

Philly cops are racist thuggish social media trolls

The Plain View Project (PVP) is a meticulous research initiative established in 2017 that consists of a voluminous database identifying thousands of Facebook posts and comments by current and former police officers in eight cities across the country.

Just last week, PVP published an explosive report that included information compiled in 2016 by a team of Philadelphia attorneys. Those lawyers had discovered that local cops were using social media to promote racism, Islamophobia, misogyny, violence, and rape culture.

Here are just 15 examples of such posts and comments:

1. Apprehended suspects, most of whom are Black men, "should be dead."
2. The image of a bruised and bloodied Black man was used as a sadistic Facebook profile photo.
3. Blacks are like dogs.
4. Blacks shopping at Walmart are "creatures" at "the ghetto mart."
5. Protesters should be run over by cars.
6. Islam is "a cult, not a religion."
7. Muslims are "savages" and "goat-humpers."
8. "Death to Islam."
9. Certain delinquent kids should be "shot in the face."
10. Police "should have stuck a gun up... [a suspect's] butt and pulled the trigger."
11. "It's a good day for a chokehold."
12. In connection with Miranda warnings, I will "f---ing throat punch you...."
13. Beating women is funny.
14. Raping women is funny.
15. Certain foreigners should be urinated on.

Oh, and by the way, the complete and lengthy list identifies



a total of 505 current and former Philly cops. Of that number, 330 are current, meaning they continue to receive a paycheck to, ahem, "protect and serve the community." And those 330 are not all lower-level uniformed officers on the street. They include 16 high-ranking officials, namely an inspector, six captains, and nine lieutenants. Mayor Jim Kenney stated unequivocally that these posts and comments "violate a number of department policies." And he's right because the city's social media policy clearly prohibits "ethnic slurs..., personal insults, and material that is harassing, defamatory..., or discriminatory...." And District Attorney Larry Krasner said the comments and posts are "going to affect... decisions... [that his prosecutors will] have to make about whether certain officers are called [to testify in court]." In other words, many defense attorneys- me included- will argue during trials and hearings that racist, Islamophobic, thuggish, child-abusing, and/or "rapey" cops have credibility problems because their bias motivated their arrests of certain suspects. Racism, brutality, and other misconduct by Philly cops are nothing new. In 1979, this city



Left, is Facebook screenshot of a police officer with an apparent Nazi tattoo. Right, an Islamophobic photo shared on Facebook by a police sergeant. —LEFT TWO PHOTOS COURTESY OF EVAN PARISH

became nationally notorious when its police department became the first in America to be sued by the U.S. Justice Department for having committed or condoned "widespread and severe" acts of police brutality.

And just last year, racist graffiti stating "F — k these n — s" was scribbled in the male officers' locker room at the 17th Police District in Point Breeze.

Moreover, in 2009, the police department was sued by the Guardian Civic League, consisting of 2,300 Black police officers headed by then-President Rochelle Bilal who won the Democratic primary election for Sheriff last month. That group filed its class action federal complaint in response to the Dome-lights.com website created and maintained by a white police sergeant and made popular by other racist white cops. The Black officers' lawyer and their lawsuit accurately described the site as "racially abusive" and "infested with racist, white supremacist...." content. The site, which had been active for ten years, was finally shut down as part of a 2011 court settlement.

So what are we gonna do about all of this blatant law

enforcement racism, Islamophobia, violent thuggery, child abuse, and rape culture? Well, Frederick Douglass provided the answer when he declared in response to injustice, "Agitate. Agitate. Agitate." That's exactly why, for example, Solomon Jones, a prominent radio host at the preeminent WURD96.1FM station organized a protest at the Police Administration Building to demand the immediate firing of the guilty cops. Details about this much needed activism will be provided during his upcoming Monday morning "Wake Up With WURD" show.

What else are we gonna do about it? Well, I suggest we continue the agitation by pressuring City Council to issue a formal and unanimous resolution- supported by the Mayor, the Police Commissioner, the Sheriff, the District Attorney, and each of the Philadelphia-based state representatives and state senators- calling on the state legislature to amend the state law that allows cops to, at the least, get away with violating city policy and to, at the worst in some cases, literally get away with murder.

That state law concerns the Philadelphia police arbitration

system and is known as Legislative Act 111 of 1968. That act allows a civilian arbitrator from the American Arbitration Association to "ignore findings of fact" regarding brutality, corruption, and other misconduct deemed founded by Internal Affairs Division (IAD) and the Police Board of Inquiry (PBI). The act also allows the arbitrator to "reject the punishment" assessed by IAD and PBI "even if the facts as charged have been proven." For more information about the brutality/corruption/misconduct-condoning arbitration system, read a powerful and thorough legal analysis by the Philadelphia Bar Association about the system's inherent and intentional flaws. Although it was written in 2002, it is remarkably timely and prescient in 2019 and beyond. You should read it. And you can do so by logging onto <http://www.philadelphiabar.org/page/TPLSpring02CoverStory?appNum=1>.

Michael Coard, Esquire can be followed on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. His "Radio Courtroom" show can be heard on WURD96.1-FM. And his "TV Courtroom" show can be seen on PhillyCam/Verizon/Comcast.

N.J. dad mourns his West Point 'hero' killed in training accident

WEST POINT, N.Y. — The 22-year-old cadet killed in a vehicle rollover during a summer training exercise was identified by the U.S. Military Academy on Friday as a standout wrestler who was studying law.

Cadet Christopher J. Morgan of West Orange, New Jersey, died at the scene after a tactical vehicle carrying

cadets overturned in wooded terrain Thursday morning.

Nineteen other cadets and two soldiers operating the vehicle sustained non-life-threatening injuries. All had been treated and released by Friday, according to the academy.

West Point officials said they did not know the cause of the crash.

Their investigation will include a standard inquiry by the Army's Criminal Investigation Division, a review by a safety team from Fort Rucker in Alabama and a re-creation of the scene aided by the New York State Police, according to West Point.

Morgan was a law and legal studies major in the

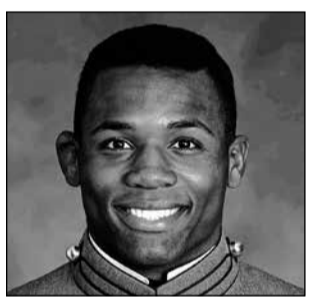
Class of 2020. He was a recruited athlete and a standout member of the Army wrestling team.

On Friday, his father called his son a hero, as he held a framed photo of the cadet outside the family's home in New Jersey.

"He was my first son. He was an inspiration to me and my family. He was

my hero," Christopher C. Morgan told the New York Post. "I miss talking to him, I miss his smile, I miss hearing about what he's doing. No father should have to bury their child."

His coach at West Point described the cadet as "a talented, hardworking, and determined athlete who loved his sport." — (AP)



Christopher J. Morgan

Weather

ACCUWEATHER® FORECAST FOR PHILADELPHIA

5-DAY FORECAST FOR PHILADELPHIA

SATURDAY	SAT. NIGHT	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
High 82° Low 63°	Partly cloudy	78° 64°	78° 69°	79° 60°	74° 60°
Partly sunny	Partly cloudy	Some sunshine giving way to clouds	Mostly cloudy, a shower and t-storm around	A couple of showers and a thunderstorm	Sun and areas of high clouds
RealFeel: 87°	RealFeel: 61°	RealFeel: 80° 59°	RealFeel: 80° 69°	RealFeel: 79° 58°	RealFeel: 76° 54°

The patented AccuWeather.com RealFeel Temperature® is an exclusive index of the effects of temperature, wind, humidity, sunshine intensity, cloudiness, precipitation, pressure and elevation on the human body. Shown are the highest and lowest values for each day.

ALMANAC

Philadelphia through 4 p.m. Friday.

Temperature

Friday's high 82°
Friday's low 69°
Normal high 80°
Normal low 61°

Precipitation

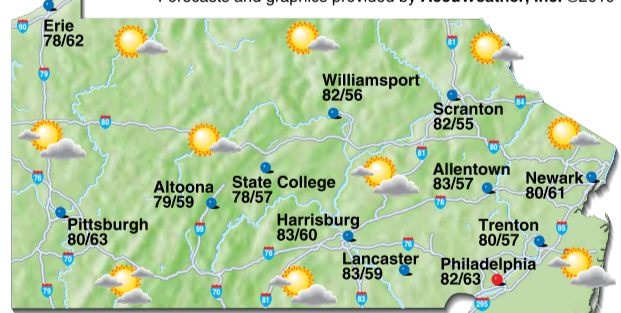
24 hours ending 4 p.m. Fri. 0.00"
Record precipitation 3.50" in 2013
Year to date 20.34"
Normal year to date 17.60"

Cooling Degree Days

Friday 11
Month to date (normal) 54 (41)
Year to date (normal) 204 (130)
Last year to date 171

REGIONAL WEATHER

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2019



Shown is Saturday's weather. Temperatures are Saturday's highs and Saturday night's lows.

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Saturday			Sunday		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Allentown	83	57	s	79	62	pc
Alltoona	79	59	pc	72	61	pc
Annapolis	81	66	pc	75	68	sh
Atlantic City	78	62	pc	74	65	pc
Baltimore	83	64	pc	77	67	sh
Dover	78	64	pc	74	67	sh
Erie	78	62	s	80	64	pc
Harrisburg	83	60	pc	80	62	pc
Lancaster	83	59	pc	80	63	pc
New York	80	60	s	76	61	pc

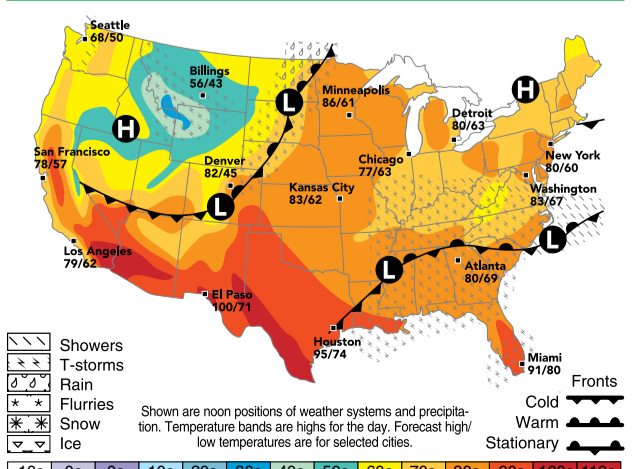
SUN AND MOON

Saturday 5:32 a.m. **Sat. night** 8:28 p.m.

Sunrise Sunday 5:32 a.m.
Sunset Sunday 8:28 p.m.
Moonrise Saturday 10:58 a.m.
Moonset Saturday 12:29 a.m.

First Full Last New
June 10 June 17 June 25 July 2

NATIONAL WEATHER



NATIONAL CITIES

City	Saturday			Sunday		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Atlanta	80	69	t	79	68	t
Boston	72	58	s	75	60	s
Chicago	77	63	pc	70	60	t
Daytona Beach	89	74	t	89	73	t
Denver	82	45	s	61	42	pc
Des Moines	83	63	pc	77	55	pc
Detroit	80	63	pc	76	62	sh
El Paso	100	71	s	99	64	pc
Fairbanks	70	46	pc	74	50	pc
Honolulu	89	73	s	88	75	s
Houston	95	74	s	98	77	s
Indianapolis	79	66	c	80	66	t
Kansas City	83	62	pc	77	55	pc
Las Vegas	93	73	s	96	76	pc
Los Angeles	79	62	pc	85	62	pc
Memphis	82	70	t	86	70	sh
Miami	91	80	t	89	79	t
Nashville	80	70	t	83	70	c
New Orleans	90	74	c	93	76	pc
St. Louis	78	66	c	82	63	pc
Salt Lake City	63	44	pc	69	49	pc
Seattle	68	50	pc	71	53	pc

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, l-ice.

CITY & REGION

Helicopter maker notifies workers of plant closing

COATSVILLE — Lockheed Martin expects to close its Sikorsky helicopter facility in Coatesville by the year's end. The facility's 465 employees were notified about the decision Wednesday. The company plans to relocate production to other Lockheed Martin sites and hopes to move many of the affected employees to other facilities.

In a statement issued Thursday, the company said it made "the difficult decision" due to the multiyear slump in the rotorcraft industry and the need to balance footprint and workforce with customer and requirements.

Major programs at the plant included Sikorsky's S-92 and S-76D helicopter completion work, as well as Canadian

Maritime Helicopter Program modifications and upgrades.

Pennsylvania State Police boss installed officially

HARRISBURG — The man who has been serving as acting Pennsylvania State Police commissioner for more than a year is now in the job on a permanent basis.

The state Senate last week voted unanimously to confirm Col. Robert Evanchick to oversee the agency of more than 6,500 troopers and other employees.

The 61-year-old Wilkes-Barre native has been with agency since 1981, during that time has served as a station and trooper commander, deputy operations commissioner and head of the Bureau of Integrity and Professional Standards.

—Compiled from The Associated Press

U.S. & WORLD

St. Louis officers pulled from streets over postings

ST. LOUIS — St. Louis has pulled several police officers off the streets while an internal investigation continues after they were accused of posting objectionable Facebook messages, Mayor Lyda Krewson said Friday.

The decision to place the officers on administrative duty follows publication of a database that appears to catalog thousands of bigoted or violent posts by active-duty and former officers in St. Louis and elsewhere. Police departments in at least five states are investigating.

Krewson, in an interview with the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, called the posts "inappropriate and disturbing."

The Philadelphia-based Plain View Project tied 22 Facebook accounts with objectionable posts to current St. Louis police officers and 21 to former officers.

Some of the posts tout roughing up protesters or mock foreign accents. Others display the Confederate flag and question whether Black History Month is racist.

Krewson said the officers reassigned to inside work were tied to "the most egregious" of the posts.

"It's a matter of not interacting with residents and businesses on the street," she said.

In the wake of the Plain View Project report, St. Louis Public Safety Director Jimmie Edwards announced Tuesday that city police will undergo sensitivity training. Edwards said the training will start next week with the "first-line supervisors" — the 60 to 70 sergeants — and then gradually involve the rest of the department.

—Compiled from The Associated Press

Pennsylvania Lottery

SATURDAY MIDDAY Daily Number: 2-4-2
Big 4: 4-4-1-4
Treasure Hunt: 02-18-23-26-30

SATURDAY EVENING Daily Number: 1-2-8
Big 4: 0-7-8-8
Cash 5: 05-22-22-26-40