



NEWS RELEASE

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Former Commerce City Police Officer Sentenced to Probation in Shooting Incident

Former Commerce City Police Officer Kevin Lord was sentenced to 3 years probation and 500 hours of community service Friday after pleading guilty to tampering with physical evidence (F6) and misdemeanor false reporting for staging an incident in which he shot himself and then claimed that he had been shot by a suspect.

“The terms of this plea agreement and sentence will assure that Mr. Lord will never be allowed to be police officer again,” said District Attorney Dave Young, noting that a probation sentence would have been likely even if Lord had been convicted at trial due to his lack of criminal history.

“This was a very difficult investigation that no one in law enforcement would want to ever encounter again,” Young said. “I was involved in this investigation from its inception. It started out with us looking for a potential cop killer and turned into a criminal investigation against a police officer. He took it so far that he was willing to put an innocent person in jeopardy for being charged.”

“Mr. Lord's actions on November 8 are not a reflection on the great work the members of the Commerce City Police Department do on a daily basis,” Young said. “Mr. Lord has taken responsibility for his actions and I am hopeful that this felony probationary sentence allows him to get rehabilitated.”

Adams County District Judge Robert Kiesnowski Jr., also ordered Lord to undergo mental health evaluation and treatment.

Lord, who joined the Commerce City Police Department in 2007, was arrested November 13 after falsely claiming he had been shot by a suspect in the 9700 block of Peoria Street on November 8. He resigned from the Commerce Police Department on Nov. 18.

Lord claimed he was shot in the torso when he approached a suspicious stopped vehicle. He radioed that he was going to check out the vehicle and minutes later radioed “shots fired,” reporting that he had been shot once in his ballistic vest. Lord gave a description of the man he said shot him, whom he said had fled after firing out the window of his vehicle at Lord. He also gave a possible license plate number for the suspect's vehicle and gave a description on which a composite drawing of the suspect was based.

Lord identified a suspect from a phony line-up investigators put together during the investigation. Officials announced a \$20,000 reward for information in Lord's shooting.

However, the investigation found that Lord had staged the incident and shot himself with his own .40 caliber "backup" weapon.

"He truly breached the trust we hold in our law enforcement officers," Chief Deputy District Attorney Rhoda Pilmer said at the sentencing hearing. "I and District Attorney Dave Young saw how crushing this was on the law enforcement community when they learned that it was one of their own who perpetrated this on himself."

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