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EMPLOYMENT - LOUISIANA

Gaspard v. City of Abbeville

Court of Appeal of Louisiana, Third Circuit - November 6, 2013 - So.3d - 2013-519 (La.App. 3 Cir. 11/6/13)

Police officer sought review of civil service board's decision upholding city council's termination of officer's employment, stemming from incident in which officer allegedly injured middle school student when she improperly used and deployed stun gun in school classroom.

The Court of Appeal held that:

- All recordings of interviews from police employees and officers were required, and
- Evidence was insufficient to support trial court's finding that investigating officer's interview was recorded.

In order for termination of police officer under investigation for injury to student based on alleged improper use and deployment of stun gun in middle school classroom not to be rendered absolute nullity, full recordings of interviews from all police employees and officers were required, rather than only from officer under investigation, despite contention that officer under investigation did not have right to obtain recorded statement from investigating officer's interview with police internal affairs board. No exception was applicable to board's interview with investigating officer.

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