

## Introduction

**Date of Incident:** June 7, 2023

**Officers Involved:** Sgt. Jerry King, Officer Rene Wissel, Officer Tyler Johnston

**Use of Force Review Board Chairperson:** Deputy Chief Justin Bouse

**Use of Force Review Board Members:** Deputy Chief Rodney Sullivan  
Sergeant Christina Reifsteck  
Sergeant Kyle Gregg  
CCSO Lt. Seth Herrig  
CCSO Capt. Shane Cook

## Synopsis

On Wednesday, June 7, 2023, Sgt. Jerry King #72 responded to the 400 block of E. Campbell in Rantoul, IL to assist Officer Wissel on a suspicious vehicle investigation. During the course of this incident, he discharged his duty weapon.

## Summary

On July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023, the Use of Force Review Board was convened with all members of the Use of Force Review Board present. The Review Board reviewed the following items pertaining to this investigation:

- Officer Wissel Original Police Report
- Officer Wissel Supplemental Police Report
- Officer Smith Supplemental Police Report
- Officer Smith Supplemental Police Report
- Sergeant King Supplemental Police Report
- Sergeant King Supplemental Police Report
- Officer Johnston Supplemental Police Report
- Officer Johnston Supplemental Police Report
- Officer Wissel's Body-Worn Camera footage
- Officer Smith's Body-Worn Camera footage
- Officer Johnston's Body-Worn Camera footage
- Sergeant King's Body-Worn Camera footage
- Rantoul Police Department Policy 300 Use of Force
- Rantoul Police Department Policy 325 Standards of Conduct

## Purpose

According to Rantoul Police Department Policy 301 Use of Force Review Boards, the board determines the following in regards to the use of force incident:

- a) The employee's actions were within department policy and procedure.
- b) The employee's actions were in violation of department policy and procedure.

## Conclusion

At the conclusion of the items presented a discussion was held in regards to the two pertinent policies involving this use of force incident. These two policies are Rantoul Police Department Policy 300 Use of Force and Rantoul Police Department Policy 325 Standards of Conduct.

The board unanimously came to the following conclusion in regards to the actions of Officer Wissel, Officer Johnston and Sergeant King and the policies listed above:

Sgt. King's actions were within department policy and procedure.

Officer Johnston's actions were within department policy and procedure.

Officer Wissel's actions were in violation of department policy and procedure, specifically Policy 325, Standards of Conduct, sections b, c and g. Additionally, Officer Wissel did not attempt to de-escalate the situation.

In addition to reviewing the use of force for policy violations, the review board also conducted discussion in regards to training needs identified during this incident. These training needs focused on both department-level training and individual training for Officer Rene Wissel, Officer Tyler Johnston and Sgt. Jerry King.

### Department Training Needs

- Increase reality-based training under stress
- Increase "force on force" training
- Refresher of Policy 300, Use of Force
- Virtual reality (VR) could supplement reality-based training, but cannot replace it. Department VR Headset is outdated technology.
- Ability to control persons through using control tactics from multiple positions (standing, groundwork, etc.)

### Officer Wissel Training Needs

- Increase communication/de-escalation training, including scenario training.
- Re-enforce suspect management training (2 on 1, 1 on 1) suspect management.
- Refresher of Policy 325, Standards of Conduct
- Refresher of Policy 300, Use of Force