

Due: 5/2/23

-----Original Message-----

From: Brian Erickson <opra+request-41914-42aa5cba@requests.opramachine.com>

Sent: Friday, April 21, 2023 4:16 PM

To: Linda Semus <clerk@mansfieldtwp.com>

Subject: OPRA-request - Kate Tallon Police Reports

Dear Mansfield Township (Burlington),

This is a request for public records made under OPRA and the common law right of access. I am not required to fill out an official form. Please acknowledge receipt of this message.

Records requested:

Please give me a copy of any Police Reports or complaints filed by or filed against Katherine(Kate) Tallon, or mentioning the name "Katherine Tallon" "Kate Tallon" or any variation of the name "K. Tallon" during the timeframe of October 2019-April 21, 2023.

Yours faithfully,
Brian Erickson

Please deliver records electronically via email to the below UNIQUE address for all replies to this request:
opra+request-41914-42aa5cba@requests.opramachine.com

Is clerk@mansfieldtwp-nj.com the wrong address for OPRA requests to Mansfield Township (Burlington)? If so, please contact us using this form:

https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fopramachine.com%2fchange_request%2fnew%3b%2fody%3dmansfield_township_burlington&c=E,1,KEOmxig-q-f8iXb3-KYr3FcdnZlIMFce5-VwX52lz9suBKj1z4qMF8AL9supBTsFp7EHm-11gchwcsF0SDGalhkaNwOQQ98V1UQnk3S996s9HoAHrg.&typo=1

Disclaimer: This message and any reply that you make will be published on the internet. Our privacy and copyright policies:

https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fopramachine.com%2fhelp%2fofficers&c=E,1,-Ru2DMFtAVydnw-OAwYVsTjNGoxEqy-sFf6JY2S5mp1RD7xGZwiv9TzMZMtrYjuADKbjfjh7_8M3Zecb3s3X3iF0SOzN7AWAXluf8dgqhh8.&typo=1

View this OPRA request & responses online:

https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fopramachine.com%2frequest%2fkate_tallon_police_reports&c=E,1,YIE1ST0sfbN2_q--h5Scr3jV_ay-cZpNu5d4Pg-eY002lekjALqhdLww_4MRCEuu6N4rmjEFYkxqdcac3jYl-qpFbiBdqty_Zp0gdmobtgkUX_bUStX_ligFwTk.&typo=1

Please note that in some cases publication of requests and responses will be delayed.

If you find this service useful as an OPRA custodian, please ask your web manager to link to us from your organisation's website.



Case Report

Summary

Agency: Mansfield Township Police Department
Agency #: NJ0031900

Print Date/Time: 04/26/2023 15:15

General Information			
Case Number:	2020-00009631	Reporting Officer:	00015 - MUELLER, DAVID
Occurred Location:	23202 Columbus RD E, MANSFIELD TWP, NJ 08022	Reported Date:	10/07/2020 15:07
Disposition:	Exceptional Clearance	Incident Type:	Theft-Larceny
Disposition Date:	10/07/2020	Occurred From:	10/07/2020 15:03
		Occurred Through:	10/07/2020 15:07

Offenses						
#	Statute Group	Group Agency	Crime Code	Statute	Description	Offense Date
1	State		23H - Larceny All Other	2C:20-3A	THEFT BY UNLAWFUL TAKING	10/07/2020

Subjects							
Number	Type	Name	Address	Contact Information	Race	Sex	DOB
1	Suspect	DiGiuseppe, Janice A	[REDACTED]	HOME - [REDACTED]	White	Female	[REDACTED]
2	Victim	BOYDS PHARMACY	[REDACTED]	BUSINESS - [REDACTED]			
3	Owner	TOOTELL, EDWARD D, Jr	[REDACTED]	HOME - [REDACTED]	White	Male	[REDACTED]
4	Contact	Ashwood, Madalynn	[REDACTED]	CELL - [REDACTED]		Female	[REDACTED]
5	Contact	DALY, JEAN A	[REDACTED]	HOME - [REDACTED]	White	Female	[REDACTED]
6	Informant	Tallon, Kate				Female	

Properties						
#	Date	Type	Property Loss Type	Description	Name	Subject Role
1	10/07/2020	Other	Stolen/Etc.	Campaign cardboard signs		

Vehicles							
Number	Role	Type	Make/Model	Color	Plate/Registration	Year	State

Evidence						
Counter	Evidence Type	Code	Description	Current Location	Date Received	Make/Model
1	Other	Evidence	DVD of Boyd's Pharmacy	In	10/08/2020	

Narratives						
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MANSFIELD TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

3135 Route 206, Suite 3, Columbus, NJ 08022 (609) 298-4411

Initial Investigation Report

Case Number: 2020-9631

Victim(s): 1. Boyd's Pharmacy

Suspect(s): 1. Janice DiGiuseppe

Witness(es):

Narrative:

On Wednesday, October 7, 2020, at 1507 hours, Mansfield Twp Police were dispatched for a disturbance at 23202 Columbus Road, Columbus, NJ 08022, locally known as Boyd's Pharmacy. Dispatch further advised that that it was reported by the complainant, Kate Cowan, that the mayor had ripped down campaign posters and business cards and had left the location. Patrolmen Chiappetta, #3328, and Paone, #3337, went to the pharmacy to gather the initial information pertaining to the incident. Refer to Officer Chiappetta's Supplemental Report detailing on scene actions taken.

While on scene, Ptl. Chiappetta contacted me and briefed me on what he observed recorded on surveillance footage. I then requested that he gather a copy of the video for this case. After my briefing with Ptl. Chiappetta, I researched for any State Law pertaining to Political Interference or Election Interference, but could not find anything. I did find information for the Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC), contact number 609-292-8700 or 1-888-313-3532. I called those numbers, but since it was after 1700 hours, they were closed.

I then did contact Burlington County Central Communications County Wide Dispatcher and requested to speak with an Assistant Prosecutor for legal guidance. Shortly afterwards, I spoke with AP Almeida, who was briefed on the case as I understood it. It was determined that if the signs were destroyed, that criminal mischief would be the appropriate charge. We also agreed on the possessory of the items in question. Meaning that the final owner of the items was Boyd's Pharmacy.

At approximately, 1824 hours, on October 7, 2020, Ptl. Chiappetta and I, went to [REDACTED], located in the [REDACTED] Development in Mansfield Twp., to speak with, Janice DiGiuseppe, the identified person in the video. At the residence, I rang the the front door bell and the resident, identified as Janice DiGiuseppe, answered the door. I introduced myself and Ptl. Chiappetta, as DiGiuseppe welcomed us to come into her residence. Prior to entering, I asked her if she was aware of why we were at her residence, to which she answered in the affirmative. As we walked into the entryway, DiGiuseppe went into the kitchen's breakfast area, which was located directly adjacent to the entryway, and retrieved two (2) cardboard campaign signs (see included photos) and multiple campaign business cards. As she presented these items, she stated, "First of all, I did not throw them away. Here they are." "If you want to know I took these to distribute," referring to the business cards. "Maybe I should not have taken these off the counter, but I did not throw them in the garbage," referring to the two cardboard campaign signs.

As part of my on scene questioning, I then asked if she could explain to me what went on. She related that she was in the pharmacy with her husband to get a prescription and saw these, referring to the business cards, on the counter. She explained that as a longtime customer, that she was concerned upon seeing these cards on the counter

and that it "just made me a little angry, but did not throw them away." She continued on relating how Facebook messages were incorrect about what she had said.

I then asked her about a woman who she had spoken with in the video. I explained that the video had no sound, and since everyone had on masks, facial expressions of recognition or friendliness couldn't be observed; however, I did see physical gestures with their hands. DiGiuseppe explained who the person was, and that the two had had a personal conversation, but did say that she took the signs to her and that these people were running against her. She also indicated that she often speaks with her hands. DiGiuseppe was willing to provide to me the name and phone number of the unidentified woman, now known as Jean Daly. DiGiuseppe did admit that she "made a mistake," but she "did not throw a fit." She also did inquire about any video and asked if video would be released. I told her that any video could not be released while the case is an active investigation; however, any person could file an Open Public Records Act (OPRA) request, at which time any approved records would be released.

During our dialogue, I explained to DiGiuseppe that the business cards left on the counter top were free for anyone to take, but that since the signs had been taped to the pharmacy's counter wall, that they were the property of Boyd's Pharmacy and that charges could be filed against her for theft of the signs. I did also explain the complaint process to her. DiGiuseppe did turn both signs over to my possession for return to their rightful owner. It should be noted that both signs had creases in the middle and clear tape on the top from where they were hung on the pharmacy's counter wall. (see included photos)

Prior to leaving, I told DiGiuseppe that I would be speaking to a representative of Boyd's Pharmacy to determine what the pharmacy wishes to do pertaining to formal charges against her and how the charging process would proceed.

At police headquarters, I called Jean Daly, who told me that she didn't see DeGiuseppe take the signs down, she just recognized her and they had a conversation. She further related that as she was leaving, she heard DiGiuseppe say something about someone, but she didn't really pay attention. I then called Madalynn Ashwood, the manager at Boyd's Pharmacy, but her voicemail was full.

At approximately, 1926 hours, on October 7, 2020, I went to the residence of the owner to Boyd's Pharmacy, Edward Tootell. Tootell explained that he is part owner of the pharmacy, but could represent the interest of the business. I asked if he was familiar with the happenings of the day. Tootell informed me that his manager for the pharmacy, identified as Madalynn Ashwood, had spoken to him about the incident. I explained to Tootell of the outcome of my dialogue with DiGiuseppe and gave the signs back to him. (see completed Property Sheet)

After speaking to him about the matter, and the process by which he could pursue signing complaints against DiGiuseppe, he indicated to me that he did not wish to file formal charges. Tootell was then presented with a Waiver of Prosecution form that he signed, confirming his intention to have the matter closed with no formal charges being filed. It should be noted that I did observe Tootell had a campaign sign displayed that supported the candidates that were on the signs taken by DiGiuseppe, which to me, furthered my confidence that Tootell's waiver was an objective decision.

At police headquarters, I contacted DiGiuseppe and explained to her the outcome of my conversation with Tootell and that no formal charges would be filed, as per Tootell's instruction. The case is closed.

Respectfully Submitted by,


Sgt. David Mueller, #3305

Reviewed by:



Supervisor



MANSFIELD TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

3135 Route 206, Suite 3, Columbus, NJ 08022 (609) 298-4411

Supplemental Investigation Report

Case Number: 2020-9631

Victim(s): 1. Boyd's Pharmacy

Suspect(s): 1. Janice DiGiuseppe

Witness(es): 1. N/A

Narrative:

On Wednesday, October 07, 2020, at approximately 1507 hours, Mansfield Township Police were dispatched to Boyd's Pharmacy, located at 23202 Columbus Road, Columbus, NJ 08022, for report of a disturbance. Upon arrival, Ptl. Paone, #3337 and I made contact with the manager, identified as Madalynn Ashwood. Ashwood was already in the process of looking up the video of the incident. Ashwood told us that the Mayor, Janice DiGiuseppe, entered the store, observed her opponents, Tallon and Golenda, campaign signs hanging up with tape. She then saw a stack of business cards on the front counter next to the signs. Mayor DiGiuseppe took the signs down and business cards off of the counter. Mayor DiGiuseppe then walked out of the store with the items, complaining about the signs being hung up. Ashwood was asked where she got the signs and business cards from. Ashwood told us that a local business, Piccolissimo, had the literature for people to take, so she took some, and hung them up in Boyd's Pharmacy. Ashwood told us that the business cards were for people to take, but the signs hanging up by tape were not. Ptl. Paone and I were able to find the video of the incident. We observed Mayor DiGiuseppe take down the signs hanging, remove the business cards from the counter, and place them under her arm. We then observed Mayor DiGiuseppe speaking with a customer in Boyd's Pharmacy, and walk out with the literature. I then contacted Sergeant Mueller, #3305, to advise him of the situation. See Sergeant Mueller's Initial report for further details.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Pt. Chiappetta #3328
Pt. Chiappetta, #3328

Reviewed by:

Supervisor



MANSFIELD TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

3135 Route 206, Suite 3, Columbus, NJ 08022 (609) 298-4411

Supplemental Investigation Report

Case Number: 2020-9631

Victim(s): 1. Boyd's Pharmacy

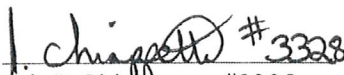
Suspect(s): 1. Janice DiGiuseppe

Witness(es): 1. Kate Tallon

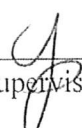
Narrative:

On Wednesday, October 07, 2020, at approximately 1507 hours, Mansfield Township Police Department responded to a disturbance at Boyd's Pharmacy, located at 23202 Columbus Road, Columbus, NJ 08022. The incident that was created by central communications, reflected Kate Cowan as the caller. Upon further review of the 911 recording, it was discovered that the name was typed incorrectly, and the correct caller is Kate Tallon. No further information to report.

Respectfully Submitted by,

 #3328
Ptl. J. Chiappetta, #3328

Reviewed by:


Supervisor