

City of Nacogdoches
Nacogdoches Police Department
Interoffice Memorandum

Date: 4-13-22
To: CM Mario Canizares
From: Assistant Chief Taravella
Subject: Chief Sevey's NPD purchases

In June, 2021 NPD Project Specialist and Administrative Assistant, Christy Diaz was searching for the owner of a package that arrived at NPD. The package contained a Dewalt cordless tool battery. Packages arrive at NPD almost daily and some are not always addressed well from the sender. The Dewalt battery was a large 20V 9A battery (Model DCB609). After Diaz asked myself (Assistant Chief Dan Taravella), Sgt Tyler Trout and others, she finally asked Chief Sevey if he possibly ordered the battery. He told her that he ordered it and that it was to replace the battery in CID's tool kit, which Chief Weems determined to be false (see Weems' statement). This was the very first of Sevey's purchases that prompted further scrutiny of both his past and future purchases and ultimately led me to CM Mario Canizares with my concerns.

Diaz later notified Weems and I of another questionable purchase of a "Magswitch" device that Sevey made a few months prior in April 2021. A Magswitch is a heavy duty compact magnet primarily used for woodworking and industrial purposes. The location of this magswitch item was unknown, as was its purpose. Shortly thereafter, I noticed another purchase Sevey made of a "twin pack" of two (2) more Dewalt batteries, this time they were 20V 6A (Model DCB206-2).

I believed that none of these items were for NPD purposes (although some could serve a purpose, these specific ones did not). Because I felt that these purchases, and many others I learned of, were questionable, on 1-28-22, I went to CM Canizares to express my concern.

After my initial meeting with Canizares on January 28, 2022, I began examining many of Sevey's JP Morgan purchases, the vast majority of which were through Amazon. It was common knowledge throughout segments of the department that Amazon packages arrived almost daily for Sevey. I went back to January 2019 and created a list of purchases (see attached) that I knew based on my position and 30 years in NPD, were either at a minimum, questionable or at most, completely unrelated to NPD. It began to appear very clear that some of these items were woodworking or hobby related. Aside from the list of questionable tools that were purchased, there were clothing items, leather gear, and various other items that *could* be work related, but