

# MEMORANDUM

LOUISVILLE METRO POLICE DEPARTMENT

GREG FISCHER  
MAYOR

ROBERT J. SCHROEDER  
CHIEF OF POLICE

**TO: Detective Brett Hankison #6150  
Criminal Interdiction Division**

**FROM: Robert J. Schroeder  
Chief of Police**

**DATE: June 19, 2020**

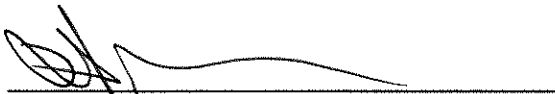
**RE: PRE-TERMINATION OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND**

## **SUMMARY OF CHARGES:**

The attached document summarizes the charges against you. This document further indicates my current intention to terminate your employment with the Louisville Metro Police Department.

## **INTENDED ACTION: TERMINATION FROM EMPLOYMENT**

You have been advised of the charges against you and my intended action. This is to advise you, you will have an opportunity before me and my selected staff to respond to the intended action, address the factual determinations set forth in the attached correspondence, and to further explain your side of this matter on [REDACTED] at [REDACTED]. You may have an attorney or union representative with you if you so desire.



Robert J. Schroeder  
Chief of Police

Served by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Received by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



LOUISVILLE METRO POLICE DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

GREG FISCHER  
MAYOR

ROBERT J. SCHROEDER  
CHIEF OF POLICE

June 19, 2020

Detective Brett Hankison #6120  
Criminal Interdiction Division

**Public Integrity Case #20-019**

Dear Detective Hankison:

Please be advised of my present intention to terminate your employment with the Louisville Metro Police Department. However, on [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] you will have an opportunity, with counsel or union representative, if you desire, to provide me with additional information or mitigating factors. I intend to take this action based upon my review of the Public Integrity Unit investigation file, which was initiated on March 13, 2020. The investigation conducted by the Louisville Metro Police Department's Public Integrity Unit was provided to me on Tuesday evening, June 16, 2020 for review. The following is the result of my subsequent review.

Violations of:

Standard Operating Procedure 5.1.2 Obedience to Rules and Regulations (4 counts)

**-Sustained**

Standard Operating Procedure 9.1.12 Use of Deadly Force (10 counts) **-Sustained**

I have determined you violated Standard Operating Procedure 5.1.2 Obedience to Rules and Regulations when your actions displayed an extreme indifference to the value of human life when you wantonly and blindly fired ten (10) rounds into the apartment of Breonna Taylor on March 13, 2020. These rounds created a substantial danger of death and serious injury to Breonna Taylor and the three occupants of the apartment next to Ms. Taylor's. I make my determination pursuant to the preponderance of the evidence.

You also violated Standard Operating Procedure 9.1.12 Use of Deadly Force when you used deadly force by blindly firing ten (10) rounds into Breonna Taylor's apartment without supporting facts that your deadly force was directed at a person against whom posed an immediate threat of danger or serious injury to yourself or others. In fact the ten (10) rounds you fired were into a patio door and window which were covered with material that completely prevented you from verifying any person as an immediate threat or more importantly any innocent persons present.

You further failed to be cognizant of the direction in which your firearm was discharged. Some of the rounds you fired actually travelled into the apartment next to Ms. Taylor's endangering the three lives in that apartment. You have previously been disciplined for reckless conduct that injured a innocent person in Professional Standards Case #17-062 for which you were disciplined on January 9, 2019.

Based upon my review, these are extreme violations of our policies. I find your conduct a shock to the conscience. I am alarmed and stunned you used deadly force in this fashion. You have never been trained by the Louisville Metro Policed Department to use deadly force in this fashion. Your actions have brought discredit upon yourself and the Department. Your conduct has severely damaged the image of our Department we have established with our community. The result of your actions seriously impedes the Department's goal of providing the citizens of our city with the most professional law enforcement agency possible. I cannot tolerate this type of conduct by any member of the Louisville Metro Police Department. Your conduct demands your termination. I have the utmost confidence in my decision to terminate your employment for the best interest for the Louisville Metro Police Department and our community.

Sincerely,



Robert J. Schroeder  
Chief of Police

RJS/WDS/dng

Cc: Lieutenant Colonel L. Chavous  
Major J. Schwab  
Major K. Burbrink  
Wm. Dennis Sims  
Professional Standards Unit