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August 25, 2026

Laurie Segura (*via email and US mail*)
Secretary
Youngsville Municipal Fire and Police
Civil Service Board
Post Office Box 310
Youngsville, LA 70592

RE: Youngsville PD Det. Tyra Dorsey
Petition for Investigation

Dear Laurie:

Enclosed for filing, please find my client's *Petition for Investigation*.

With kindest regards, I am,

Very truly yours,

ALLYSON C. MELANCON

ACM/mce

cc: Mr. Danny Landry (*via email only*)
Det. Tyra Dorsey (*via email only*)

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In Re:

Youngsville Municipal Police Civil
Service Board

Petition for Investigation

Docket Number:

Petitioner, YPD Detective
Tyra Dorsey

PETITION FOR INVESTIGATION

NOW COMES Petitioner, Detective Tyra Dorsey ("Det. Dorsey"), a regular, permanent, classified employee of the Youngsville Police Department ("YPD"), and a citizen and qualified elector of the State of Louisiana, who respectfully petitions the Youngsville Municipal Police Civil Service Board ("the Board") to conduct an investigation into the administration of personnel and/or compliance with civil service law, and into the conduct and performance of the YPD official named herein, and in support states as follows:

I. JURISDICTION AND AUTHORITY

1. The City of Youngsville operates a regularly paid police department and, as of July 1, 2025, has a population of 19,980, within the population range governed by La. R.S. 33:2471(A). See also La. Const. Ann. art. X, § 16.
2. Louisiana Revised Statute 33:2477 provides, in pertinent part, that "[t]he board shall: ... (4) [m]ake, at the direction of the mayor, commissioner of public safety, chief of either the fire or police department, or upon the written petition of any citizen for just cause, or upon its own motion, any investigation concerning the administration of personnel or the compliance with the provisions of this Part in the said municipal fire and police services; review, and modify or set aside upon its own motion, any of its actions; take any other action which it determines to be desirable or necessary in the public interest, or to carry out effectively the provisions and purposes of this Part." The statute further provides that any investigation requested by written petition of a citizen for just cause shall be completed within sixty days of the Board's receipt of the petition. This Petition is submitted under that authority.
3. La. R.S. 33:2500(C) provides that, "although it is incumbent upon the appointing authority to initiate corrective or disciplinary action, the board may, and shall upon the written request of any qualified elector of the state which sets out the reasons therefor, make an investigation of the conduct and performance of any employee

in the classified service and, thereupon may render such judgment and order action to be taken by the appointing authority. Such action shall be forthwith taken by the appointing authority.” This Petition also invokes that mandatory investigative duty as to the conduct and performance of Assistant Chief Kenny Duhon, an officer and/or employee within the meaning of Municipal Police Civil Service Law and within the Departmental chain of command over Petitioner.

4. The Louisiana Supreme Court has recognized that La. R.S. 33:2500(C) and La. R.S. 33:2501 are distinct provisions, noting that the Board's authority to initiate an investigation at the request of a qualified elector under La. R.S. 33:2500(C) is separate from the employee appeal process under La. R.S. 33:2501.
5. This Petition sets out below, in detail, the reasons supporting the Board's investigation and consolidates two related categories of misconduct that share a common origin and a common set of actors: (A) the anonymous, defamatory letter mailed to Det. Dorsey's assigned school and the internal printer-log evidence tracing its origin to Assistant Chief Duhon's office computer; and (B) Det. Dorsey's involuntary transfer out of the Criminal Investigations Division (“CID”) the day after Youngsville Mayor Ken Ritter instructed Chief J.P. Broussard not to take action against Det. Dorsey because of her pending HR complaint.
6. Det. Dorsey further shows that this Petition is the direct product of a referral by Mayor Ritter himself. On May 12, 2026, after her internal grievance against Assistant Chief Duhon went unresolved for weeks despite repeated written follow-up (including by undersigned counsel), Chief Broussard returned the grievance, which had been forwarded to Mayor Ritter, with the handwritten instruction: “refer to civil service board.” Det. Dorsey takes the Mayor at his word and respectfully brings this matter before the Board accordingly.

II. STATEMENT OF FACTS

A. The Anonymous Letter and Printer-Log Evidence

7. On June 2, 2026, Acadiana Renaissance Charter Academy Middle School's principal received an anonymous letter, postmarked from Baton Rouge, addressed to school staff, falsely alleging that Det. Dorsey “abandoned her post as an SRO at ARCA” on March 17, 2026 without permission or replacement, that students and teachers were “left unprotected,” and that “several supervisors at the Youngsville PD are aware of this incident and are trying to hide this from getting out to the public and school.” Upon information and belief, identical or substantially similar letters were mailed to multiple ARCA-area schools.

8. Det. Dorsey's own follow-up investigation established two relevant facts. First, the envelope bore an ordinary, commercially available postage stamp rather than the metered City stamp the Mayor's office confirmed is used on all official City and YPD correspondence, indicating the letter did not originate through official channels. Second, the shared office printer used by CID, the Chief, the Assistant Chief, the Deputy Chief, and administrative staff Laurie Segura and Lydia Armbruster shows a printed history reflecting that Assistant Chief Duhon printed seven copies of a document from his Outlook inbox at 4:54 a.m. on May 27, 2026. This is the same number of letters subsequently mailed to area schools, and the timing is consistent with the June 2 receipt date following Baton Rouge processing.
9. The letter's content, including its specific, non-public assertion that unnamed "supervisors" were concealing the March 17 incident, reflects insider knowledge available only to a limited group of YPD personnel with access to the underlying complaint and Internal Affairs ("IA") file, further supporting an inference that it originated from within the Department's chain of command rather than from a member of the public.
10. Chief Broussard, when presented with this evidence and asked to authorize an IA investigation into its origin, stated he would do so only if Det. Dorsey could "get proof it came from within the department." She submits that the printer-log evidence set out above constitutes such proof and that this matter accordingly falls squarely within the Board's authority to investigate compliance with the civil service law and the conduct of the employees implicated.

B. The July 10, 2026 Involuntary Transfer

11. On July 2, 2026, Det. Dorsey submitted a formal complaint to the City of Youngsville Human Resources Department (Cristin Boudreaux) documenting the course of conduct described in this Petition and in the accompanying chronology. See attached Exhibit "A."
12. On July 9, 2026, and on information and belief, Mayor Ritter advised Chief Broussard, during a city council meeting, that Det. Dorsey had filed an HR complaint and specifically instructed him not to "make any moves" because of it.
13. The very next day, July 10, 2026, Assistant Chief Duhon ordered Det. Dorsey's involuntary transfer out of CID into the Traffic Division. Det. Dorsey had served in CID for approximately one year, with a case-closure and arrest record exceeding that of the more junior detective, Det. Lester Hebert, who had then been in CID for roughly two months and who replaced her. Following the transfer, Det. Dorsey was directed to surrender her assigned vehicle and office, both of which were

reassigned to Det. Hebert, notwithstanding her greater seniority and YPD's stated practice of "last one in is the first one out."

14. Assistant Chief Duhon's stated rationale for the transfer, that Det. Dorsey had an "inability to follow directions" and was "never where I am supposed to be located," tracks the same disputed March 17 incident already investigated and found not sustained.
15. The one-day interval between the Mayor's explicit warning against retaliation and the order effecting Det. Dorsey's transfer, together with the seniority and performance disparities between her and the officer who replaced her, supports an inference that the transfer was made deliberately to discriminate against Det. Dorsey within the meaning of the transfer provisions of the Municipal Police Civil Service Law, and in reprisal for her protected complaints.

C. Exhaustion of Internal Remedies and the Chief's Referral to the Board

16. Det. Dorsey filed a written grievance against Assistant Chief Duhon on April 15, 2026, concerning his handling of the false rumor that she was involved in a personal relationship with a coworker, YPD Officer Clay Durke, and other conduct described more fully in the accompanying chronology. See Exhibit A. That grievance went unanswered for six working days in violation of the Department's stated grievance policy timeline, was resolved only after repeated written follow-up, and was resolved in a manner Det. Dorsey promptly and repeatedly disputed in writing on April 30, 2026 and again on May 11, 2026, including through undersigned counsel.
17. As set out above (§ 6), Chief Broussard returned Det. Dorsey's still-unresolved grievance on May 12, 2026, with the notation "refer to civil service board." Det. Dorsey has accordingly exhausted the Department's internal grievance process as to the underlying conduct and now brings that matter, together with the subsequently arising IA-override and retaliatory-transfer issues, before the Board as the Mayor himself directed.

III. GROUNDS FOR INVESTIGATION

Based on the foregoing, Det. Dorsey shows just cause and sets out reasons for the Board to investigate the following:

- The origin, authorship, and distribution of the anonymous June 2, 2026 letter sent to ARCA-area schools concerning Det. Dorsey, including the significance of the printer-log record implicating Assistant Chief Duhon;

- Whether Det. Dorsey's July 10, 2026 transfer from CID to the Traffic Division was made deliberately to discriminate or retaliate against her, in light of its timing relative to her July 2, 2026 HR complaint and the Mayor's July 9, 2026 warning to the Chief;
- Whether Assistant Chief Duhon's conduct toward Det. Dorsey, including the spreading of an unfounded personal rumor, a sustained pattern of raised-tone confrontations documented by multiple witnesses, and involvement in the events described above, constitutes conduct unbecoming or a violation of the standards the Board is charged with enforcing; and
- Whether YPD's administration of its grievance and disciplinary processes as applied to Det. Dorsey complied with the Municipal Police Civil Service Law and the Department's own policies.

IV. RELIEF REQUESTED

WHEREFORE, Petitioner, Det. Tyra Dorsey, respectfully requests that the Board:

- Docket and open an investigation into the matters set out above;
- Exercise its authority to subpoena witnesses and compel production of records, including the YPD shared-printer logs, Assistant Chief Duhon's Outlook and email records, the City's postage/mail-metering records, and related IA files, necessary to complete the investigation;
- Following investigation, render such judgment and order such action to be taken by the appointing authority as the Board deems appropriate, including reversal of the July 10, 2026 transfer if the Board finds the transfer was taken without just cause or for a discriminatory or retaliatory purpose; and
- Grant such other and further relief as the Board deems just and proper.

Respectfully Submitted:
Sallinger/Melancon Defense Attorneys


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Counsel for Detective Tyra Dorsey

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Tyra Dorsey

VERIFICATION

I, Tyra Dorsey, being duly sworn, depose and state that I have read the foregoing
Petition for Investigation and that the factual matters stated therein are true and correct
to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.


Tyra Dorsey

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 25th day of August, 2026.


Allyson C. Melancon, Notary Public
LABN23472
Lifetime Commission