

Cop sues force for 10M

By JOHN MARZULLI

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Police Officer Alan Welch is mad as hell at the Internal Affairs Bureau, and he's not going to take it anymore.

Welch is suing the Police Department for \$10 million, claiming IAB investigators have "threatened, penalized and harassed" him because they think he is stonewalling on a brutality case in a Queens police station, according to a notice of claim filed on Monday.

"Internal Affairs is systematically harassing him to bear false witness, and it's not right," said Welch's attorney Jeffrey Schwartz. "This is IAB brutality."

Sez department harassed him

Welch, a four-year veteran, has been stripped of his gun and badge since June, and slapped with more than a dozen disciplinary charges for various rules violations unrelated to the brutality case, Schwartz said.

The highly decorated cop claims he did not witness the alleged beating of two prisoners at the 103rd Precinct stationhouse in Jamaica last March.

But an undercover IAB detective, who was "arrested" by Welch and his partner during an integrity test on the day of the alleged brutality incident, apparently is claim-

ing that Welch knows who beat the prisoners in a holding cell.

He gets the word

"I did not see what (IAB investigators) told me I saw," Welch said. "After I was suspended, a lieutenant told me, 'There's always an escape route.'"

Welch, 28, said he is suffering from a variety of stress-related ailments as a result of IAB pressure and the pending disciplinary trials that could result in his dismissal from the force.

Last March 28, Welch and his partner were the subject

of an integrity test by IAB, involving an undercover detective sitting in a Jeep with \$2,000 in cash and drug paraphernalia in plain view.

The cops were apparently tested to see if they would steal the money, but they did not. The undercover cop was arrested for possession of drug paraphernalia and taken to the stationhouse.

During the arrest process, Welch responded to a 10-13 police call for help outside the stationhouse. Two brothers resisting arrest were finally subdued, and filed brutality complaints against police.

Welch is not suspected of participating in the alleged beating, but IAB investigators believe he is a witness.

Suspended

After Welch told IAB he did not see anyone beat the prisoners, he was suspended in June for making false statements in his memo book and police reports regarding the arrest of the undercover cop.

Since the suspension, he has been hit with more than a dozen additional charges — including not paying the full price for a soda and knocking a bicyclist down with his radio car in 1992.

"At times I wish I did see what happened just so I could get this over with,"