

**UNION COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE
INTERNAL AFFAIRS INVESTIGATION REPORT**

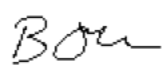
					CASE NUMBER: EA-23-0016	
NAME OF COMPLAINANT BHPD PERSONNEL		HOME ADDRESS N/A			HOME TELEPHONE N/A	
BUSINESS ADDRESS 29 PARK AVENUE, BERKELEY HEIGHTS, NEW JERSEY, 07922					BUSINESS TELEPHONE 908-464-1111	
DATE OF BIRTH N/A	SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER N/A	RACE N/A	ETHNICITY N/A	GENDER N/A	CELL TELEPHONE N/A	
SUBJECT(S) INFORMATION						
BERKELEY HEIGHTS POLICE CHIEF JASON MASSIMINO						
ALLEGATION(S):						
At the conclusion of EA-23-0016, I submit to you the following summary: On October 12, 2023, Berkeley Heights A+ and Berkeley Heights Police Department B+ reported misconduct allegations against BHPD Chief Jason Massimino. During the meeting with A+ and B+, they advised that Chief Massimino had been exhibiting concerning behavior (which will be provided in detail below), so during July 2023, they held an intervention to request that Chief Massimino get treatment to assess his mental health. Chief Massimino met with C+ and was deemed unfit for duty and ordered to continue with medical treatment until a separate doctor cleared him to return to work. A+ expressed concern for Chief Massimino's ability to return to the BHPD after the damage he caused to the department. BHPD brought thirty-three complaints to UCPO's attention. UCPO did not pursue numerous allegations reported to us as misconduct, specifically, allegations that Chief Massimino said he was hanging out with Aaron Judge, had business dealings with Shaquille O'Neal, was a character in a movie, dressed up in a hazmat suit to observe dead bodies, spread a rumor that unnamed personnel at BHPD had sex on duty, mumbled during a 9/11 memorial, attended an emergency use of force meeting when he had not, testified on behalf of A+ at a lobbyist meeting when he had not, attended a Chief's swearing-in and said he had not been there when he was, said he was diagnosed with "blood on his brain" and a "bad memory," and said two brothers had committed suicide in their jail cell when they had not. Upon review, while indicative of a larger problem, these allegations do not fall under any standards of misconduct in the BHPD. The following is a list of the interviews, documents, and other evidence I reviewed during the investigation: 1. Report written by B+ regarding allegations against Chief Massimino. 2. Berkeley Heights Police Department Rules and Regulations and Berkeley Heights promotion statute.						
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3. ASAP Ticket requesting forensic examination and forensic examination report.
4. Text message screenshots of Chief Massimino communicating with himself.
5. Correspondence with Chief Massimino's attorney, James Nolan.
6. Resumes, biographies, and letters of intent for promotion for Sgt., Lt., and Chief.
7. Paperwork and emails about Massimino becoming the lead DT instructor and mandatory DT class paperwork and emails regarding [REDACTED] D+ PTC certification and eligibility.
8. Interview and telephone conversation notes.
9. Master's paperwork provided by [REDACTED] E+.
10. Master's paperwork provided by [REDACTED] F+.
11. Master's paperwork provided by [REDACTED] G+.
12. Master's paperwork provided by [REDACTED] B+, located in the BHPD computer system.
13. Witness acknowledgment forms, Miranda Warnings, Garrity Warnings, and Administrative Advisement forms.
14. Blueprints of a marijuana cultivation facility, emails, overtime and shift change paperwork for [REDACTED] H+ and I.
15. Documentation regarding Chief Massimino's Bachelor's Degree and Master's Degree from Kean University and FDU, respectively, two background checks with conflicting information regarding the Universities he attended.
16. Forfeiture paperwork, pursuit paperwork, Massimino car accidents, and additional reporting.
17. Video-recorded statement of BHPD [REDACTED] B+.
18. Video-recorded statement of BHPD [REDACTED] J+.
19. Video-recorded statement of BHPD [REDACTED] H+.
20. Video-recorded statement of BHPD [REDACTED] K+.
21. Video-recorded statement of BHPD [REDACTED] L+.
22. Video-recorded statement of [REDACTED] M+.
23. Video-recorded statement of [REDACTED] N+.
24. Video-recorded statement of [REDACTED] O+.
25. Video-recorded statement of [REDACTED] D+.
26. Video-recorded statement of [REDACTED] P+.
27. Video-recorded statement of BHPD [REDACTED] E+.
28. Video-recorded statement of [REDACTED] Q+.
29. Video-recorded statement of [REDACTED] I.
30. Video-recorded statement of BHPD [REDACTED] H+ (#2).
31. Video-recorded statement of BHPD [REDACTED] L+ (#2).
32. Video-recorded statement of BHPD Chief Jason Massimino.

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- 33. Video-recorded statement of BHPD B+ (#2).
- 34. Video-recorded statement of BHPD R+.
- 35. Video-recorded statement of BHPD E+ (#2).
- 36. Video-recorded statement of BHPD S+.
- 37. Video-recorded statement of BHPD T+.

Based upon the facts uncovered during this investigation, I considered the following six charges of misconduct against Chief Massimino:

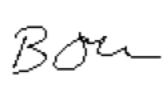
1. Chief Massimino promoted acts of violence and made untruthful comments, negatively impacting BHPD personnel.
2. Chief Massimino made disparaging and untruthful comments to or about BHPD personnel and UCPO personnel to ruin reputations or negatively affect mental health.
3. Chief Massimino obtained his Master's Degree through coercion, deception, and plagiarism.
4. Chief Massimino inappropriately used personnel to conduct personal business and further business ventures.
5. Chief Massimino gave employment preference to personnel not employed with BHPD.
6. Chief Massimino forced BHPD personnel to falsify a police report to benefit a politician.

Charge 1

Chief Massimino was investigated for **DEMEANOR and UNTRUTHFULNESS**, specifically for promoting acts of violence and making untruthful statements about his behavior, negatively impacting BHPD personnel. The allegations related to this behavior have been **SUSTAINED**. Chief Massimino violated BHPD Rules and Regulations **3:1.1 Standards of Conduct, 3:2.2 Unlawful Orders, and 3:13.5 Truthfulness**. Each of the following violations of the rules and regulations has been sustained:

3:1.1 Standards of Conduct - Employees shall conduct their private and professional lives in such a manner as to avoid bringing the department into disrepute.

Chief Massimino repeatedly told stories to BHPD personnel fabricating violent behavior. Some examples include him assaulting a homeless person in NYC, lighting someone on fire at a TGIFriday, taping a suspect's mouth shut during a narcotics detail, and displaying a firearm as a show of force at a red light while he was with his children. Lastly, Chief Massimino lied about his "partner" shooting someone in the chest during a police

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incident. When confronted with the above allegations, Massimino denied saying it or stated he did not recall.

Chief Massimino's aggressive behavior, as reported by [REDACTED] T+, has had a detrimental effect on other officers. [REDACTED] T+ imitated Chief Massimino's behavior and confronted a neighbor during a dispute, citing Chief Massimino's influence as a factor in his response. This underscores the need to address Chief Massimino's behavior to prevent further negative consequences.

Chief Massimino's contrived reputation as a violent man caused [REDACTED] I to fear him while he was employed at the BHPD, and this was one of the main reasons [REDACTED] I left the department.

Chief Massimino showed a propensity to encourage or promote violent actions. His incessant lies about violence caused personnel to imitate or fear him, negatively affecting the BHPD.

3:2.2 Unlawful Orders – No supervisor shall knowingly issue an order which is in violation of any law or ordinance.

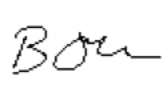
Chief Massimino advised [REDACTED] L+ to wear a mask, dress in black, wait outside [REDACTED] H+ house to learn his behaviors, look for cameras, and then, when the time was right, assault him and not get caught. [REDACTED] L+ immediately advised [REDACTED] B+ of Chief Massimino's unlawful order.

During his interview, Chief Massimino said he was aware that [REDACTED] L+ and H+ had a conflict but denied telling [REDACTED] L+ to assault [REDACTED] H+. Chief Massimino admitted to fabricating stories then changed his response from he did not tell [REDACTED] L+ to assault [REDACTED] H+, to he did not recall.

[REDACTED] L+ ignored the unlawful order given by Chief Massimino to commit crimes. Still, it does not change the fact that Chief Massimino advised [REDACTED] L+ to assault his co-worker and implored him to get away with it.

3:13.5 Truthfulness – Employees are required to be truthful at all times whether under oath or not.

Chief Massimino's repeated fabrication of violent stories, which have negatively affected his personnel and their decision-making, is a clear violation of trust. His untruthfulness has not only damaged the department's reputation, but also betrayed the trust placed in him as a leader.

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Charge 2

Chief Massimino was investigated for **DEMEANOR and OTHER RULE VIOLATION (UNTRUTHFULNESS)**, specifically for making disparaging comments to ruin reputations or to affect the mental health of UCPO and BHPD personnel. The allegations related to this behavior have been **SUSTAINED**. Chief Massimino violated BHPD Rules and Regulations **3:1.1 Standards of Conduct and 3:13.5 Truthfulness**. Each of the following violations of the rules and regulations has been sustained:

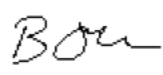
3:1.1 Standards of Conduct - Employees shall conduct their private and professional lives in such a manner as to avoid bringing the department into disrepute.

Chief Massimino contacted [B+ and J+] to spread a rumor about [U+] having a homosexual relationship with an unknown male. Chief Massimino created this story and added enough salacious details to make [U+] an object of ridicule. [U+] is married with children, and rumors of a homosexual affair could have been detrimental to [U+] personally and professionally.

Chief Massimino concocted a story that he and his friends wore masks and beat up an MMA fighter who was having a sexual relationship with [L+] girlfriend. It is unclear why Chief Massimino created the story. However, [L+] was returning from an extended leave of absence [L+], and the fabricated story posed a severe risk to [L+]. [L+] confirmed that when he returned from leave, Chief Massimino claimed [L+] girlfriend had cheated on him, and Chief Massimino confronted and threatened the MMA fighter from [L+]. [L+] said it was frustrating to hear this type of story, which was not good [L+]. Fortunately, [L+] said he did not believe Chief Massimino.

According to multiple members of BHPD, Chief Massimino said that [K+] committed murders with the [K+] and Chief Massimino spread additional discriminatory rumors that he had connections with the [K+] Nation. Chief Massimino also spread rumors about [K+] father saying he was an organized crime "shot-caller." When interviewed, [K+] said the comments about being connected with organized crime and gang members bothered him because he felt his credibility was on the line. [K+] said law enforcement is about integrity and accountability, and the comments damaged his reputation within the department.

[S+] said Chief Massimino disparaged [K+] in front of him when he had only been at the police department [L+]. According to [S+], Chief Massimino said [K+] had

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K+ in his family and he and K+ went to New York with the K+ after a conflict to beat people up. S+ said he did not fully believe the story because law enforcement officers do not behave that way, but he felt obligated to ask L+ and K+ if it was true.

Chief Massimino made disparaging comments about M+, calling him a fraud and an imitator. Chief Massimino fabricated text messages about M+ then showed those messages to members of the BHPD to further damage M+ reputation as M+. M+. Chief Massimino claimed he sparred with M+ and beat him up so others would question M+ fighting skills or M+. On multiple occasions, Chief Massimino purposely caused friction between M+ and recruits at the police academy by telling recruits that M+ did not like them or questioned their M+. Chief Massimino's efforts to convince others to dislike M+ was a pernicious attempt by Chief Massimino to make M+ relationships at the academy contentious.

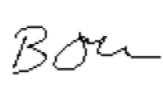
When interviewed, Chief Massimino did not recall saying any of the above disparaging comments, but stated he learned about them during his intervention. Chief Massimino said he was shocked to learn that he had made derogatory comments. He admitted that the disparaging comments about K+ and U+ and the insensitive remarks about L+ could have damaged the officers' careers, reputations, and mental health. He also admitted to sending the text messages to himself and rationalized that showing others the fabricated communications would put him in a good light and end the dispute. He recognized that his reasoning was flawed and attributed the fabricated communications to his mental health.

3:13.5 Truthfulness – Employees are required to be truthful at all times whether under oath or not.

Chief Massimino repeatedly fabricated stories intending to damage someone's reputation or negatively affect someone's mental health (see the above examples in Charge 2, Standards of Conduct).

Charge 3

Chief Massimino was investigated for **DEMEANOR and OTHER RULE VIOLATION (UNTRUTHFULNESS)**, specifically by having subordinates complete his schoolwork to obtain a Master's Degree after plagiarizing the material and turning it into his professors for a grade. The allegations related to this behavior have been **SUSTAINED**. Chief Massimino violated BHPD Rules and Regulations **3:1.1 Standards of Conduct and 3:13.5 Truthfulness**. Each of the following violations of the rules and regulations

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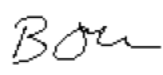
has been sustained:

3:1.1 Standards of Conduct - Employees shall conduct their private and professional lives in such a manner as to avoid bringing the department into disrepute.

Between 2017 and 2019, while Chief Massimino was still a lieutenant, he took classes to obtain a Master's Degree from Fairleigh Dickinson University. Chief Massimino said he received a Master's Degree to advance his career. Chief Massimino assigned his schoolwork to [REDACTED] E+ and R+, who answered discussion board questions and wrote his papers for him. During his interview, [REDACTED] E+ said he completed Chief Massimino's schoolwork at his desk, while on duty, and during work hours. Chief Massimino would make his requests in person, and [REDACTED] E+ spent hours researching the material and writing the papers. [REDACTED] E+ said Chief Massimino coerced him to write the papers by offering him a position in the traffic or community policing unit, which he coveted. He did not want to upset Chief Massimino, as Chief Massimino could hurt him. [REDACTED] E+ said he did not file an internal affairs complaint against Chief Massimino because Chief Massimino was the lieutenant in charge of the Internal Affairs Unit. [REDACTED] E+ said he was concerned about angering Chief Massimino because of Chief Massimino's reputation of being a fighter and his assertions of committing violence. [REDACTED] E+ believed some of Chief Massimino's stories and did not want to anger him. FDU [REDACTED] F+ confirmed that Chief Massimino turned in assignments that [REDACTED] E+ said he had completed. Many of the assignments Chief Massimino turned in [REDACTED] F+ [REDACTED] were exact copies of what [REDACTED] E+ had written and provided to UCPO on a zip drive.

Additionally, [REDACTED] R+ said Chief Massimino asked him to help with his Master's assignments, specifically requesting research and to answer discussion board questions. [REDACTED] R+ said he answered the questions in bullet points, and then Chief Massimino would sit down, and they would discuss the work he completed. [REDACTED] R+ said Chief Massimino would come into his workspace and ask him to do the assignment. [REDACTED] R+ said he would do what Chief Massimino asked and believes he printed out the assignments and handed them to Chief Massimino.

When interviewed, Chief Massimino admitted that his subordinates helped him write rough drafts and edited or proofread his papers. He then changed his story multiple times, with numerous inconsistencies explaining who wrote his papers. Chief Massimino said he spoke with BHPD personnel about the Master's coursework to enlighten and enrich them on leadership perspectives, disputed by all BHPD personnel interviewed. Chief Massimino stated that [REDACTED] E+ helped him write rough drafts then changed his story and intimated that [REDACTED] E+ only acted as a secretary and typed his paper while he dictated the contents. [REDACTED] E+ was brought in for a second statement and denied being Chief Massimino's typist, pointing out his typing was below

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average. Chief Massimino discussed the 8-page "Rudy Giuliani" paper that he turned in as his final paper and stated the paper was a collaborative effort with [REDACTED] E+. Chief Massimino said [REDACTED] E+ typed the paper for him. However, Chief Massimino had no recollection of sitting down with [REDACTED] E+ to write a collaborative paper. On the other hand, [REDACTED] E+ recalled writing the paper, which helps explain why Chief Massimino had no recollection.

It was unethical for Chief Massimino to enlist his subordinates to write papers for him. Chief Massimino turned in assignments to FDU that he did not write, defeating the purpose of pursuing a higher education degree. Moreover, his subordinates wrote the papers during work hours and spent an inordinate amount of time writing Chief Massimino's papers, which was not in the best interest of the Berkeley Heights taxpayers.

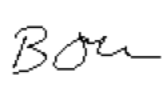
3:13.5 Truthfulness – Employees are required to be truthful at all times whether under oath or not.

Chief Massimino was inconsistent with his facts about how the Master's paperwork was completed and he changed his story multiple times in the video-recorded statement provided to UCPO. At first he stated that BHPD personnel wrote rough drafts and edited and proofread material. Then Chief Massimino changed his story to state that he wrote the papers, and the BHPD personnel acted as proofreaders and typists. Both [REDACTED] E+ and R+ stated they wrote papers and completed assignments for Chief Massimino. [REDACTED] R+ said he printed out the papers and handed them to Chief Massimino, while [REDACTED] E+ said he emailed Chief Massimino the papers. There are numerous one way emails from [REDACTED] E+ to Chief Massimino containing the school work he completed. Chief Massimino said that the emails went both ways, but there is no evidence Chief Massimino sent [REDACTED] E+ any emails. Chief Massimino attempted to minimize the extent of BHPD personnel's involvement in doing his schoolwork. He repeatedly lied about who wrote the papers and who was inevitably involved in helping write his papers.

Charge 4

Chief Massimino was investigated for **DEMEANOR and OTHER RULE VIOLATION (UNTRUTHFULNESS)**, specifically for ordering his subordinates to assist him with personal business. The allegations related to this behavior have been **SUSTAINED**. Chief Massimino violated BHPD Rules and Regulations **3:7.16 (3) Prohibited Activity on Duty and 3:13.5 Truthfulness**. Each of the following violations of the rules and regulations has been sustained:

3:7.16 (3) Prohibited Activity on Duty – Conducting private business while on duty

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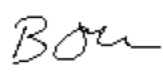
Chief Massimino hosted personal business meetings, specifically by utilizing BHPD personnel to assist him with a marijuana cultivation business. On November 18, 2021, Chief Massimino used personnel, specifically [REDACTED] I+ and H+ to review the blueprints of a marijuana facility located in Vernon, NJ. He requested that [REDACTED] H+ surveil the location and for [REDACTED] I+ to add security icons to the blueprints for presentation. According to [REDACTED] J+, Chief Massimino approached him to admit he made a mistake in compensating [REDACTED] I+ three hours of overtime. UCPO confirmed through timesheets that [REDACTED] I+ was given three hours of overtime for an "IT Security Assessment," which was approved electronically by Chief Massimino. [REDACTED] H+ received a schedule change for his role in a "Security Plan Assessment."

During [REDACTED] I+ statement he said Chief Massimino asked him to edit blueprints related to a marijuana distribution center in Vernon, NJ. [REDACTED] I+ said Chief Massimino sent him documents through personal email and asked him to place security cameras and biometrics (ocular scan and fingerprint machine) icons throughout the blueprints. According to [REDACTED] I+, Chief Massimino drove him home during a lunch break to pick up his laptop because [REDACTED] I+ thought using the work computer to edit the blueprints was inappropriate. [REDACTED] I+ said he sat in the conference room, worked on the document for 8-10 hours, and received overtime. [REDACTED] I+ said he was part of a meeting with Chief Massimino about the marijuana project, and [REDACTED] H+ was asked to check out the facility's geographical area. [REDACTED] I+ said he thought Chief Massimino's requests to work on personal business seemed wrong. However, [REDACTED] I+ said he feared Chief Massimino because of his reputation and found him threatening in how he spoke to people. [REDACTED] I+ admitted to fearing Chief Massimino and believed he could hurt his family. [REDACTED] I+ turned over a flash drive containing the emails and documents he received related to the marijuana blueprints.

[REDACTED] H+ was interviewed and said Chief Massimino asked him to surveil an address in Vernon, NJ, related to a marijuana venture with potential investors. [REDACTED] H+ said Chief Massimino provided a blueprint of the facility and wanted assistance placing cameras throughout the location. [REDACTED] H+ recalled meeting with Chief Massimino about the operation at headquarters, but said he had no background in security assessments. [REDACTED] H+ said Chief Massimino adjusted his schedule on that day, but he never went to the marijuana location in Vernon and did not know what happened to the business venture.

[REDACTED] H+ said there was another occasion when Chief Massimino ordered him to do a security check for the [REDACTED] X+, but [REDACTED] X+ was not receptive to making any changes. [REDACTED] H+ said he went straight from the meeting with [REDACTED] X+ to his [REDACTED] H+ and did not receive compensation.

Chief Massimino's unethical behavior extended beyond the misuse of personnel. He also held business meetings at the BHPD with [REDACTED] V, the owner of [REDACTED] V+. This not only disrupted the work

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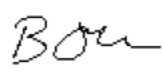
environment, but also showed a disregard for professional boundaries.

Furthermore, Chief Massimino coerced his personnel into manual labor at his residence. [REDACTED] E+ disclosed that in the summer of 2020 when Chief Massimino was a lieutenant, Chief Massimino ordered him to go to his residence in Woodbridge or Colonia to fix an umbrella and parts of his deck. [REDACTED] E+ assessed the work needed and replaced the umbrella cover with a new one. [REDACTED] E+ explained that Chief Massimino asked him to fix rusty metal pieces that were part of Chief Massimino's above-ground pool. Chief Massimino asked [REDACTED] E+ to take the metal pieces off, sand them, and paint them. Although [REDACTED] E+ felt Chief Massimino ordered him to do the work, the work would take an inordinately long time, so he advised Chief Massimino he could not do it. While [REDACTED] E+ was still at the residence, Chief Massimino called his wife, and relayed a message for [REDACTED] E+ to fix two doors inside the residence leading from the kitchen to the deck, which he did. On this date, [REDACTED] E+ was [REDACTED] E+ in civilian clothes without a badge and gun. However, [REDACTED] E+ was on the schedule to work and [REDACTED] E+ had spent time at the PD conducting work-related business. Chief Massimino was not present at his residence that day, while [REDACTED] E+ worked on various projects for over two hours.

During Chief Massimino's interview, he admitted to working on a security model involving a marijuana venture for a friend. Chief Massimino denied getting paid and denied involving his personnel. Chief Massimino was allowed to review the paperwork, including timesheets showing [REDACTED] I got paid three hours of overtime, and [REDACTED] H+ adjusted his schedule for "IT Security Assessment" and "Security Plan Assessment," respectively. With the information provided, Chief Massimino admitted [REDACTED] H+ and I assisted with designing the security models, but said he did not recall paying [REDACTED] I or if [REDACTED] I worked on the blueprints at headquarters. Chief Massimino admitted that it would have been inappropriate if he paid [REDACTED] I for working on a personal business venture.

Chief Massimino did not recall [REDACTED] E+ going to his house during work hours to fix an umbrella, work on the above-ground pool, or fix two doors. He admitted there were times personnel went to his house to help him, but he stated he would have been home while people were over.

Chief Massimino's actions, involving the misuse of personnel for personal business and the misappropriation of BHPD funds, are not only unethical, but also a serious breach of public trust. His decisions to involve personnel in his business ventures and use of BHPD funds for personal use are grave offenses that warrant immediate disciplinary actions.

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REVIEWED BY: HARVEY BARNWELL	DATE: 6/10/2024	PROSECUTOR'S CASE NUMBER EA-23-0016

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3:13.5 Truthfulness – Employees are required to be truthful at all times whether under oath or not.

Chief Massimino denied that his personnel were involved in his business ventures and lied about compensating them. After I showed Chief Massimino the paperwork, he changed his story and admitted **H+ and I** were involved in the business venture, but denied paying **I**. Even though the paperwork clearly stated he approved the overtime on 11/18/2021 at 6:12:39PM, he still denied recollection.

Charge 5

Chief Massimino was investigated for **OTHER RULE VIOLATION (IMPROPER ORDERS)**, specifically for giving improper orders to BHPD personnel to **S+** before employment with the BHPD. The allegations related to this behavior are **NOT SUSTAINED**. Chief Massimino did not violate BHPD Rules and Regulations:

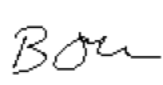
Chief Massimino instructed **H+** to assist BHPD **S+** at the firearms range before **S+** became a member of BHPD. Chief Massimino eventually hired **S+** upon his graduation from the police academy. **H+** met **S+** at the range to practice shooting and **R+** issued **S+** departmental equipment, specifically a "leftover" duty belt, to be worn by **S+** during range week at the academy. According to **S+**, Chief Massimino allowed him to practice shooting before firearms qualifications in the academy.

After review, it was determined that Chief Massimino's offering **S+** candidate he was attempting to hire an opportunity to practice shooting prior to range week did not violate BHPD rules and regulations. Additionally, giving **S+** a "leftover" holster to use during range week did not violate BHPD rules and regulations.

Charge 6

Chief Massimino was investigated for **OTHER RULE VIOLATION (FALSE REPORTING)**, specifically for allegations that he wanted to add false statements to a police report to benefit a politician who was the target of the investigation. The allegations related to this behavior are **NOT SUSTAINED**. Chief Massimino did not violate BHPD Rules and Regulations.

TWP OFFICIAL and his neighbor were involved in a dispute in Berkeley Heights, and Chief Massimino asked **B+** to change a police report that indicated that **TWP OFFICIAL** was the suspect

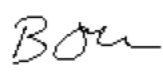
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instead of the victim. Chief Massimino explained to [B+] that [TWP OFFICIAL] votes on their budget and would be angered by the interpretation that he was the aggressor in a dispute. Upon request by Chief Massimino to change the report, BHPD personnel wrote two supplemental reports adding additional information about the dispute, but kept [TWP OFFICIAL] as the aggressor and not the victim. During [B+] interview, he clarified the incident and stated that Chief Massimino directed BHPD personnel to write supplemental reports, but did not ask anyone to state something untrue. Chief Massimino reportedly received information from [TWP OFFICIAL] and believed he was the victim. The investigators involved, as well as [H+] , disagreed and denied Chief Massimino's request to list [TWP OFFICIAL] as the victim. According to [H+] , Chief Massimino expressed concern that [TWP OFFICIAL] would not approve the PD's request for additional officers if he did not get his way. However, BHPD never changed the report, and Chief Massimino did not order anyone to do so.

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