



LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Walt McNeil, Sheriff

2825 Municipal Way Tallahassee, FL 32304

www.leoncountysos.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Lt. Grady Jordan

Date: March 2, 2018

Deputy Terminated After Arrest for Aggravated Assault

Today, Sheriff Walt McNeil terminated Deputy Jarrett Broughton after his arrested for aggravated assault. The assault occurred on September 20, 2017 while Broughton was on duty. At the time of the incident, the victim was participating in the LCSO citizen ride along program. The Sheriff's Office learned of the allegation on March 1 when the victim returned to the office. Broughton turned himself in to the Leon County Detention Facility without incident. Broughton had been with LCSO since January 4, 2016.

Sheriff McNeil stated, "The Leon County Sheriff's Office has a zero tolerance for its employees violating the public's trust. Once we became aware of the situation, we took immediate action to investigate the allegation. We take our obligation to protect citizens seriously and any abuse of power will be met with swift consequences."

If anyone has any additional information regarding this case, please call the Leon County Sheriff's Office at 850-606-3300.



Lt. Grady Jordan, Public Information Officer

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TO: FIRST APPEARANCE MAGISTRATE

DEFENDANT: JARRETT THOMAS BROUGHTON

2018CF796A1

CHARGES: AGGRAVATED ASSAULT WITH DEADLY WEAPON (OTHER THAN A FIREARM)

SUMMARY OF OFFENSE AND PROBABLE CAUSE AFFIDAVIT

THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT WAS ARRESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

On 3/1/18 I was notified that a citizen, Jerri Plunkett had filed a formal complaint in regards to a deputy making her show him her breasts on 9/20/17 while she was participating in the Citizen Ride-Along Program.

I made contact with Jerri via the telephone on 3/1/18 and asked if she would come to the Leon County Sheriff's Office for an interview. Jerri advised she would be able to come for the interview around 1330 hours.

Jerri arrived at the Leon County Sheriff's Office around 1315 hours on 3/1/18. She was placed into interview room #2 in the Violent Crimes Unit. Jerri stated she came to the Leon County Sheriff's Office for the first time to participate in the ride along program on the date of this incident. When she arrived at the office around 1600 hours she began filling out the paper work to allow her to participate. The duty officer called an unknown deputy to come get her originally. However while waiting on the deputy another deputy came into the duty office and volunteered to take her for the ride-along. Jerri described the deputy as a white male that was just a little taller than her, not fat but heavy set, he wore black thick glasses, with black hair that was receding. Jerri also disclosed the deputy was wearing a black wedding band on his hand.

After leaving the office with the deputy Jerri remembers going to a call for service at a tow company because some guns were found in a vehicle there. The guns were eventually returned to the owner of the vehicle while on scene (case # 17-0138476).

Jerri advised they went to an area that was directly across the street from a junk yard/scrap metal place and met up with another deputy who she thinks they called him Finny. She remembers talking with Finny about going to school with his children in Liberty County. They stayed at that location for about thirty minutes. The location she was talking about was determined to be located at 1300 Aenon Church Road which is across the street from Leon Iron and Metal.

When they left the previous location they went and drove through the National Forrest and nothing happened. She mentioned he was just doing an area check.

They returned to 1300 Aenon Church Road so that the deputy could eat his dinner. The deputy started asking her questions about why she wanted to do the ride-along and about why she wanted to become a law enforcement officer. While there the deputy thought Jerri was bored and asked her if she wanted to play "Truth or Dare." Jerri agreed thinking it was harmless. Jerri went first and asked for him to tell a "Truth." She asked him if he has ever used his badge to intimidate someone and he answered with no he had not. Jerri states "by the end of the night ended up doing it." The deputy then "Dared" her to pull up

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her shirt and show him her breasts. Jerri denied his request to show him her breasts. The deputy moved on to other questions prior to leaving that location.

The deputy then took her to the Lake Talquin State Forrest across from the volunteer fire station on TSF Turkey Flat Road. They pulled down the dirt road a little ways and stopped the vehicle. They exited the vehicle and the deputy opened his trunk and showed her his "big gun." Jerri is referring to his assigned patrol rifle. The deputy removed it from the trunk and allowed her to hold it and shoulder it. Jerri stated she knew she was not allowed to hold his rifle but he let her anyways. The deputy also allowed her to hold his collapsible baton. Prior to leaving the deputy told Jerri not to tell anyone that he let her hold his rifle or the baton. Jerri stated looking back on it now she believes the deputy was trying to show he trusted her by allowing her to hold the rifle and baton. They got back in the car and head back east towards town on Hwy 20.

While headed east on Hwy 20 the deputy again asked her to pull up her shirt and show him her breasts, in which she again told him no. The deputy then began to ask her if she had a boyfriend and about the types of sexual things she has done in the past. Jerri stated she tried steering away from those questions because the questions were inappropriate. The deputy then began talking about his wife telling Jerri that he should have never gotten married and also advising her that she should never get married. Jerri asked the deputy why he should have never gotten married. He stated to her that he did not want to get married. She asked if he had a child and he told her no.

Sometime between 2100 and 2130 hours they received a call for service in regards to an alarm at a residence. Jerri advised several officers responded to the call and she never got out of the vehicle. They were on scene for about fifteen to twenty minutes before they left (case # 17-0138537).

When they left this location the deputy told Jerri that he needed to do rounds deeper into the National Forrest. The deputy took her to an area where both sides of the road were clear cut of trees. Jerri mentioned she never saw the deputy take his baton with him outside the patrol car even to the calls they responded too. However, when the deputy parked the car he exited the vehicle and brought his baton with him. Prior to exiting the vehicle he turned all the lights off on the vehicle and told Jerri to come with him he was going to walk down the road to see if anyone was down the small trail fooling around. When Jerri exited the vehicle she could see the light from one of the poles at the airport due to the trees being clear cut. The deputy expanded his baton and was carrying it low (below his waist) and was swinging it from side to side as he walked. While walking the deputy again asked her to show him her breasts and again she told him no several times. There were a few minutes of silence and the deputy got closer to her bringing the baton up around his shoulder. The deputy leaned in closing the distance between them to about two feet and asked her to show him her breasts. Jerri felt like she did not have a choice she was in fear of what the deputy might do now that he had his baton out and they were in the middle of the forest. The deputy had a smirk on his face while he was asking her to show her breasts which scared her. I asked her why she was scared and she stated it was because he could have hit her with the baton and knocked her out and left her in the woods. She further explained that if she fought back he could get her in trouble. Jerri stated he never told her to show him her breasts or he would do something to her, but it was the feeling he was giving her standing there in full uniform with a gun and baton. Jerri had left everything in the car including her phone in the car when they got out to walk down the dirt road. Jerri complied with his demand and lifted both her shirt and bra up exposing her bare breasts to the deputy. The deputy shined his flashlight on her bare breast for a second or two and then turned his flashlight off. The deputy asked if he could touch her breasts and she told him no. I asked Jerri if the deputy said anything when she showed them to him. While telling me what he said I observed an emotional response to the question. While telling me he told her that her breasts were nice she tried to swallow and couldn't causing her to pause in the middle of her statement. She also clinched her hands together and appeared to be distraught by what she was telling me. The deputy then jokingly told Jerri he would show her his, she believed he was referring to his penis. Jerri told him no that she didn't want

to see it. After telling him no they began to walk back to the patrol car but she walked behind him due to what had just happened. When they got back to the patrol car the deputy told her not to tell anyone about this incident.

After leaving the forest they went to the Leon County Sheriff's Office because the deputy wanted a cup of coffee. While at the office Jerri told the deputy she was just going to head home and gave him the excuse that it was because she had an hour drive to get home.

I asked Jerri if she exchanged phone numbers with the deputy and she stated "no she had not" but he wanted her phone number but she would not give it to him. I also asked her if they had exchanged social media contact information and she stated no.

I asked Jerri if she had any contact with the deputy since this incident and she stated no. She further explained this was her first ride-along and had not been back for a ride-along since. She was going to forget about the incident and not make a report because she didn't even know the deputies name. She wasn't going to come back and do a ride-along again but she decided that she was not going to let one bad deputy ruin her want to learn more by doing a ride-along. Therefore, Jerri came to the Leon County Sheriff's Office on 2/28/18 to do a ride along. While filling out the paperwork Jerri was advised the duty officer told her the deputy that was coming to get her used to be on night shift. She told the duty officer that was fine unless it was the same deputy that she rode with during this incident. The duty officer inquired as to why she didn't want to ride with the same deputy as before and that lead to making the citizen complaint.

Jerri during the interview mentioned that she only asked him questions about law enforcement in general or about policy and procedures, but the deputy would only do "Dares" asking her to show him her breasts.

I asked if Jerri told anyone about the incident and she said she told her father, Jerry Plunkett when she got home about the incident. She said her father noticed something was wrong when she got home because when she left she was really excited about going to do the ride-along. However, when she returned she went inside and went to her room. Jerry knew something was wrong and went to talk to her. Jerri told him the deputy she rode with was inappropriate with her. Jerry told Jerri to report the incident but at the time she did not want to.

I was provided with the ride-along log spreadsheet that showed Jerri rode with Deputy Jarrett Broughton on 9/20/17.

I was also provided with the CAD notes from that date which indicated Deputy Broughton did call out with a ride-along on 9/20/17 around 1641 hours. The CAD notes also indicate Deputy Broughton's ride along was terminated on 9/21/17 around 0036 hours.

A search of calls for service on 9/20/17 for Deputy Broughton was conducted. I found he was dispatched to Xcon Recovery located at 7601 Blountstown Hwy around 1735 hours in regards to the tow company locating firearms inside a towed vehicle. Furthermore, the guns were returned to the owner on scene (case # 17-0138476).

I also located where Deputy Broughton was dispatched on the same night to 1957 Nena Hills Dr. in reference to an alarm going off at the residence around 1959 hours (case # 17-0138537).

I was able to obtain GPS data from Deputy Broughton's MDC which indicates location, speed, heading, time and street segment. The GPS data provides the following information that is consistent with Jerri's memory of events the night of this incident:

1641 hours – Deputy Broughton is at the Leon county Sheriff's Office (Picks Jerri up)

1724 hours – Deputy Broughton is at Xcon Recovery (17-0138476)(Firearm Recovery)

1859 hours – Deputy Broughton is sitting across from Leon Iron and Metal for approximately 23 minutes (meet with Finny)

2010 hours – Deputy Broughton is in the area of Nena Hills (17-0138537)(alarm call)

2021 hours – Deputy Broughton enters Talquin State Forest from Hwy 20 onto TSF Turkey Flat Rd (allows Jerri to handle rifle)

2023 hours – Deputy Broughton leaves Talquin State Forest onto Hwy 20

2116 hours – Deputy Broughton enters the Talquin State Forest from Geddie Road on TSF Turkey Flat Rd

2123 hours – Deputy Broughton exits Talquin State Forest back onto Geddie Rd

2220 hours – Deputy Broughton enters the Apalachicola National Forest and drives to the entrance of the Crowder Pits located at 3102 Aenon Church Rd. (Aggravated Assault on Jerri)

2234 hours – Deputy Broughton leaves the area of 3102 Aenon Church Rd. and drives through the forest towards J B Clark Rd and Dog Lake Tower

2357 hours – Deputy Broughton leaves the national forest and heads to the Leon County Sheriff's Office

0015 hours – Deputy Broughton arrives at the Leon County Sheriff's Office (drops Jerri off)

Contact was made with Deputy Broughton via the telephone on 3/1/18. He was asked to come to the Leon County Sheriff's Office. Deputy Broughton arrived at the office and was placed into interview room #2 in Violent Crimes Unit. I read Deputy Broughton his Miranda Rights in which he stated verbally and in writing that he understood them. I began the interview by asking him about female ride-alongs and when he had last had one and he indicated recently but could not give a date. I asked him if he remembered a female ride-along he had back in September and he stated no. When I asked him if he had ever done anything inappropriate with any of his female ride-alongs he stated he wanted to talk with his attorney. The interview about the incident was terminated. I did ask if he wanted to try and get in touch with his attorney now so we could proceed with the interview and he stated yes. Deputy Broughton was able to get in touch with Attorney Scott Maddox and had him contact me.

Scott contacted me via the telephone and informed me he was going to advise Deputy Broughton to not make any statements to law enforcement at this time. Scott indicated he would probably not be representing him that another attorney would be assigned to him. I told Scott I would call him the next day to see who would be representing Deputy Broughton.

I made contact with Jerry Plunkett, Jerri's father via the telephone on 3/1/18. I asked if he would come to the office for an interview. Jerry stated he would be at my office on 3/2/18 around 1300 hours.

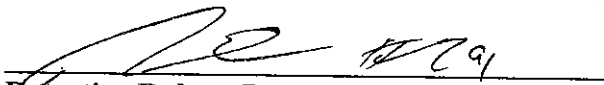
On 3/2/18 I attempted to make contact with Scott via the telephone around 1250 hours with negative results. I left him a voice mail to contact me at his earliest convenience.

On 3/2/18 Jerry arrived at the Leon County Sheriff's Office for his interview. Jerry advised Jerri was very excited when she learned she was going to be able to do a ride along with the Leon County Sheriff's Office. However, when she returned home that night she went straight to her bedroom and did not say anything to anyone. She came out only to get something to eat later in the morning. Jerry could tell something was wrong with her and began to ask her what was wrong. Jerri told him that the deputy she rode with that night drove her down a dirt road into the national forest. The deputy then got out of the car and had Jerri get out of the car. The deputy had Jerri show him her "boobs." Jerri was crying while she was telling Jerry about this incident. Jerri explained to Jerry that she was intimidated by the deputy is why she complied with his demands. I asked how he intimidated her and she told him the deputy had his "club" out. Jerry told me he thinks it is because he was an officer and most people are intimidated and comply with them because of their authority. Jerry asked Jerri why she did not kick him in the nuts. Jerri told Jerry she did not do that because he would have arrested her for striking an officer. Jerry encouraged her to come forward and make a report but Jerri told him she was worried by making a report it might hinder her from working here.

Due to Deputy Broughton's actions throughout the night, taking her to a remote location in the forest, having his baton fully extended and raised near his shoulder while moving to within feet of her, placed Jerri in well-founded fear that if she did not comply with his demands she could be hurt, him having the apparent ability to harm her with the baton or any other weapon he was in possession of due to being in his Leon County Sheriff's Office uniform. I am asking the courts to issue this warrant for Jarrett Broughton's arrest for Aggravated Assault with a deadly weapon.

THIS INCIDENT OCCURRED IN LEON COUNTY FLORIDA.

THE PRECEDING IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY PRESENT KNOWLEDGE OR BELIEF.



Detective Robert Bethea # 291
Leon County Sheriff's Office

NOTARIZATION: Sworn to and subscribed before me this 2nd day of March, 2018.



Notary Public Law Enforcement Officer

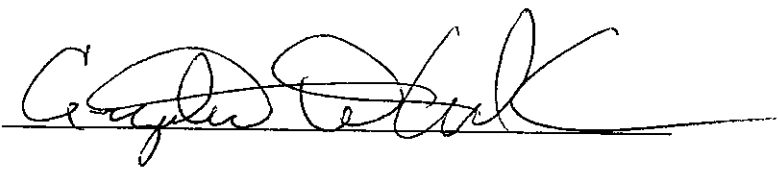
My commission expires:

ORDER

THIS CAUSE coming before me as a First Appearance Magistrate, and having reviewed the preceding Affidavit, this Court finds:

Probable cause is sufficient.

Probable cause is not sufficient and unless corrected within seventy-two hours the defendant shall be released on his own recognizance.



JUDGE