


# CITY OF HARTFORD

## INTERDEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Jason Thody  
Chief of Police

**FROM:** Sergeant Valdemar Duarte   
Investigator, Internal Affairs Division

**DATE:** March 28, 2023

**SUBJECT:** IAD I-File # 2023-001

1. On Sunday, January 15, 2023, Sergeant Corey Clark, Hartford Police Traffic Division Supervisor, conducted an annual audit of the Traffic Division personnel's reported weekly activity. The audit discovered that during a four-week period, from December 18, 2022, through January 14, 2023, Traffic Officer Michael Fallon had discrepancies in reported work and actual work performed. Sergeant Clark initiated an investigation into Officer Fallon's weekly activity reports and completed a Special Investigation Report (SIR) # 2023-007. A summary of the SIR is as follows.

At the end of each work week, each traffic officer is required to complete a "Hartford Police Traffic Division Weekly Activity Report," reporting their individual number of motor vehicles stopped, vehicles towed, and enforcement actions taken by the individual officer. This database generates a weekly report, which is forwarded to the Traffic Division Commander for "Compstat" preparation. Each activity report is then scanned into a PDF version through the global scan function and sent via email to the supervisor's email address. These reports are then stored in an electronic folder titled "Weekly Activity Sheets" within the Traffic Division folder on the Hartford Police Department P-Drive for retention. Furthermore, a Traffic Division supervisor and/or their designee obtains the original traffic infraction from the secured infraction box next to Tele-Serve, and manually enters the infraction's information (i.e., date, infraction number, defendant's name, location, officer's name, and statute violated) into the P-Drive for record-keeping and retention.

In January 2022, an audit conducted by Sergeant Daniel Zarebski discovered several unintentional human errors and discrepancies with the activity reports. At the conclusion of the January 2022 audit, Sergeant Clark and Sergeant Zarebski provided retraining and verbal counseling to all traffic officers under their supervision, including Officer Fallon. The retraining and verbal counseling emphasized the importance of reporting correct, accurate, and factual data as this information is shared with members of the Hartford Police Command Staff and during "Public CompStat" meetings. To ensure proper compliance with the directive, the supervisors required officers to submit the yellow copy (officer's copy) of all infractions and summons issued along with the activity report.

The audit completed by Sergeant Clark in January 2023, discovered that after the requirement to submit the yellow copy was lifted, Officer Michael Fallon was the only traffic officer found to have

purposefully and willfully reported false statistical enforcement information in his weekly reports. Sergeant Clark reported that he expected that Officer Fallon had a reasonable explanation for the discrepancies listed on his weekly activity reports. During a four-week period, from December 18, 2022, through January 14, 2023, the audit discovered that Officer Fallon falsely reported an additional 25 motor vehicle stops that he did not conduct and 13 issued infractions that he did not issue.

On Sunday, January 15, 2023, Sergeant Clark, and Sergeant Zarebski held a meeting with Officer Fallon regarding the discrepancies listed on his activity reports. At the meeting, Officer Fallon was presented with his weekly activity reports, a printout of the Traffic Division Ticket Database, and screenshots from the Records Management System (RMS) of his calls for service and traffic stop numbers. At the conclusion of the meeting, Officer Fallon admitted to the sergeants that he purposely lied on his activity reports to embellish his activities over the four-week period. He responded that his reason for doing so was that he did not want to disappoint his supervisors with a limited amount of activity.

The audit investigation found Officer Fallon to be in violation and charged with violating the Hartford Police Department's Code of Conduct: **Article II, Section 2.10: Knowingly and willfully making a false entry in any departmental or other official report or record. Article VI, Section 6.09: Intentionally and willful failure to comply with any lawful orders, procedures, directives, or regulations, oral or written.**

The Special Investigation Report (SIR) was completed on January 19, 2023, and forwarded through the Hartford Police Department's chain of command to Chief of Police Jason Thody for approval. On February 9, 2023, Chief Thody signed the SIR, approving the report and administrative charges against Officer Fallon.

*A copy of Special Investigation Report (SIR) 2023-007 is included as Enclosure 1.*

2. On February 24, 2023, Chief Jason Thody prepared an interdepartmental memorandum to Lieutenant Brian Bowsza, Commander of the Hartford Police Internal Affairs Division, and requested an administrative investigation into the conduct of Officer Fallon, initially documented in SIR #2023-007. Chief Thody wrote that this request was due to the severity of the allegations and the potential impact on Officer Fallon's ability to perform the duties of a police officer.

*A copy of Chief Jason Thody's Interdepartmental Memorandum is included as Enclosure 2.*

3. On Monday, February 27, 2023, I, Sergeant Valdemar Duarte was assigned by Lieutenant Brian Bowsza, as the lead investigator for an administrative audit investigation. Sergeants Christopher Chanaca, Michael Chauvin, Manuel Pacheco, and Leslie Suarez, all investigators assigned to the Hartford Police Department's Internal Affairs Division, were assigned to assist with the audit.
4. This investigation examined the traffic stop form system on RMS. It was revealed that the traffic stop forms are completed by filling out a series of drop-down boxes that are auto-filled when the officer selects the correct criteria. If an officer fails to review the form prior to submitting it, it can result in input, typographical, and/or human errors.

5. This investigation then conducted a comprehensive audit of Officer Michael Fallon's traffic stops, traffic stop forms, Axon body-worn camera videos, and case incident reports. A copy of Officer Fallon's weekly activity reports and his infractions entered into the Traffic Division Database were obtained, reviewed, and compared with the Hartford Police Record Management System (RMS) activities, Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD), Automated Vehicle Locator (AVL), and Dispatch recordings. This review was conducted for activities during the time period of January 2, 2022, through December 31, 2022.
6. During this time period, Officer Fallon reported on his weekly activity reports that he conducted a total of:
  - **575 Motor Vehicle Stops**
  - **Issued 281 Traffic Infractions**

*It will later be explained in this report that Officer Fallon actually conducted 347 traffic stops and issued 250 infractions.*

A query of the Hartford Police Record Management System (RMS) for traffic stop forms was conducted and it revealed that Officer Fallon reported conducting a total of:

- **380 motor Vehicle Stops**
- **Issued 179 Traffic Infractions**

Based on RMS traffic stop forms, Officer Fallon overreported **195 traffic stops** on his weekly activity reports throughout that time frame, totaling **33.9 percent** of his traffic stops.

This investigation confirmed through the Traffic Division Ticket Database that Officer Fallon actually issued:

- **250 Traffic Infractions**

Because the Traffic Division Ticket Database is populated by entering infraction information from actual tickets issued, it was verified that Officer Fallon issued 250 traffic infractions for the year 2022. It was confirmed that Officer Fallon in fact, only overreported **31 traffic infractions** on his weekly activity reports, totaling **11 percent** of his traffic infraction.

Officer Fallon reported he issued **179 traffic infractions** on required traffic stop forms. During the audit, it was revealed that Officer Fallon had incorrectly reported the results of many of his traffic stops on the traffic stop forms, resulting in RMS recording an incorrect number of infractions. Often, he reported a different enforcement action when, in fact, he issued an infraction.

*Copies of Excel Sheets of Officer Fallon's Motor Vehicle Stops and Traffic Stop Forms, copies of the Weekly Activity Sheets, and a copy of the Traffic Division Ticket Database Sheets are included in Enclosure 3.*

7. Due to the discrepancies noted in the traffic stops, a further review was conducted by searching all of Officer Fallon's body-worn camera (BWC) of the reported traffic stops to verify that the stops occurred and the outcome of those stops. Those stops were also verified with the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD), Automated Vehicle Locator (AVL), Traffic Stop Forms, and Dispatch recordings. Of the **380 traffic stops** recorded in the RMS, this investigation discovered that **46** had discrepancies.

- **Three of the stops** were incorrectly entered into the CAD by Dispatch. Officer Fallon called in these incidents as unoccupied suspicious vehicles (10-64), but Dispatch entered them into CAD as a moving violation. Even though Officer Fallon called them in as unoccupied suspicious vehicles, he completed a traffic stop form in RMS. Note that according to Hartford Police Department Policy and Procedure, General Order 5.09-Traffic Control and Enforcement, an unoccupied suspicious vehicle is not a qualifying stop and does not require a traffic stop form. Furthermore, BWC camera activation is not required for these incidents.
- **43 of the stops** did not have a corresponding BWC video.

The following was discovered regarding those **43 traffic stops**:

- **Seven** of these stops were confirmed to have occurred through Dispatch recording and infractions entered in the Traffic Division Database. There is no AVL data for these incidents. Officer Fallon often utilized his Department-issued motorcycle, which does not have AVL capability.
- **Six** traffic stops were unverifiable. There was AVL data indicating that Officer Fallon's cruiser stopped in the area of the reported stop for a brief time, (one to five minutes). There were no BWC videos for these stops. He cleared all the calls as either "Verbal" (verbal warning issue) or "Ocean" (other disposition).
- **30** traffic stops were confirmed to be false. There were no BWC videos for all 30 reported traffic stops. There was no Dispatch recording for 20 of these 30 stops. On 10 of these stops that included Dispatch recordings, it was confirmed through AVL data that the cruiser's speed never came to a complete stop for the reported traffic stops. Officer Fallon indicated on 12 traffic stop forms that he issued infractions. There were no tickets entered into the Traffic Division Database for the reported 12 traffic stops. Additionally, 17 of the 30 traffic stop forms were completed in RMS by duplicating a P-number related to another, previously completed, traffic stop, thereby creating additional traffic stops in RMS that did not occur.

A review of the traffic stop forms also revealed that out of the **380** traffic stop forms completed by Officer Fallon, he incorrectly reported the operator's gender **12 times**. He incorrectly reported the operator's race **19 times**. It is unknown if there was a pattern of intentional misconduct in these reports. As noted in paragraph 4, regarding the completion of traffic stop forms in RMS, this may be a result of input, typographical, and/or human errors.

*General Order 5.09-Traffic Control and Enforcement, Excel Sheets Highlighting the 46 Traffic Stops with Discrepancies and Excel Sheet Highlighting the Incorrect Gender, Race, and Result of the Stops are Included in Enclosure 4.*

8. While reviewing the traffic stops, this investigation discovered serious concerns with a traffic stop documented under case number 22-00189. There were no BWC videos for this traffic stop. A check of the Dispatch records revealed one recording. Officer Fallon called in a traffic stop at the Sanford Street and Windsor Street intersection. He asked for a case number and cleared the call "Report to be Filed." He then conducted a history check for an [redacted] with the Info1 Dispatcher. He asked Dispatch to attach the information to the previously reported traffic stop at Sanford Street at Windsor Street. There was no other information provided to Dispatch. A review of the case number revealed that Officer Fallon applied for an arrest warrant affidavit and it was approved by the Hartford Superior Court regarding this reported traffic stop. This traffic stop is one of the 46 questionable traffic stops listed above. A summary of the arrest warrant is as follows:

Officer Fallon wrote that on January 21, 2022, at approximately 2314 hours, he was on patrol in the area of 2279 Main Street, when he observed a Gray Acura, bearing the Connecticut registration plate AZ71993, driving northbound on Main Street. He observed the vehicle to have a muffler that was modified from its original form, based on the size of the muffler's tip and the loud noise it was generating.

After following the vehicle for a moment, Officer Fallon conducted a traffic stop directly in front of 726 Windsor Street (Sanford Street at Windsor Street intersection). Officer Fallon reported that due to the heavy tint on the vehicle's window, Officer Fallon could not determine how many occupants were in the Acura. He utilized his cruiser's public address speaker and instructed the operator to lower the windows, which he did. Officer Fallon reported that he exited his cruiser and approached the Acura. He said that he "made eye contact with the operator of the vehicle via his driver's side mirror." He said that he had "a clear view of the operator's face." At that moment, the Acura suddenly accelerated and fled north on Windsor Street at a high rate of speed. The operator recklessly passed multiple vehicles on the wrong side of the road, disregarding the red light at the intersection of Boce Barlow Way and Windsor Street. Officer Fallon wrote "I did not pursue the Acura."

Officer Fallon conducted a query of the Connecticut registration plate in COLLECT, which revealed that the Acura was registered to [redacted] of Hartford, Connecticut. A query of [redacted] DMV blowback photograph associated with the registration revealed that [redacted] was not the operator that Officer Fallon saw operating the Acura. Officer Fallon located a phone number for [redacted] and called him.

Officer Fallon spoke with [redacted] on the phone. [redacted] reported that he does not own the Acura. He reported that the Acura belongs to his brother, [redacted] said that he had registered the Acura under his name because his brother did not have the means to do so. [redacted] provided Officer Fallon with a phone number for [redacted]

On January 24, 2022, Officer Fallon spoke with [redacted] on the phone. [redacted] reported that he drives the Acura in question and said that he is the only one with the keys for the vehicle. He said that he

lives at Main Street, near where Officer Fallon had observed the violation on the Acura. He also admitted that he was operating the Acura in that area on the night in question. He denied all allegations that he fled from police on that night but could not provide any other explanation as to who was operating the vehicle. stated that the vehicle was parked in front of his house and had not been stolen.

Officer Fallon traveled to Main Street and located the Acura parked outside of the address. He confirmed that was the same vehicle that fled from him on the traffic stop. Officer Fallon conducted a COLLECT/DMV blowback photograph query of Officer Fallon reported that he was “certain, without a doubt,” that was the individual he saw operating the Acura on the night in question and fled from the traffic stop.

Based on the above investigation, Officer Fallon prepared an arrest warrant application for charging him with multiple motor vehicle violations. The arrest warrant was submitted and approved by a Hartford Superior Court Judge on March 7, 2022.

9. Due to the fact that there was no BWC video for this stop and limited information provided to Dispatch, a review of the AVL on Officer Fallon’s assigned cruiser # 513 was conducted. It revealed that the AVL was operational, recording speed and direction at the time of the reported stop. At 23:03 hours, the AVL showed Officer Fallon’s cruiser traveling north on Main Street. At 23:05:17 hours, while traveling north on Main Street, he conducted a query on his cruiser’s Mobile Data Terminal (MDT) of Connecticut registration plate AZ71993, which belongs to the above-mentioned Acura. The cruiser continued north on Main Street, then east on Sanford Street. At Sanford Street and Windsor Street, where Officer Fallon reported that he conducted the traffic stop, his cruiser’s AVL showed that the cruiser’s speed did not come to a stop. The AVL showed the cruiser turned north on Windsor Street at 16 mph and quickly accelerated to 71 mph. The cruiser turned east on Boce Barlow Way and accelerated to speeds of 77 mph. The cruiser then turned south onto Interstate Highway 91 (I-91) and accelerated to speeds of 115 mph to exit 27, on I-91. The AVL loses connection at this location, at 23:09:50 hours, and it reconnects at 23:11:58 hours. The AVL then showed the cruiser entering I-91 northbound at the Wilbur Cross Parkway and it traveled north on I-91. At 23:14:32 hours, Officer Fallon called in the traffic stop at Sanford Street and Windsor Street, but the AVL showed that the cruiser was traveling northbound on I-91 at the time. After calling in the stop, the AVL showed the cruiser exited I-91 at exit 33, Jennings Road.

A further review of the AVL on Officer Fallon’s cruiser revealed that it was recording speeds and direction approximately every 10 to 11 seconds, with the exception of the disconnection at 23:09:50 to 23:11:58 hours. There were no recorded disconnections when the cruiser was in the area of Sanford Street at Windsor Street. The AVL evidence raised concerns as to whether Officer Fallon stopped his cruiser, gave direction over the public announcement system to lower the window, exited the cruiser, approached the Acura, “made eye contact with the operator of the vehicle via his driver’s side mirror” and had “a clear view of the operator’s face” before the Acura fled the traffic stop. Furthermore, there is no BWC video to support this traffic stop. He called in the traffic stop approximately eight minutes after the AVL showed him in the area of Sanford Street at Windsor Street and he did not provide Dispatch with any information regarding a fleeing vehicle.

Based on preponderance of the evidence, this stop could not be verified as having occurred, which, coupled with Officer Fallon's previous admission of falsifying his weekly activity reports, raised serious concerns about his credibility.

A check of the COLLECT/NCIC revealed that the Hartford Police warrant (W-22-00237) written by Officer Fallon for \_\_\_\_\_ was still active and that \_\_\_\_\_ had not been arrested for said warrant. To err on the side of caution, the Hartford Superior Court was immediately informed of the discrepancy discovered. The court decided to vacate the warrant. The warrant was then removed from COLLECT/NCIC. The hard copy warrant (W22-00237) was removed from Hartford Police Detention and from the RMS.

*The Approved Arrest Warrant, Copies of AVL Recordings and Dispatch Recordings, COLLECT/NCIC Warrant Cancel Confirmation Page, and RMS Warrant Withdrawn Confirmation Sheet are included as **Enclosure 5**.*

10. The investigators also conducted an in-depth audit of Officer Fallon's other Case Incident Reports to determine if there were any other inconsistencies. Between January 2, 2022, through December 31, 2022, Officer Fallon wrote 154 reports. That included eight supplemental reports and 55 reports listed as "No Offense" or "CO32-51 Parking Ticket" (snow tows). These cases did not involve citizen contact and were removed from this list, leaving 91 reports. A random number was assigned to each of the case numbers, and 30 of them were selected for review. This accounted for approximately 33.3% of his reports.

The investigators observed minor discrepancies with some of the reports. In case incidents 22-010360, 22-000089, and 22-013857 involving operation under the influence investigations, Officer Fallon indicated in his reports that he turned off his cruiser's emergency lights during the field sobriety test, but the BWC video showed the cruiser lights were activated. Note that this had no effect on the results of the stops, as these operators failed both the field sobriety test and the breathalyzer test and/or refused to provide a breathalyzer sample. Two of these stops were conducted during daylight hours, therefore, the cruiser lights would have little to no affect on the tests.

In case number 22-012872, he wrote that "several DMV checks were made," but BWC showed no checks of the operator or vehicle were made. He wrote that the operator chose to leave her vehicle parked in a private lot when the vehicle was unregistered. BWC showed that it was Officer Fallon who advised the operator to leave the vehicle in the private lot, instead of having it towed.

In case number 22-000734, a motor vehicle accident involving an operation under the influence arrest, Officer Fallon contacted the Capital City Command Center (C4), which was able to find the crash on city cameras and confirm the time of the crash. Officer Fallon wrote that he requested the video be preserved on a disk and that he would tag it as evidence at a later time. A review of RMS evidence and the Hartford Police Property Room inventory revealed that Officer Fallon did not tag the disk.

*A List containing the Case Numbers Reviewed is Included as **Enclosure 6**.*

11. Investigators reviewed the Harford Police Department Policy and Procedure General Order 5.35-Body-Worn Cameras. Listed below is the section of the policy that is pertinent to this investigation.

*Uniformed police officers shall activate the camera at the inception of the interaction with the public in a law enforcement capacity. Officers are not required to notify the public when the camera is in use. However, if asked, the officer will inform the person that they are being recorded. This should be documented in the officer's report, if applicable.*

*For the purposes of this policy, "interacting with the public in a law enforcement capacity," means that a police officer is in personal contact with one or more members of the public, the purpose of which is to conduct a self-initiated investigation into, or to respond to a third-party complaint involving, the possible commission of any offense, violation, or infraction.*

The investigators confirmed through Dispatch recordings and the Traffic Division Ticket Database that seven out of the 46 reported traffic stops with discrepancies did occur. In these stops, Officer Fallon issued infractions to the operators on a self-initiated motor vehicle investigation. Officer Fallon failed to comply with the BWC policy, which required him to activate his BWC during these traffic stops.

*A copy of the Harford Police Department Policy and Procedure General Order 5.35-Body-Worn Cameras is Included as **Enclosure 7**.*

12. Officer Fallon resigned his position as police officer with the City of Hartford on March 6, 2023, effective immediately. Therefore, he cannot be compelled to be interviewed. On March 28, 2023, at approximately 0831 hours, I called ( ) and spoke with Officer Fallon. I spoke to Officer Fallon on my work phone in speaker mode, and the conversation was witnessed by Sergeant Leslie Suarez. He was asked if he would like to participate in an interview regarding this investigation. He said that he wanted to first speak with the Hartford Police Department Union President, Sergeant James Rutkauski. He said that he would contact me at a later date if he decided to be interviewed.

On March 30, 2023, at approximately 0920 hours, Officer Fallon called me on my work phone. I spoke to Officer Fallon on the phone in speaker mode, and the conversation was witnessed by Lieutenant Brian Bowsza. Officer Fallon said that he spoke to his union representation and he respectfully declined to be interviewed for this investigation.

*A copy of Officer Fallon's Resignation Letter is Included as **Enclosure 8**.*

### **Summary and Findings:**

On Sunday, January 15, 2023, Sergeant Corey Clark, Harford Police Traffic Division Supervisor, conducted an annual audit of the Traffic Division personnel's reported weekly activity. The audit discovered that during a four-week period, from December 18, 2022, through January 14, 2023, Officer Michael Fallon purposefully and willfully reported false statistical enforcement information to his supervisors. During this period, the audit discovered that Officer Fallon had falsely reported an additional 25 motor vehicle stops that he did not conduct and 13 traffic tickets that he did not



issue. When Sergeant Clark met with Officer Fallon and asked him about the discrepancies, Officer Fallon admitted that he purposely lied on his activity report to embellish his activities over the four-week period. He said that his reason for doing so was that he did not want to disappoint his supervisors with a limited amount of activity.

The audit investigation by Sergeant Clark found Officer Fallon to be in violation and administratively charged him with violating the Hartford Police Department's Code of Conduct: *Article II, Section 2.10: Knowingly and willfully making a false entry in any departmental or other official report or record. Article VI, Section 6.09, Intentionally and willfully failure to comply with any lawful orders, procedures, directives, or regulations, oral or written.*

A Special Investigation Report (SIR 2023-007) was completed and forwarded through the Department's chain of command to Chief of Police Jason Thody for approval. On February 9, 2023, Chief Thody signed the SIR and accepted the charges against Officer Fallon.

On February 24, 2023, Chief Thody requested a more in-depth administrative investigation into the conduct of Officer Fallon, initially documented in SIR #2023-007. The Chief wrote that this request was due to the severity of the allegation and the potential impact on Officer Fallon's ability to perform the duties of a police officer.

On Monday, February 27, 2022, I was assigned as the lead investigator for this administrative investigation by Lieutenant Brian Bowsza. Sergeants Christopher Chanaca, Michael Chauvin, Manuel Pacheco, and Leslie Suarez, all investigators assigned to the Hartford Police Department's Internal Affairs Division, were assigned to assist with the audit portion of this investigation.

This investigation conducted a comprehensive audit of Officer Michael Fallon's traffic stops, traffic stop forms, associated Axon body-worn camera videos, and case incident reports. A copy of Officer Fallon's weekly activity reports and tickets entered in the Traffic Division Database were reviewed and compared with the Hartford Police Record Management System (RMS) activities, Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD), Automated Vehicle Locator (AVL), and Dispatch Recordings. This audit was conducted for Officer Fallon's work activities during the time period of January 2, 2022, through December 31, 2022.

Officer Fallon reported conducting 575 traffic stops on his weekly activity reports for the year 2022. The investigators discovered only **380** motor vehicle stops for 2022 recorded in RMS. Based on the preponderance of the evidence, I concluded that Officer Fallon overreported on his weekly activity reports for the year 2022, **195** traffic stops, totaling **33.9 percent** of his reported total traffic stops, and **31 traffic infractions**, totaling **11 percent** of his reported total traffic infractions.

This investigation discovered **46** of the **380** traffic stops by Officer Fallon had discrepancies, and/or Dispatch or officer error. The 46 stops are listed below.

- Three (3) reported non-traffic stop incidents were incorrectly entered into the CAD as a motor vehicle stop by Dispatch. Officer Fallon still filled out a traffic stop form on RMS. Note that by policy, non-qualifying traffic stops incidents do not require a traffic stop form.

- Seven (7) reported traffic stops were confirmed to have occurred via review of Dispatch recording and infractions issued and entered in the Traffic Division Database. Officer Fallon failed to activate his BWC for these stops, resulting in seven (7) BWC policy violations.
- Six (6) reported stops were unverifiable. There was AVL indicating that Officer Fallon stopped in the area of the reported stop for a short moment. There were no BWC videos for these stops. He cleared all the stops as verbal or other disposition; therefore, no paper trail exists to confirm the stops.
- Thirty (30) reported stops were confirmed to be falsified. There were no BWC videos for any of these reported stops. There were no Dispatch recordings for 20 of these 30 stops. On the 10 stops with Dispatch recordings, the AVL showed that the cruiser never came to a stop. On 17 of these 30 stops, the traffic stop forms were completed by duplicating a P-number related to a different stop, therefore creating additional traffic stops in RMS. There were no infractions entered into the Traffic Division Database, even though on 12 of these traffic stop forms, Officer Fallon indicated that he issued an infraction.

Based on the above listed data, it was verified that Officer Fallon completed thirty-three (33) traffic stop forms for traffic stops that did not occur. By completing these traffic stop forms, he falsely reported traffic data to the Hartford Police Department, as well as the State of Connecticut.

A review of the traffic stop forms also revealed that out of the 380 traffic stop forms completed by Officer Fallon, he incorrectly reported the operator's gender 12 times. He incorrectly reported the operator's race 19 times. This investigation was unable to determine if this was a pattern of intentional misconduct.

A review of Officer Fallon's reports revealed major discrepancies with case number 22-00645. Officer Fallon reported that during a traffic stop, he had a clear view of the driver's face in a side-view mirror when he approached the vehicle on foot. This investigation proved beyond the preponderance of evidence that the traffic stop did not occur as reported. The AVL showed that the speed of Officer Fallon's cruiser never came to zero at the time of the reported traffic stop. The AVL contradicts Officer Fallon's report that he approached the vehicle on foot after pulling it over. Officer Fallon wrote and submitted an arrest warrant affidavit for the operator, based on this information. The arrest warrant was approved by the Hartford Superior Court. This investigation discovered that the arrest warrant had not been served. The court was immediately notified, and the warrant was vacated.

In other reports, minor inconsistencies were discovered. Officer Fallon wrote in three reports that he turned off his cruiser's emergency lights during the field sobriety test, but the BWC video showed the cruiser lights were activated. In one report, he wrote that he checked the operator's name several times in DMV records, which he did not. In the same reports, he wrote that the operator chose to leave her vehicle parked in a private lot when the vehicle was unregistered. BWC showed that it was Officer Fallon who advised her to leave the vehicle in the private lot instead of having it towed. In another report, he wrote that he was going to tag a disk containing video evidence of a crash, but he failed to do so.

Officer Fallon resigned his position as police officer with the City of Hartford on March 6, 2023. Office Fallon was contacted and asked if he wanted to be interviewed for this investigation and he respectfully declined.

**Based on the preponderance of the evidence as detailed this investigation, this investigation concluded the following:**

**Officer Michael Fallon:**

*Violation of the Code of Conduct..... Sustained*

The administrative investigation proved beyond the preponderance of evidence that during the course of the year 2022, Officer Michael Fallon violated the following sections of the Code of Conduct:

**Article II, Section 2.10:** *Knowingly and willfully making a false entry in any department or other official report or record.*

- Overreported 195 traffic stops and 31 infractions on his weekly activity sheets.
- Falsely completed 33 traffic stop forms for traffic stops that did not occur.
- False entry into an arrest warrant (Case Incident 22-00189).

**Article V, Section 5.02:** *Negligent entry in any Bureau, Division, or Department record.*

- Negligent failure to enter accurate information for Case Incidents 22-010360, 22-000089, 22-013857, and 22-012872.

**Article V, Section 5.08:** *Negligent failure to comply with any lawful orders, procedures, directives, or regulations, oral or written.*

- Failure to comply with the Harford Police Department Policy and Procedure General Order 5.35-Body-Worn Cameras during seven traffic stops.

**Article V, Section 5.13:** *Failure to properly identify, collect, or preserve evidence in a timely fashion due to carelessness or neglect.*

- Failure to secure and tag a Capital City Command Center (C4) video as evidence of a crash.