

INTRODUCTION

On 26 March 2016, at approximately XXXX hours, at XXXX W. Madison Street, at OEMC, through Zone X, an unknown individual said over the OEMC frequency, “Moulie” and “You’re a jigaboo” while Dispatcher A was working the zone. Dispatcher A took offense to the comment and felt it was directed at her. She immediately informed OEMC Supervisor A, who also listened to the transmission. When they attempted to save the transmission it was missing.

APPLICABLE RULES AND DIRECTIVES

Rule 8. “Disrespect to or maltreatment of any person, while on or off duty.”

ALLEGATIONS

On 26 March 2016, at approximately XXXX hours, Dispatcher A, an OEMC Dispatcher, registered a complaint with IPRA Investigator A. It is alleged on 26 March 2016, at approximately XXXX hours, at XXXX W. Madison Street, at OEMC, through Zone 1, that an unknown individual said to Dispatcher A “Moulie” and “You’re a jigaboo.”

INVESTIGATION:

On 15 April 2016, in an audio interview to IPRA, Dispatcher A stated while she working as a relief dispatcher for OEMC, Zone one, which covers XXXth and XXXth Districts, she accidentally caused feedback on the channel. Dispatcher A related that an unknown voice came over the radio and said, “Dam squad” and then a different voice came over the air and said, “Moulie” and “Jigaboo.” Dispatcher A immediately notified her supervisor, OEMC Supervisor A, who listened to the immediate playback. OEMC Supervisor A agreed with Dispatcher A and felt the comments were directed at her. In an effort to retain the radio transmission with the derogatory remarks on it, OEMC Supervisor A and Dispatcher A discovered they were missing. OEMC Supervisor A related that OEMC and their outside vendor were trying to recover the missing radio transmission. (Att. 9)

On 21 April 2016, IPRA sent an Email asking Civilian 1, OEMC Technician, about the absence of the recording. Civilian 1 deferred the question to Civilian 2 from Technical Support for the OEMC recording system, who in essence stated that the offending remark could have been broadcast from a “Cheater” radio or device that is unauthorized but commercially available, and it was not clear exactly why this transmission was not saved. Civilian 2 added that it would be extremely difficult for someone to locate the data, produce it and then erase the recording, and that a deletion would affect more than a few seconds of audio recordings. (Att.’s 11-15)

CONCLUSION

The Reporting Investigator recommends a finding of **Not Sustained** against an unknown individual who transmitted the words, “Moulie” and “Jigaboo” while Dispatcher A was working. Although the actual racial remark was heard by both Dispatcher A and OEMC Supervisor A, the recording was unfortunately missing when they tried to save it from the OEMC recording system and no source could be identified.