



**Office of the New York State  
Attorney General**

**Letitia James  
Attorney General**

December 4, 2025

Via E-mail

Chief Joseph Cecile  
Syracuse Police Department  
511 S. State Street  
Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: Executive Law § 75(5)(b) Referral of Officer Joseph Murray  
OAG Matter No. 1-818139598

Dear Chief Cecile,

The Office of the New York State Attorney General has reviewed your agency's Executive Law § 75(5)(b) referral of complaints from June 2021 to June 2024 involving Police Officer Joseph Murray. Based on our review, we have not made a finding of a pattern or practice of misconduct, use of excessive force, or acts of dishonesty by Officer Murray.

However, in SPD OOPS # 22-057 (DR 22-372112), Officer Murray assisted in handcuffing an eight-year-old-child who was initially suspected of involvement in a robbery. Whether the handcuffing of the minor was within or without SPD Policy 302.3.3, handcuffing children should be a last resort, and in this case, the eight-year-old did not appear dangerous, resistive or evasive and could have been sat in a patrol vehicle while the incident was investigated, as were others involved in this incident.

We appreciate the cooperation of you and your agency.

Thank you,

Nia Stanford  
Assistant Attorney General

Lillian Marquez  
Deputy Bureau Chief  
Law Enforcement Misconduct Investigative Office