Statement of Assistant Chief Fred Shelton regarding the facts concerning incident with Rep. Kabir Karriem and his daughter REDACTED

On October 10, 2016 around 7:55pm, I received a call from Rep. Kabir Karriem. He asked me to come over to his house. He stated he had a problem that he wanted to talk about with me. I advised him that I was on my way to his home. When I arrived at his home at 1326 15th Ave North, he was not there. I rode around the block and made contact with him at the corner of 15th Ave and 12 Street North. I was not in uniform and was off-duty. I asked what was going on and he stated to me that he and his daughter had been into an altercation and that he hit her. He stated that she had been away from home since Friday and that when he confronted her about the matter she became very disrespectful. He stated that he did not want to get locked up about this situation and that the police had been called about this and was talking with her. Rep. Karriem and I stood and talked alone for several minutes one on one, before his mother Helen Karriem got out of his red Camaro and came back to where we were talking and joined the conversation. The rest of the conversation was about what should be done about his daughter from a legal standpoint since she was now 18 yoa. While I was talking with Rep. Karriem, I received a phone call from Lt. Higgins. He stated that Officer Potts was with Rep. Karriem's daughter REDACTED at Wheeler roofing on Military Road and she stated that she and her father Rep. Karriem had been in an altercation and that he had punched her in the face several times with his fist. I told Lt. Higgins I was with Rep. Karriem and that I would call him back. Once I got off the phone with Lt. Higgins, I advised Rep. Karriem about what was going on and that his daughter told Officer Potts that Rep. Karriem had hit her in the face. Rep. Karriem he was visibly upset and the conversation continued for several more minutes. Once I left him I called Chief Lewis and informed him of the situation and upon further conversation with him and City Prosecutor Dennis Harmon the decision was made to arrest and charge Rep. Karriem with Simple Assault Domestic Violence. I called Rep Karriem and advised him that he was being charged with Simple Assault Domestic Violence. He asked if he could surrender himself the next morning (October 11, 2016) at the Lowndes County Adult Center at 7am. I agreed that I would meet him in the morning at the jail and arrest him and have him booked on the charge and released on his own recognizance. He was arrested this morning and released on a recognizance bond.

Later on the night of October 10, 2016, I received a call from Rep. Kabir Karriem and he stated that he did not tell me he hit his daughter and that he did nothing to her. I told him I could have heard him wrong; however, I believe that he told me he did hit her and that he did not want to go to jail over this incident. Rep. Karriem stated that he was talking with me and his mother Helen Karriem and stated again that he did not tell me that he hit his daughter and that his mother was a witness to our conversation. However, when I first arrived to talk with Rep. Karriem, he and I were standing at my private vehicle alone talking for several minutes outside the presence of his mother, Helen. At this time, Helen Karriem was sitting in his car with the door closed and only joined us after we had talked several minutes alone. The part of the conversation we had concerning whether he hit his daughter was before his mother got out of the car, at that time it was only him and me talking.

This statement is true and accurate, to the best of my knowledge.