

LETITIA JAMES
ATTORNEY GENERAL

DIVISION OF SOCIAL JUSTICE
LAW ENFORCEMENT MISCONDUCT INVESTIGATIVE OFFICE

May 15, 2024

Chief of Police Joe Cecile Syracuse Police Department 511 S. State Street Syracuse, NY 13202 **Via email** 

Re: Letter regarding Executive Law 75(5)(b) Referral of Police Officer Victoria Losurdo

OAG Matter No. 1-794306507

Dear Chief Cecile,

We have reviewed your agency's Executive Law Section 75(5)(b) referral of complaints involving Officer Victoria Losurdo from February 2018 to March 2021. 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 on the part of Officer Losurdo.

However, we have concerns about Officer Losurdo's August 18, 2019 use of force investigated under OOPS 19-112. In this incident, the Complainant sustained a fractured arm when Officer Losurdo took her to the ground during a forcible arrest for harassment second and disorderly conduct. This injury likely could have been avoided if Officer Losurdo had used the deescalation techniques outlined in SPD's Policy Manual under sections 300.1.1 and 300.2<sup>1</sup>, rather than rapidly taking the Complainant to the pavement. This incident and the resulting physical injury to the Complaint demonstrate the importance of SPD officers reducing the intensity of physical force encounters as the policy instructs.

We appreciate the cooperation of you and your agency.

Thank you,

Tyler Nims Chief, Law Enforcement Misconduct Investigative Office New York State Office of the Attorney General

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> At the time of the incident, these de-escalation techniques were set forth in Section 3.13 of the then-operative Use of Force Policy.