Conduct/Ethics**  
**Departmental Standards Directive 200.30 – Code of Conduct/Ethics**

Date: July 19, 2017

I have reviewed the attached Employee Incident Form in regards to violations of Departmental Standards Directives that occurred on or about June 13, 2017.

Based upon the information presented, I have made a tentative decision that violations of Departmental Standards Directive 200.6, 200.12 and 200.30 should be sustained. I have further made the tentative decision that the appropriate penalty is a **Three Day (36-Hour) Suspension**. However, before making a final determination on this matter, I am providing you an opportunity to review and comment on the investigative material provided.

Your comments and concerns regarding the investigation, findings, and the proposed penalty, must be **in writing** and received by my office prior to **1600 hours, ten days following your receipt of this notice**.

Finally, no response from you is required. If no response is received within **ten days following your receipt of this notice** my tentative decision will become final.

CAC/ss  
100.2017.7456


Attachments – Employee Incident Form  
Personnel File - Officer R. Ditton

# Daytona Beach Police Department

Lieutenant Tracy K. Miller, Delta Platoon

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Captain Scott Lee

FROM: Lieutenant Tracy K. Miller 

SUBJECT: Officer Rachel Ditton – Traffic Stop

DATE: June 17, 2017

On Tuesday, June 13<sup>th</sup> 2017 at approximately 0454 hours Officer Edwards was running radar on N. Atlantic Ave. Officer Edwards clocked a vehicle going 47mph southbound on N. Atlantic Ave. Officer Edwards conducted a traffic stop on said vehicle. This vehicle pulled over at Earl and Atlantic Ave. and Officer Edwards made contact with the driver. The driver of this vehicle was Officer Rachel Ditton.

Below are the following timeline of events:

- **Tuesday, June 13<sup>th</sup> 2017 approximately 0545 hours** – Officer Edwards was at the fuel pumps at City Yards preparing to secure. Officer Ditton showed up and told Officer Edwards that he shouldn't be running radar on Atlantic Ave. During this time Officer Kera Cantrell also showed up and told Officer Edwards that he should be patrolling his zone, not enforcing traffic violations.
- **Tuesday, June 13<sup>th</sup> 2017 approximately 1830 hours** - Officer Edwards was troubled with the interaction he had with Officer Ditton during this traffic stop and consulted Sgt. Ousterman.
- **Wednesday June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017 morning before end of Delta shift-** Sgt. Ousterman reviewed Officer Edwards' AXON video and then consulted Sgt. Oteri reference this incident regarding Officer Ditton's attitude and behavior.
- **Wednesday June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017** - Sgt. Oteri spoke with Officer Ditton about the traffic stop. It was suggested that she owes Officer Edwards an apology.
- **Wednesday June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017 around 1130 hours** – Officer Ditton called Officer Edwards on his cell phone. Officer Ditton confronted Officer Edwards about going to his sergeant. Officer Edwards apologized for doing this and then Officer Ditton stated that she was a little "sassy" during the traffic stop and she apologized.

Captain Scott Lee

**Officer Rachel Ditton – Traffic Stop**

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- **Saturday, June 18th, 2017 before end of Delta shift** – I watched the AXON video regarding this traffic stop in question. After watching the video and speaking with Sgt. Ousterman and Officer Edwards I had many concerns. Sgt. Ousterman spoke with Sgt. Oteri on the phone about this incident during shift change. It was relayed that Sgt. Oteri doesn't believe talking to Officer Ditton any more will resolve any future problems.
- **Saturday, June 18th, 2017 approximately 1200 hours** – I contacted Captain Lee to discuss this incident.

The above information was received almost entirely third hand. To truly understand the behavior that Officer Ditton displayed toward Officer Edwards the AXON video should be reviewed. (SEQ# P171640417 Video #2017-06-0454)

**Daytona Beach Police Department**  
**Sgt. M. Oteri, Patrol Division**

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Captain Scott Lee  
FROM: Sergeant Michael Oteri   
SUBJECT: Discipline History-Officer R. Ditton  
DATE: June 22, 2017

I have reviewed the personnel file of Officer Rachel Ditton for background information needed in reference to her discipline history. The following reflects the last three years of discipline:

**Discipline:**

None

**Miscellaneous:**

None

This history is inclusive of Officer Rachel Ditton's working file and personnel file. This history information conforms to the agreement between the City of Daytona Beach and Central Florida PBA contract.



DAYTONA BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT  
EMPLOYEE INCIDENT FORM

Date: June 22, 2017

Name of Employee(s):

Officer Rachel Ditton

Supervisor:

Sgt. Michael Oteri

Reason(s) Be Specific:

200.12 - Professional Conduct and Responsibilities

200.5 - Unlawful Conduct

Narrative:

On 06/13/2017 at 0454 hours, a traffic stop was conducted on you and your vehicle for an alleged traffic violation, by Officer L. Edwards in the 200 Block of N. Atlantic Av. As Officer Edwards began to approach your vehicle, you began yelling back to Officer Edwards about "...reading your tags first." You then stated, "I gotta get to work. Come on, so you can see this." as you stuck your arm and shoulder out the window to display your department patch attached to your uniform. Once Officer Edwards was completely up to your driver's side window, recognizing you as an officer he stated, "Hello." Your response was, "Start reading your tags first before you pull someone over." You then left the traffic stop, squealing your tires as you made a u-turn back towards N. Atlantic Av. not giving Officer Edwards the opportunity to fully complete the traffic stop or make any determination of the outcome. The entire encounter was captured on Officer Edward's Axon camera.

Based on the interaction between you and Officer Edwards, I therefore find you to be in violation of Departmental Directive 200.12 and 200.5 for your discourteous contact with Officer Edwards during a traffic stop, and adopting an attitude of officiousness or superiority

Employee Response:

*I have read the foregoing and have been counseled in regard to this matter. I understand that my signature does not signify my agreement or disagreement with the information specified herein.*

6/22/17

Date

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rachel Ditton", written over a horizontal line.

Employee Signature