

Brett P. Smiley
Mayor

Colonel Oscar L. Perez
Chief of Police



Department of Public Safety, Police Department
"Building Pride in Providence"

September 9, 2025

Ferenc Karoly, Esq.
Executive Director
Providence External Review Authority
400 Westminster Street, Suites 201-202
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Dear Director Karoly:

I am in receipt of your Findings of Fact and Determination as to Sgt. Matthew Rampone in your case number PCM-2023-0005. I have reviewed your letter and the relevant materials associated with this matter. After such review, I both agree and disagree with your recommendations, to be discussed more thoroughly below.

At the Providence Police Department civilian complaint hearing occurring on May 3, 2023, the hearing officer found Sgt. Rampone to have violated department rules and procedures 200.13, demeanor, and 200.15, conduct towards the public. Sgt. Rampone was issued a verbal reprimand and remedial training.

PERA now recommends that Sgt. Rampone be suspended for five (5) days without pay and receive eight (8) hours of training on the First and Fourth Amendments and other general orders and ordinances referenced in your decision. I disagree with your recommendation that this incident calls for a period of suspension. As you are aware, progressive discipline is utilized in the Providence Police Department. A review of Sgt. Rampone's disciplinary history does not support such a recommendation. Indeed, as you referenced in your letter, he received a one (1) day suspension back in 2011 – fourteen (14) years ago – for obedience to laws and rules and a one (1) day suspension in 2014 – eleven (11) years ago – for a cruiser pursuit violation. There has been no discipline since that time. The proximity of and the nature of this discipline does not support a five (5) day suspension. However, I reaffirm my discipline of a verbal reprimand with the previously directed remedial training, which addressed these issues or concerns related to the First and Fourth Amendment.

Thank you for your attention to and correspondence in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Col. Oscar Perez", is written over a horizontal line.

Colonel Oscar Perez
Chief of Police