

MEDIA RELEASE

DIVISION OF POLICE • COLUMBUS, OHIO
MICHAEL WOODS • INTERIM CHIEF OF POLICE



For Immediate Release

Public Information Office

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CPD HELICOPTER AVIATION FLIGHT

Today, Columbus Division of Police leadership became aware of negative online comments about a helicopter patrol flight conducted early this morning. Commander Robert Sagle, who oversees the Aviation Section, is reviewing the flight pattern and details of the flight.

The CPD helicopter took off for a regularly scheduled 1 1/2 hour patrol flight beginning at 12:03am. The pilot navigated throughout the city during the flight and responded on several high priority runs, including a stabbing and an assault in progress. During time between dispatched runs the pilot flew a pattern which spelled out “CPD” when later viewed on a flight tracking application. This took less than ten minutes and was conducted at normal patrol altitude. No calls for service were missed during this time and no additional fuel was utilized, but even the appearance that officers were not operating within the mission of the Aviation Section is not acceptable.

The Helicopter Unit strives to fly neighborly and works hard each day to assist patrol on high priority runs and crimes of violence.

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