



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

**Letitia James
Attorney General**

May 13, 2026

Police Commissioner Jessica Tisch
New York City Police Department
One Police Plaza
New York, NY 10038

Via Email

Re: Executive Law § 75(5)(b) Referral of Sergeant Aaron Husbands
OAG Matter No. 1-817982028
Tax ID No. 965752

Dear Commissioner Tisch,

The Office of the New York State Attorney General has reviewed your agency's referral of Sergeant Aaron Husbands pursuant to Executive Law Section 75(5)(b). Based on our review, we have concluded that Sgt. Husbands engaged in a pattern of repeated unlawful stops, frisks, and searches in contravention of the Fourth Amendment and that he used force in violation of NYPD policy.

Our findings are based on the following incidents, each of which occurred while Sgt. Husbands was an officer assigned to the 79th Precinct:

- **CCRB Case Number 202202427:** On April 15, 2022 at approximately 8:40pm in Brooklyn, New York, Sgt. Husbands and another NYPD officer stopped a vehicle operated by Complainant 1. There were four other occupants inside of the vehicle. The stop was based on a VTL violation (tinted windows and missing a front license plate). After the vehicle was stopped, Sgt. Husbands ordered the front seat passenger to step out and, as the front passenger stepped out, he asked him if he had any weapons. The front passenger denied being in possession of weapons and Sgt. Husbands asked him if he could frisk him. The front passenger raised both arms and held them out to his side. Sgt. Husbands frisked him about the front jacket pockets and pants pockets and moved the passenger to the rear of the vehicle. CCRB substantiated an improper question to the front seat passenger because Sgt. Husbands lacked founded suspicion of criminality to ask about weapons possession. Also, CCRB found he lacked the reasonable suspicion that the occupant was armed and dangerous required to perform a frisk regardless of whether the occupant consented to it. For the substantiated allegations of an improper question and frisk, NYPD imposed Command A Discipline.

CCRB also noted allegations of other misconduct involving Sgt. Husbands frisking and searching another occupant without justification but resolved those allegations as “unable to determine.” For those allegations, Sgt. Husbands’ sworn statement that he observed a knife clipped onto the occupant’s jacket in plain view could not be corroborated by other evidence.

- **CCRB Case Number 202300644:** On January 18, 2023, at approximately 12:25am in Brooklyn, New York, Sgt. Husbands and two other NYPD officers stopped a vehicle operated by Complainant 2. Two other occupants were inside Complainant 2’s vehicle. The officers ordered all occupants to exit the vehicle. Sgt. Husbands removed a knife from one of the occupant’s waistband. He frisked that occupant’s waist, pants pocket, and jacket pockets and removed two items (a soda bottle and wallet) from the jacket pocket. He informed CCRB that he first observed the soda bottle in the occupant’s jacket when he stepped out of the vehicle. He removed it because it contained a green-colored liquid, which could have been promethazine (a narcotic). He further stated promethazine can be mixed “with other drinks” and will turn liquid green, red, or yellow in color. Of Sgt. Husbands’ actions, CCRB substantiated the search of the occupant’s jacket pocket because he did not express a reason to believe it contained evidence of a crime.

CCRB served Charges and Specifications for the substantiated search allegation and the matter is currently pending with CCRB’s Administrative Prosecution Unit.

- **CCRB Case Number 202302768:** On April 1, 2023, at approximately 10:10pm in front of 404 Marcus Garvey Boulevard in Brooklyn, Complainant 3 was walking southbound on Halsey Street with a friend when two unmarked police vehicles pulled over next to them. Sgt. Husbands exited the vehicle and shone his flashlight on Complainant 3. Sgt. Husbands approached and frisked Complainant 3’s fanny pack, which was positioned diagonally across the front of his chest, jacket pocket, and lower body and did not recover any items. He returned to the police vehicle. CCRB interviewed Sgt. Husbands and he said he frisked Complainant 3 because “he saw something,” but surveillance videos showed Complainant 3’s (and his friend’s) pockets did not appear to have bulges and that his Complainant 3’s fanny pack did not appear to be heavy or pulling on his clothing. CCRB substantiated allegations of an improper stop and frisk because Sgt. Husbands lacked a reasonable suspicion of criminality and Complainant 3 being armed. CCRB cited *Debour*, which holds pocket bulges can be caused by any number of innocuous objects whereas a waistband bulge is a telltale of a weapon, to demonstrate Sgt. Husbands’ observation of “something” was not sufficient to justify a stop and frisk. CCRB also substantiated Sgt. Husband’s failure to provide a Right to Know Act card and improper use of a body-worn camera. Other misconduct noted by CCRB included a failure to prepare a memo book entry and produce a stop and frisk report. For the substantiated allegations, NYPD imposed Command A Discipline.

- **IAB Case Number 2023-29380:** NYPD imposed Command C Discipline with five days of vacation forfeiture for improper use of force. This matter was closed on January 3, 2023.

- **IAB Case Number 2023-28691:** NYPD imposed Command Discipline A for an improper frisk and question. This IAB matter was closed on October 16, 2023.

We note that while Sgt. Husbands faced substantiated allegations of misconduct, he was promoted to Sergeant in May 2024. Because of his supervisory role, we recommend he receive retraining on *Debour* and should he face substantiated allegations involving stops, frisks, and searches in the future, a penalty should be imposed based on NYPD's guidelines on progressive discipline.

Pursuant to Executive Law § 75(5)(c), please provide a written response within 90 days as to NYPD's response to these recommended remedial actions, including documentation of any training provided.

Thank you,

LETITIA JAMES
Attorney General of the State of New York

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