

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY HQ 548TH COMBAT SUSTAINMENT SUPPORT BATTALION P-880 OSWEGO AVENUE FORT DRUM NY 13602

AFDR-SEA 09 June 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Watertown NY police report

- 1. I have maintained contact with the Watertown Police Department throughout the investigation, speaking with 1LT Donoghue (CID) and Officer Bickel (Crime Scene Investigator). The Watertown Police Department will only release media statements and a police accident report (MV-104A). The photos, accident reconstruction, witness statements and complete report are only released if SSG Clarke is charged or if she passes away. However, I was allowed to view all documents and photos.
- 2. **Police Report Unofficial:** An officer, stopped between buildings, heard a motorcycle moving at a high rate of speed and getting closer on Court St. When the motorcycle passed the officer he turned on the lights, SSG Clarke then increased speed nearing triple digits and turned right on to the Court St. Bridge where she drove between two vehicles forcing them off the road. The officer did not maintain pursuit but SSG Clarke was observed throughout the city by several officers as she took LeRay St. and crossed back into the City at a high rate of speed (between 70-100 based on reconstruction). At this point SSG Clarke hit the brakes in an attempt to stop from hitting a vehicle 50 ft. away. She laid her bike down and hit the rear of the vehicle.
- a. Prior to the first officer pulling behind SSG Clarke she was observed riding with another biker that took another route wearing "Rough Rider" colors. Both bikes came from a night club frequented by the motorcycle club named Ichiban.
- b. SSG Clarke's bike featured a modified license plate holder that prevented anyone from reading her plate unless on foot up close. The plate was mounted under the seat frame facing/exposed to the tire.
- 3. 1LT Donoghue: Allowed me to view pictures of the motorcycle but not of the accident. His officer on scene removed SSG Clarke's helmet and remained until EMTs arrived. This technique is now taught in cases where ATVs, Snowmobiles, or Motorcycles are involved. 1LT Donoghue was not allowed to provide me with the witness statements. The pictures show minor damage to the motorcycle and scratches to the impact vehicle.
- 4. Officer Bickel: Allowed me to read the written report from the officer who initiated the stop and who was first on scene. This report referenced the speeds of the motorcycle throughout the chase and specifies the actions of SSG Clarke upon first

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contact. When the officer turned on his light to initiate the stop, SSG Clarke recognized the police and increased speed substantially. It is assumed that SSG Clarke did not see the car that was pulled over because she was turned back looking at the police vehicle. Upon returning her view to the front she chose to brake then lay the motorcycle down.

4. The point of contact is CPT Dustin Vosburg at EMAIL: dustin.a.vosburg.mil@mail.mil, DSN 315-772-2616.

DUSTIN A. VOSBURG

CPT, LG

Investigating Officer