



INTRA-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Commander Larry Kastner
FROM: Captain Joe Kissell
DATE: June 2, 1998
SUBJECT: Internal Affairs Investigation #98-35, Sergeant William Claspell

I have reviewed the information contained in the Internal Affairs' report and agree with Lieutenant Washburn's recommendation that Sergeant Claspell be exonerated on this charge. In defense of Sergeant Claspell, he did contact Lieutenant Elder and questioned the procedure. He was instructed by Elder to continue to logging time cards just as Elder had been doing for the past two years.

It's my opinion if we were going to hold Sergeant Claspell responsible for this action, then we would have to go back to the sergeant who proceeded him at Metro VNI, who was also following the same instructions.

The question becomes, Did Sergeant Claspell have an obligation to go to the next senior person in the chain of command to report this? Again, in defense of Sergeant Claspell, he was following a direct order or instruction from Lieutenant Elder. If anyone should be held responsible for this situation, it would be Lieutenant Elder. The direction was his, and the instructions came from him.

JK/sp

