

# Officer faces fondling charge

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**LAUDERHILL** — Lauderhill's police department gave Officer Darrell Walker a second chance, hiring him after he was booted from the Hollywood Police Department in 1996.

▲ That second chance may now be causing problems for Lauderhill's department.

On Monday, Lauderhill city officials were served with a formal notice of claim from attorney Pamela Terranova, who is representing a woman and her two daughters, 11 and 13, who are accusing Walker of fondling them on Dec. 26 when he responded to a police call at their Northwest 27th Court home.

A similar letter was sent to city officials on March 30, advising that a lawsuit may be filed against the city from acts allegedly committed by Walker while on duty.

Walker, 37, was arrested on March 29 but was released after posting \$8,500 bail.

The first letter, from attorney Bradford Cohen, is on behalf of a woman who is accusing Walker of fondling her during a traffic stop in the 9500 block of West Commercial Boulevard on March 4.

Police were investigating the December complaint, but placed Walker on leave after the second incident was reported. He is now suspended without pay.

Lauderhill attorneys have six months to respond to the letters.

Lauderhill's Acting Police Chief Gary Palmer said he wasn't aware of the letters from the attorneys.

Walker was hired in 1997, less than a year after he was fired from Hollywood Police Department for making "inappropriate" remarks to a group of female recruits.