GUAM POLICE DEPARTMENT IAS CASE NO. 08-031, CONFORMANCE TO LAWS (ASSAULT) GAGARIN CASE

On April 9, 2008, Mr. Rey M.S. Gagarin filed a complaint with the Internal Affairs Section, alleging that he was assaulted by an off-duty police officer.

Gagarin stated that sometime before midnight on April 8, 2008, he was watching television at his residence when he heard the sound of screeching tires in his front driveway, to which he went outside to investigate. He saw a gray colored Montero speeding away from the driveway.

Shortly after the Montero sped off, a white colored Sentra and an official police vehicle arrived at his residence. An off-duty police officer drove the Sentra. The official vehicle was occupied by a uniformed male police officer and a uniformed female police officer.

Gagarin stated the off-duty police officer approached him, yelled at him and then punched him in the face.

The off-duty officer had escorted the police vehicle to Gagarin's residence, in part, because an occupant in the Montero had vandalized his privately owned vehicle at a gas station in Yigo. He had followed the Montero to Gagarin's residence.

Gagarin stated he tried to explain to the officers that he had no involvement with the individuals in the Montero, however, he was subsequently handcuffed and taken to the Dededo Police Station.

Dededo Precinct officers later arrested three individuals who were responsible for the malicious damage to the off-duty police officer's vehicle. Gagarin was not charged with any crime and was released at the precinct.

The Criminal Investigations Section conducted the follow-up investigation and subsequently referred the case to the AG's Office for their review and disposition.

The Internal Affairs investigation, although completed, did not prove or disprove that the officers assaulted Mr. Gagarin. The case was sustained on administrative violations of the General Orders of the Guam Police Department and disciplinary action was issued.