

21-7464

Supplement No  
ORIG

## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

1891 JIM KEENE BLVD  
WINTER HAVEN, FL 33880Phone  
(863)298-6200 / 1-800-226-0344  
FaxReported Date  
02/18/2021  
Incident Type  
INFORMATION  
Member#  
FULCHER, ERNEST

## Administrative Information

Agency POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE		Report No 21-7464	Supplement No ORIG	Reported Date 02/18/2021	Reported Time 12:32
CAD Call No 210491294	Status Report to follow	Incident Type Information			
Location 1891 JIM KEENE BLVD					City Winter Haven
ZIP Code 33880	Beat 50C	District CE	Sector 50	From Date 02/05/2021	From Time 09:36
				To Date 02/05/2021	To Time 09:40
Member# 4319/FULCHER, ERNEST			Assignment BCI, Major Crimes, Homicide Unit B		
Entered By 4319	Assignment BCI, Major Crimes, Homicide Unit B		RMS Transfer Successful	Prop Trans Stat Successful	
Approving Officer 6226		Approval Date 03/25/2021	Approval Time 11:33:07		
# Offenses 1	Offense 0	Description Information/Non-Crim		Attempted	
Link OTH	Involvement OTH	Invl No 1	Name CORDERO, CHRISTOPHER		Race H
					Sex M
DOB 11/22/1983					
Link OTH	Involvement OTH	Invl No 2	Name BLACK, DAVID		Race W
					Sex M
DOB 04/08/1997					
Link OTH	Involvement OTH	Invl No 3	Name WORLEY, TRAVIS		Race W
					Sex M
DOB					
Link WIT	Involvement WIT	Invl No 1	Name [REDACTED]		Race H
					Sex M
DOB					
Link OTH	Involvement OTH	Invl No 4	Name [REDACTED]		Race H
					Sex F
DOB 04/06/1958					
Link OTH	Involvement OTH	Invl No 5	Name [REDACTED]		Race H
					Sex F
DOB 04/28/1984					
Link WIT	Involvement WIT	Invl No 2	Name PATEL, ANKIT		Race W
					Sex M
DOB 03/05/1984					

## Person Summary

Invl OTH	Invl No 1	Type P	Name CORDERO, CHRISTOPHER	MNI 10535130
Race H	Sex M	DOB 11/22/1983		
Invl OTH	Invl No 2	Type P	Name BLACK, DAVID	MNI 10415788
Race W	Sex M	DOB 04/08/1997		

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**Person Summary**

Invl	Invl No	Type	Name	MNI
OTH	3	P	WORLEY, TRAVIS	10620431
Race	Sex	DOB		
W	M			
Invl	Invl No	Type	Name	MNI
OTH	4	P	[REDACTED]	10139377
Race	Sex	DOB		
H	F	04/06/1958		
Invl	Invl No	Type	Name	MNI
OTH	5	P	[REDACTED]	10566632
Race	Sex	DOB		
H	F	04/28/1984		
Invl	Invl No	Type	Name	MNI
WIT	1	P	[REDACTED]	11081919
Race	Sex	DOB		
H	M	[REDACTED]		
Invl	Invl No	Type	Name	MNI
WIT	2	P	PATEL, ANKIT	11600565
Race	Sex	DOB		
W	M	03/05/1984		

**Property Summary**

Involvement	EVD
Description	Article: Radio, TV, Sound, and Video Game Devices CDISC recorded interviews, videos, transcripts pictures

**Summary Narrative**

See Narrative

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**Other (Person) 1: CORDERO, CHRISTOPHER**

Involvement	Invl No	Type								
Other (Person)	1	Person								
Name		CORDERO, CHRISTOPHER					MNI		10535130	
Race	Sex	DOB	Age	Juvenile?	Height	Weight	Hair Color	Eye Color		
Hispanic/Mexican/Latin	Male	11/22/1983	37	No	6'01"	240#	Brown	Brown		
PRN	SIGNED									
1952820	Yes									
Type	Address									
Home	1518 SCENIC HWY N #1									
City	State	ZIP Code	Date							
Lake Wales	Florida	33853	02/18/2021							
Type	ID No	OLS								
Driver License	[REDACTED]	Florida								
Type	ID No									
State Criminal Identification Number (SID)	[REDACTED]									
Type	ID No									
Social Security Number	XXX-XX-XXXX									
Phone Type	Phone No	Date								
Cell	(321) 895-6086	02/18/2021								

**Other (Person) 2: BLACK, DAVID**

Involvement	Invl No	Type							
Other (Person)	2	Person							
Name		BLACK, DAVID					MNI	Race	Sex
							10415788	White	Male
DOB	Age	Juvenile?	Height	Weight	Hair Color	Eye Color	PRN	SIGNED	
04/08/1997	23	No	5'10"	170#	Brown	Blue	1952821	Yes	
Type	Address								
Additional	133 TILLMAN AVE E								
City	State	ZIP Code	Date						
Lake Wales	Florida	33853	02/18/2021						
Type	ID No	OLS							
State ID Card	L308	Not Entered							
Type	ID No	OLS							
State ID Card	L400	Florida							
Type	ID No	OLS							
Driver License	[REDACTED]	Florida							
Type	ID No								
Social Security Number	XXX-XX-XXXX								

**Other (Person) 3: WORLEY, TRAVIS**

Involvement	Invl No	Type							
Other (Person)	3	Person							
Name		WORLEY, TRAVIS					MNI	Race	Sex
							10620431	White	Male
PRN	SIGNED								
1952822	Yes								
Type	Address								
Work/Business	133 TILLMAN AVE E								
City	State	ZIP Code	Date						
Lake Wales	Florida	33853	02/18/2021						
Type	ID No	OLS							
State ID Card	L388	Not Entered							
Phone Type	Phone No	Date							
Business	(863) 678-4223	02/18/2021							

**Other (Person) 4:**

Involvement	Invl No	Type							
Other (Person)	4	Person							
Name		[REDACTED]					MNI	10139377	
Race	Sex	DOB	Age	Juvenile?	Height	Weight	Hair Color	Eye Color	
Hispanic/Mexican/Latin	Female	[REDACTED]	62	No	5'05"	200#	Black	Black	
PRN	SIGNED								
1952823	Yes								

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

Type	Address								
Home	[REDACTED]								
City	State	ZIP Code	Date						
Lake Wales	Florida	33853	02/18/2021						
Type	ID No	OLS							
Driver License	[REDACTED]	Florida							
Type	ID No								
Social Security Number	XXX-XX-XXXX								
<b>Other (Person) 5:</b>									
Involvement	Invl No	Type							
Other (Person)	5	Person							
Name	MNI								
[REDACTED]	10566632								
Race	Sex	DOB	Age	Juvenile?	Height	Weight	Hair Color	Eye Color	
Hispanic/Mexican/Latin	Female	[REDACTED]	36	No	5'06"	110#	Brown	Brown	
PRN	SIGNED								
1952824	Yes								
Type	Address								
Home	[REDACTED]								
City	State	ZIP Code	Date						
Lake Wales	Florida	33853	02/18/2021						
Type	ID No								
DNA on file	DNA TAKEN								
Type	ID No								
Index Number	213515								
Type	ID No	OLS							
Driver License	[REDACTED]	Florida							
Type	ID No								
State Criminal Identification Number (SID)	[REDACTED]								
Type	ID No								
Social Security Number	XXX-XX-XXXX								
Phone Type	Phone No	Date							
Cell	[REDACTED]	02/18/2021							
<b>Witness 1:</b>									
Involvement	Invl No	Type	Name						
Witness	1	Person	[REDACTED]						
MNI	Race	Sex	DOB	Age	Juvenile?	Height	Weight	Hair Color	
11081919	Hispanic/Mexican/Latin	Male	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Yes	5'03"	100#	Black	
Eye Color	PRN	SIGNED							
Brown	1952825	Yes							
Type	Address								
Home	[REDACTED]								
City	State	ZIP Code	Date						
Lake Wales	Florida	33853	02/18/2021						
Type	ID No								
Student ID Card	[REDACTED]								
Phone Type	Phone No	Date							
Cell	[REDACTED]	02/18/2021							
<b>Witness 2: PATEL,ANKIT</b>									
Involvement	Invl No	Type	Name						
Witness	2	Person	PATEL,ANKIT						
MNI	Race	Sex	DOB	Age	Juvenile?	PRN	SIGNED		
11600565	White	Male	03/05/1984	36	No	1952826	Yes		
Type	Address								
Work/Business	410 11TH ST S								
City	State	ZIP Code	Date						
Lake Wales	Florida	33853	02/18/2021						
Phone Type	Phone No	Date							
Business	(863) 679-6876	02/18/2021							

## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Property									
Prop #	Involvement	Invl Date	In Custody?	Security	Tag No	Item No			
1	Evidence	02/18/2021	Yes	No	210008066	1			
Description						Type			
recorded interviews, videos, transcripts pictures						A			
Cat					Article	Rcv Date	Rcv Time		
Radio, TV, Sound, and Video Game Devices					CD Disk	03/01/2021	13:00		
Rcv Value		Initial Dispo	Entered Date	Entered Time	RMS Transfer	Control			
\$0.00		Other	03/22/2021	19:52	Successful	4319 0322211959			
Link	Involvement	Invl No	Name				Race	Sex	
OTH	OTH	1	CORDERO, CHRISTOPHER				H	M	
DOB									
11/22/1983									
Link	Involvement	Invl No	Name				Race	Sex	
OTH	OTH	2	BLACK, DAVID				W	M	
DOB									
04/08/1997									
Link	Involvement	Invl No	Name				Race	Sex	
OTH	OTH	3	WORLEY, TRAVIS				W	M	
DOB									
Link	Involvement	Invl No	Name				Race	Sex	
OTH	WIT	1	[REDACTED]				H	M	
DOB									
Link	Involvement	Invl No	Name				Race	Sex	
OTH	OTH	4	[REDACTED]				H	F	
DOB									
04/06/1958									
Link	Involvement	Invl No	Name				Race	Sex	
OTH	OTH	5	[REDACTED]				H	F	
DOB									
04/28/1984									
Link	Involvement	Invl No	Name				Race	Sex	
OTH	WIT	2	PATEL, ANKIT				W	M	
DOB									
03/05/1984									

**Modus Operandi**Crime Code(s)  
Information**Narrative****Scene:**

The scene is the roadway and right of way located at East Polk Avenue, west of South 3rd Street, Lake Wales, Florida 33853.

**Investigation:**

On 02/18/21, I was assigned this case for follow-up investigation. I learned the investigation involved two Lake Wales Police Department Officers; David Black and Travis Worley. I learned that on 02/05/21, Officer Black conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle driven by Christopher Cordero. Officer Worley responded to the traffic stop as backup and during the traffic stop, Cordero was arrested. Cordero later made a complaint to the Lake Wales Police Department, alleging he was battered by Officer Black and Officer Worley. I also learned that Cordero made a complaint with the State Attorney's Office and he provided them with a video recording of the incident. I learned that Officer Black had resigned as a police officer from Lake Wales Police Department a few days after the incident.

After receiving the above limited information, I responded to the State Attorney's Office. I met with State Attorney's Office investigators, Hank Smith and Chris Shea. Hank Smith and Chris Shea said Cordero first called to make a complaint against Lake Wales Police Department on 02/09/21, and he said he had a video of the incident where he was battered by police officers. Hank Smith and Chris Shea said they responded to Cordero's residence and Cordero provided them with a video from a Ring camera. Hank Smith and Chris Shea said they audio recorded their conversation with Cordero, when they made contact with him. Hank Smith provided me with an audio recording of their interaction with Cordero and a video that Cordero provided them.

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**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE****Narrative**

I reviewed the recorded interview of Cordero, completed by Hank Smith and Chris Shea from the State Attorney's Office. During this interview, Cordero said he was driving in Lake Wales, when he noticed a police officer following him. Cordero said he pulled over and exited his vehicle to ask why the officer was following him. Cordero said the officer then turned on his overhead lights when he exited his vehicle. Cordero said that after standing outside his vehicle for about "59 seconds", the officer told him to get back in his vehicle, so he went to get back in and the officer ordered him to stand at the back of his vehicle (Cordero's), with his hands on the trunk. Cordero explained that his back was to the officer, with his hands on his trunk. Cordero went on to say that while he was facing away from the officer, the officer "sucker punched" him in the side of the face, causing him to lose a tooth. Cordero said the officer then forced him to the ground and he struck him in the head with his elbow. Cordero added that another officer (Officer Worley) arrived and kicked him in the head, while he was on the ground. Cordero said the officers "beat" him up while he was handcuffed on the ground.

(For complete details refer to audio recording/transcripts.)

**On 02/18/21, at approximately 1450 hours:**

I responded to Lake Wales Police Department to obtain completed reports and any audio/video recording involving the case. While at Lake Wales Police Department, I obtained the offense reports documenting the traffic stop and a Ring video recording, which was the same video I received from Investigator Hank Smith at the State Attorney's Office. I also learned Lake Wales Police Lt. Griffin Crosby had already conducted a recorded interview with Cordero on 02/16/21, regarding the complaint he had, and the transcript of the interview was included with the reports I obtained. I was also advised that during Lt. Crosby's interview, Cordero also recorded it with his cellular phone. The recording was posted on YouTube and Lake Wales Police had a copy of Cordero's recording, which they provided to me. I learned the recording made by Cordero was taken off of YouTube by Cordero.

After leaving Lake Wales Police Department, I reviewed the offense reports (Lake Wales Police Department case number 21-248). And learned the following:

I reviewed Black's report and according to him, he observed Cordero driving a tan Saturn vehicle with a Florida tag of N54-5KY and he was not wearing a seatbelt. Black got behind Cordero and Cordero ran a stop sign at 3rd Street and Polk Avenue. Before Black could turn on his emergency lights to conduct the traffic stop, Cordero's vehicle stopped abruptly and Cordero exited his vehicle and started to charge towards his patrol vehicle with his fists clinched. Black then activated his emergency lights and called for backup. Black reported that Cordero continued to charge towards him with closed fists. Black reported he was in fear of being attacked, so he pulled out his Taser and pointed at Cordero, ordering him to stop. Cordero then stopped charging Black, so he holstered his Taser and ordered Cordero to give him his name and sit on the curb. Black reported that Cordero refused and said he did not have to give him his name. Cordero then walked to the back of the Saturn, still refusing to identify himself. Black told Cordero he would be placed under arrest if he did not identify himself, but he still refused. Black reported that he told Cordero to place his hands behind his back and he was under arrest. Black reported that Cordero refused to turn around and he kept his arms at his chest. Black reported he then grabbed Cordero's right arm and he pulled away. Black then escorted Cordero to the ground in an attempt to take him into custody. Black reported that Officer Worley arrived at the scene and assisted restraining Cordero. Black indicated that Cordero was reaching towards his waistband and he could not get his hands from underneath him. Black reported he was in fear that Cordero might be reaching for a weapon, so he delivered one elbow strike to the left side of his head. After the elbow strike, Cordero stopped resisting and he was placed into handcuffs. In Black's report, he explained that he was attempting to deliver a bronchial stun strike to Cordero to get him to remove one of his hands from his waist band area, but because he was off balance, he struck him in the head with his elbow, unintentionally. Once Cordero was in custody, he said his head hurt and claimed Black knocked out one of his teeth. Black transported Cordero to Advent Health in Lake Wales to get medically cleared to be transported to the jail. Black reported that while Cordero was in custody at Advent Health, Cordero said "I'm gonna fuck you up when I get these handcuffs off. You don't know who you are fucking with. I'm coming for you". Cordero was ultimately arrested for Resisting without Violence, Assault on a Law Enforcement Officer, and Threat of Death to a Law Enforcement Officer.

(For complete details, refer to Black's attached report.)

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE****Narrative**

I then reviewed the report completed by Officer Worley and learned the following:

Officer Worley reported he responded to the traffic stop to backup Black. When Worley arrived he observed Cordero yelling at Black. Officer Worley heard Black ask for Cordero's driver's license and he heard Cordero refusing. Officer Worley then observed Black reach for Cordero's wrist and Cordero pulled away. At that time, Officer Worley assisted Black in escorting Cordero to the ground, so he could be placed into custody. Officer Worley reported that he yelled for Cordero to stop resisting several times and to give him his hands. Officer Worley reported that Cordero refused to give him his hands and he moved his hands towards his waistline. Officer Worley indicated he was in fear that Cordero might be reaching for a weapon.

(For complete details refer to Officer Worley's attached report.)

I reviewed Cordero's medical records from his visit to Advent Health, which was provided to me by Lake Wales Police Department. According to the records, Cordero complained of tooth pain on the left side. Notes in the records indicated that Cordero was yelling at the officers and he was very agitated. Dr. Ankit Patel reported Cordero had no visible injuries and he had a number 14 tooth that was chipped, but it was an older chip. Dr. Patel noted there was no bleeding in Cordero's mouth. While at Advent Health, Cordero had a CT scan of his head and facial bones that came back with no abnormalities.

There were also records of Cordero returning to Advent Health on his own on 02/06/21, at approximately 0135 hours, and being discharged on 02/06/21, at 0205 hours. Cordero then went to Advent Health again on 02/06/21, at approximately 0238 hours, and he was discharged on 02/06/21, at 0424 hours. During these two visits, Cordero complained of dizziness as a result of being battered by the police earlier in the day. Each time, Cordero was discharged with no findings.

(For complete details refer to attached medical records.)

I reviewed a second report completed by Black. In this report, black indicated that on 02/06/21, he recalled the traffic stop and reviewed video from a residence in the area. Black reported that he believed his perception was altered, due to the high stress of the incident. Black reported that he realized Cordero did not get as close to him as he originally thought, while he was tensing up. Black indicated he would be contacting the State Attorney's Office and request the charge of Assault on a Law Enforcement Officer be dropped.

(For complete details refer to Black's attached report.)

I reviewed a written complaint submitted to Lake Wales Police Department by Cordero. The written complaint was signed by Cordero and notarized on 02/10/21. Cordero wrote in the written complaint that before he stopped at a stop sign at "Polk and 3rd Street", Officer Black was following him at a high rate of speed. Cordero stopped his vehicle to ask Officer Black why he was following him. Cordero exited his vehicle and took a couple of steps towards Officer Black's vehicle, while asking Officer Black to check his glovebox for his registration and identification. Officer Black told Cordero to get back in his vehicle, but when he went to open his driver's door, Officer Black told him to go to the back of his vehicle (Cordero's vehicle). Cordero went to the back of his vehicle and had his back turned to Officer Black. Cordero put his hands on his trunk and he was "immediately" sucker punched from behind. When Cordero did not fall, Officer Black put his arms around his waist and tackled him to the grass near his vehicle. Cordero landed on his stomach and he had his hands in front of his body to brace the fall. Cordero explained that his arms were under his body and he could not get them out because Officer Black had his knee on his back. Officer Black restrained Cordero's left hand, but his right hand was still underneath his body. While Officer Black had his left hand, Officer Black struck him in the head with his elbow, "the back part". Cordero explained that Officer Worley then arrived and started kicking him in the ribs with his foot. Officer Worley also punched Cordero in the head while yelling "stop resisting, take your hands away from your waistline". Officer Worley then told Officer Black "I think he's got a gun" and Officer Black started "pounding" Cordero's left ear with his elbow. Cordero was then placed in handcuffs and he became unconscious for a few seconds. Cordero called Officer Worley a "pussy" and Officer Worley then struck him in the face with either his fist or elbow. Cordero explained that after he was handcuffed, Officer Worley spat in his face and called him a "spic nigger". Cordero indicated that he believed he was racially profiled, abused, and mistreated for no reason.

(For complete details refer to attached written complaint.)

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**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE****Narrative**

I learned Black was severely attacked while on a traffic stop in 2018. I also received the correlating report from Lake Wales Police Department (case number 2018-1016).

I reviewed the incident report from 2018, where Black was attacked during a traffic stop. The incident occurred on 04/16/18, approximately five and a half months after Black started working for Lake Wales Police Department (Black started on 10/30/17). According to the report, Black stopped a male riding a bicycle at night with no light. The male suspect then fled from Black on the bicycle and Black gave chase. The suspect ended up off his bike and continued to flee Black on foot. Black used his Taser and struck the suspect with the Taser darts. The suspect fell to the ground, but then got back up. The suspect charged at Black, striking him in the head and shoulder areas. The suspect ended up on top of Black and he took Black's radio from him, which was destroyed during the incident. The suspect struck Black several times, with a hard object, while he was on top of him. During the incident, the suspect bit Black two times and it was reported that Black was losing energy, so he just held onto the suspect until backup arrived.

It was originally believed that Black sustained a skull and jaw fracture, but once he was transferred to another hospital, it was determined he sustained a closed head injury. After reviewing the reports in reference to the 2018 incident, it was apparent that Black was involved in a traumatic incident.

I reviewed the Ring video footage that originated from 226 East Polk Avenue, and it does show the traffic stop from a great distance. The video can be zoomed in, but the quality deteriorates, making it impossible to clearly see what is occurring. The video shows Cordero stopping quickly while Black is driving behind him. Black activates his emergency lights before Cordero exits his vehicle. In the video, it appears that Cordero and Black exit their vehicle at almost the same time. After exiting, Cordero walks a couple feet towards his back door and then turns back towards his driver's door. Cordero opens the driver's door and then shuts it. Cordero then walks to the back trunk of his vehicle and is facing Black. After a few moments, Black approaches Cordero and it appears there is a physical struggle between them as Officer Worley arrives. Black, Officer Worley, and Cordero are then observed falling to the ground. When Black, Officer Worley, and Cordero fall to the ground, they are on the passenger's side of Cordero's vehicle and any actions during this time are not captured on the Ring camera.

The video showed the traffic stop occurred at 0936:33. It does show that Cordero exited his vehicle after Black turned on his emergency lights. At 0937:26, Black approaches Cordero. At 0937:30, Black, Officer Worley, and Cordero go to the ground. At 0938:02, it appears the video shows the officers standing up, indicating Cordero is secured in restraints.

I reviewed the transcripts of the interview Lt. Crosby conducted with Cordero at Lake Wales Police Department.

At the onset of the interview, Cordero indicated to Lt. Crosby that he was video recording and it was FaceBook Live. Lt. Crosby tells Cordero that he could not record FaceBook Live in his office, so Cordero turns the recording off. Cordero tells Lt. Crosby that he was driving and noticed a police officer was behind him. Cordero said he pulled his vehicle over before the officer could turn on his lights. Cordero said he got out of his vehicle and the officer requested him to get back in his vehicle. Cordero said the officer then told him to stand at the back of his vehicle and turn his back to him. Cordero said the officer then came up behind him and "snatched" him to the ground, causing injuries to his face and ribs. Cordero said the officer grabbed his ribs and punched him in the face. Cordero said the officer also elbowed him in the head and punched him a couple of times in the head. Cordero said he called the officer a "pussy" and the officer came back and punched him again. Cordero clarified that it was Black that struck him. Cordero added that Officer Worley called him a "spic nigger" and spat in his face.

During the interview, Cordero kept saying he felt like he was being held in the office and Lt. Crosby was trying to intimidate him. Cordero also said "you're holding me hostage". Cordero abruptly ended the interview and walked out of the office.

(For complete details refer to attached transcript of the interview.)

**On 02/19/21, at approximately 1256 hours:**

I responded to the area of South 3rd Street and East Polk Avenue (location of traffic stop).

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE****Narrative**

I observed 213 East Polk Avenue, had a video camera that was pointing to the area of the traffic stop. I made contact with resident, Steven Campbell, and he said the video system did not work, and it never had. I was unable to find any other video recording systems in the area.

I had previous information that residents at [REDACTED], possibly witnessed the incident. I responded to [REDACTED] and made contact with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] only spoke Spanish, so Lt. Russell from the Polk County Sheriff's Office translated. [REDACTED] said she was in the residence when the incident occurred. [REDACTED] said her grandson, [REDACTED], told her about the traffic stop, so she went outside to see what was going on. [REDACTED] said once she got outside the driver of the vehicle was already in custody and she did not see anything occur. [REDACTED] said she was inside and came outside after the incident was over. [REDACTED] said she did not see anything occur.

I then spoke to [REDACTED] son, [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] said he observed the traffic stop, and he observed the officers on the ground with the driver of the vehicle. I then conducted a sworn recorded interview with [REDACTED]. The following is a summary of the interview:

[REDACTED] said he was inside of his residence when he observed the traffic stop, while looking out his window. [REDACTED] said he believed the driver (Cordero) exited his vehicle before the officer exited his vehicle. [REDACTED] said he observed Cordero walk to the trunk area of his vehicle and he was facing the officer (not with his hands on the trunk facing away). [REDACTED] said he left the window and when he got outside, two of the officers were "wrestling" with Cordero on the ground. [REDACTED] said he did not witness the officers' strike or kick Cordero.

(For complete details refer to recorded interview/transcripts.)

**On 02/19/21, at approximately 1400 hours:**

I made telephone contact with Cordero and identified myself. I told Cordero I was investigating the incident involving the two Lake Wales Police Officers and requested he meet with me to discuss the incident. Cordero said he had thought about what occurred and did not want to pursue anything. Cordero said he knew the officer was young and he did not want to interfere with his future. Cordero explained that he had a young child with heart problems and he had to travel often to Orlando for treatment. During the conversation, Cordero expressed many times that he did not want to pursue anything.

**On 02/22/21, at approximately 1300 hours:**

I conducted a recorded interview with Officer Worley at the Lake Wales Police Department. Officer Worley was represented by Attorney, Debra Gell, and she was present during the interview. During the interview, his account of what occurred was consistent with his report he completed after the incident. Officer Worley added that he did not observe Black punch or kick Cordero. Officer Worley said that when he arrived at the scene, Cordero was yelling and was refusing to give Black his identification or divulge his identity. Officer Worley denied the allegations made by Cordero.

(For complete details refer to recorded interview/transcripts.)

**On 02/22/21, at approximately 1400 hours:**

I conducted recorded post Miranda interview with former Lake Wales Officer Black at his residence. During the interview, Black's account of what occurred was consistent with his original report and supplement report he completed after the incident. In summary, Black stated the following:

Black was conducting traffic enforcement on the morning of 02/05/21, when he observed Cordero driving without his seatbelt on. Black then observed Cordero run a stop sign, so he decided to conduct a traffic stop. Black got behind Cordero and before he could call out the traffic stop information or activate his emergency lights, Cordero swerved to the side of the roadway and locked up his brakes. Cordero exited his vehicle and started walking towards his vehicle, in what he perceived as an aggressive manner. Black explained that he was in fear that Cordero was wanting to fight or attack him. Cordero was yelling that he did not have the right to stop him. As Black exited his vehicle, he drew his Taser and ordered Cordero to stop. Cordero did stop, so Black re-holstered his Taser. Black ordered Cordero to sit on the curb, but he refused. Black asked Cordero for his driver's license

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE****Narrative**

and he refused. Black said Cordero said he was not going to give him his driver's license and that he was a famous YouTuber. Black said he requested Cordero's driver's license or identity several times, but he refused to give it to him. Black then told Cordero he would be placed under arrest for not identifying himself. Black then approached Cordero and at that time Cordero was facing him. Black told Cordero to turn around and he was under arrest, but Cordero refused. At that time, Cordero crossed his arms in front of his body and did not comply. Black grabbed Cordero's arm in an attempt to place him in handcuffs, but Cordero pulled away. At that time, Officer Worley arrived at the scene and helped Black escort Cordero to the ground. While on the ground, Black was able to gain control of Cordero's right hand, but not his left hand. Black heard Officer Worley say Cordero was reaching for his waistband with his left hand. After hearing this, Black believed Cordero might have been reaching for a weapon. Black said he did not want to lose control of Cordero's right hand, so he attempted to deliver a brachial stun with his elbow, but actually struck Cordero on the ear area. After the elbow strike, Cordero put his left hand behind his back and he was secured in handcuffs.

Black said that during the incident, he did not observe Officer Worley strike Cordero in any way. Black said he did not hear Officer Worley use any racial slurs. Black denied striking Cordero in the face.

During the interview, I asked Black about the supplement report he wrote in reference to Cordero not being as close to him as he originally believed. Black explained that when the incident occurred, he believed Cordero advanced towards his patrol vehicle and made it almost to the front bumper. Black said he realized his perception of how far Cordero advanced was skewed, after viewing the Ring video.

Black discussed the incident that occurred in 2018, where he was attacked by a Hispanic male that ran from him on a bicycle. Black said that during that incident, he used his Taser on the suspect and the suspect ended up attacking him "for a long time". Black said he was being attacked until another officer got to the scene to help him. Black said that he was hospitalized after being attacked in 2018.

(For complete details refer to recorded interview/transcripts.)

**On 02/25/21, at approximately 1412 hours:**

I responded to 1518 North Scenic Highway North, Lake Wales and served Cordero with a subpoena for him to respond to the State Attorney's Office on 03/05/21, for an interview. Cordero accepted the subpoena and said he would be there.

After serving Cordero with the subpoena, I responded to Lake Wales Police Department and I made contact with Lt. Crosby. Crosby provided me with an additional report completed by Lake Wales Police Officer Matthew Rhoden. I learned that Officer Rhoden had contact with Cordero at Advent Health during the early morning hours on 02/06/21, when Cordero went to the emergency room on his own. I also learned the conversation Officer Rhoden had with Cordero in the emergency room was audio recorded. Lt. Crosby provided me with a copy of the audio recording and the audio recording from when he met with Cordero at Lake Wales Police Department.

I reviewed the report completed by Officer Rhoden and the audio recording of Officer Rhoden's interaction with Cordero.

The report indicated that Officer Rhoden was contacted by the Polk County Sheriff's Office desk sergeant on 02/06/21, at approximately 0033 hours, and was told that Cordero called wanting to speak to a supervisor at Lake Wales Police Department in reference to a complaint against officers. Officer Rhoden made contact with Cordero on the phone and Cordero told him he wanted to file a complaint against Black and Officer Worley. Cordero reported that he was stopped by Black and Black pulled a Taser on him. Cordero said he was placed in handcuffs and was made to sit on the curb. Cordero said once he was already in custody, Officer Worley arrived and punched him in the face five or six times with a closed fist. Cordero then said Officer Worley spat in his face and called him a "spic nigger".

During the call, Officer Rhoden told Cordero come to the police department and he would provide him with a complaint form.

Officer Rhoden reported that Cordero called again and he told Cordero the first step would be to fill out a complaint form, which he would provide him. Cordero said he was in fear of coming to the police department

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE****Narrative**

because he was afraid of Black and Officer Worley.

On 02/06/21, at approximately 0328 hours, Cordero called again and said he was at Advent Health in Lake Wales. Officer Rhoden responded to Advent Health and provided him with a complaint form. Officer Rhoden indicated the interaction with Cordero was audio recorded.

(For complete details refer to Officer Rhoden's attach report.)

I reviewed the recording completed by Officer Rhoden at Advent Health.

Cordero started out by saying he wanted to explain what happened and "admit my wrong". Cordero said he was on his way to get a prescription when he was pulled over. Cordero said he got "upset, got out of the car, and slammed the door", saying why did you pull me over. Cordero said the officer immediately told him to put his hands behind his back. Cordero said he "aggressively yelled at him" (Cordero yelling at the officer), and he "cursed him out real bad" (Cordero cursing at the officer.). During the conversation, Cordero said "I'm not playing injured here man, what I did was totally wrong".

Officer Rhoden gave Cordero a complaint form and explained to him how to fill it out. Cordero said he would turn it in later at the police department.

While at Advent Health, Officer Rhoden took pictures of Cordero's face, head, hands, and left ear area. (I received a copy of the pictures from Lake Wales Police Department)

(For complete details of the interaction between Officer Rhoden and Cordero, refer to audio recording/transcripts.)

**On 03/01/21, at approximately 1240 hours:**

I responded to Advent Health in Lake Wales and conducted a sworn recorded interview with Dr. Ankit Patel. During the interview, Dr. Patel said he remembered treating Cordero on 02/05/21, when Lake Wales Police Officers brought him to the emergency room. I went over the medical report that he completed from 02/05/21, and Dr. Patel agreed that the notes in the records were correct. Dr. Patel said that Cordero had no injuries when he was in the emergency room. Dr. Patel said Cordero had a CT scan of his head and face, which came back normal. Dr. Patel said he did not see any physical evidence that would suggest Cordero was struck multiple times in the face or head.

Dr. Patel said that when Cordero was in the emergency room, he was yelling, screaming, and accusing everyone of being racist. Dr. Patel noted that the officers with Cordero were acting professional.

**On 03/05/21, at approximately 0900 hours:**

I met with Cordero at the State Attorney Office and conducted a sworn recorded interview with him. Assistant State Attorney, Nicole Orr, and Polk County Sheriff's Office, Lt. Russell were also present during the interview. The following is a summary of the interview:

On 02/05/21, Cordero was driving alone in his vehicle near 3rd Street and Polk Avenue, when he noticed a police SUV following behind him. The police vehicle was driving close to Cordero so he began to feel threatened. Cordero became upset and immediately stopped his car before the officer turned on his lights. Cordero felt like he was being racially profiled, so he wanted to know why the officer was following him too close. Once Cordero exited his vehicle, he took a few steps towards the back of his vehicle, in the area of his back door, when he noticed Black had his Taser pulled out, and pointed at him. Black asked him for his identification and Cordero told him he had a paper one. Black told Cordero to get back in the car and when he opened his driver's door, Black changed his mind and told him to walk to the back of his vehicle (Cordero's) and put his hands on the trunk because he wanted to search him for weapons. Cordero indicates that Black was irate and told him that if he did not produce his identification, he would be arrested. Cordero added that he believed Black was trying to manipulate him and scare him.

When Cordero had his hands on the trunk, Black was behind him. Cordero believed Black was in his vehicle looking up something on his computer. In less than two minutes, Black comes up behind Cordero and "sucker

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE****Narrative**

punches" him. Cordero added that Black did not hit him immediately, but Black turned him towards the grass and then he hit him. After the punch, Officer Worley arrived and helped Black take him to the ground. When Cordero goes to the ground, he was on his stomach with his hands near his waistline. Cordero added that he is 256 pounds, so it was hard for him to get his hands from underneath his body. Cordero then heard the officers yelling "he's reaching for a gun" over and over. While on the ground, Cordero's right side of his face was in the grass. While on the ground, one officer elbowed him on the back of the head and then he was punched on the back of the head. Cordero passed out for a few seconds and when he woke back up, he called the officers "pussies". After Cordero made the comment, Officer Worley spat in his face and call him a "spic" and the "n"word. Officer Worley then punched Cordero in the head and kicked him in the ribs. Cordero said he was punched and kicked more times than he could remember. Cordero said he was also punched in the face while he was on the ground.

Cordero said he was upset when he got out of his vehicle. Cordero said he was really upset because he knew he did not run a stop sign and he had his seatbelt on. Cordero admitted his tag was expired when he was stopped, and that did not make him upset, because it was actually expired. Cordero said Black asked for his identification, but he never asked for his name.

Cordero agreed that he stopped his vehicle quickly and he was upset. Cordero agreed that he probably took Black by surprise, by stopping so quickly. Cordero did not remember cursing at Black when he got out of his vehicle. Cordero said he was wrong for stopping so quickly and exiting his vehicle. Cordero agreed that due to him stopping so quickly and getting out of his vehicle, it was not a normal traffic stop for Black. Cordero believed Black was just doing his job, because he did have an expired tag. Cordero said his actions were not intentional, but he might have scared or intimidated Black.

At some point in the interview, I talked to Cordero about physical injury evidence and that I talked to the doctor that treated him on 02/05/21. I told Cordero the doctor said he had no injuries and his chipped tooth did not occur that day. Cordero responded by saying he wanted to be honest about his tooth. Cordero said the tooth had a cavity for approximately three months, with a huge hole in the middle of it. Cordero said the tooth just had an outer layer and it was ready to fall out. Cordero explained that it did chip during the incident, but he was not saying Black knocked his tooth out. Cordero said the tooth was loose already and it came all the way out a few days after the incident.

Cordero went on the say that he should have stayed in his car and the officer was just doing his job. Cordero said because he got out of his car, he might have intimidated Black. Cordero said if he was on officer he would have "took the same procedure he took". Cordero added that he should have complied more with the officers and stayed in his vehicle.

Cordero said the incident happened so fast that he was not even sure if the officers intentionally struck him in the head or face. Cordero explained that the officers might have accidently hit his head while trying to secure him. Cordero said he really could not see what they were doing because of his head position, and anything could feel like punches. Cordero said that maybe Officer Worley did not kick him like he said, because it was not hard, and maybe he was just trying to put his foot on him to restrain him.

Cordero said "I can't tell you they beat the crap out of me. I believe that they were doing their job and they were doing anything they could to get my hands behind my back"

(Refer to recorded interview/transcripts for complete details.)

**On 03/16/21, at 1313 hours:**

I made telephone contact with Black. The purpose of the call was to ask Black if he had been diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Black said he was currently being treated for PTSD, which started after he resigned from the Lake Wales Police Department. Black said he would reach out to his counselor and have them send me documentation of his treatment. I later received a letter from Kathy Leggett, a licensed mental health counselor, in reference to Black's treatment in her office.

(See attached letter from Kathy Leggett.)

As part of the investigation, I received a copy of Lake Wales Police Department's General Orders concerning

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE****Narrative**

Protective Action. General Order 4.01, which was effective on 06/26/20, states the following:

**Active Resistance** - Intermediate Weapons/Hard Controls. The member may achieve compliance by the use of:  
1) Counter Moves.

Techniques that impede a subject's movement toward a member or others, such as, **brachial stun**, blocking, striking, distracting, kicking, parrying, dodging, weaving, redirecting, or avoiding, followed by appropriate controlling techniques.

The same General Order defines Active Resistance as follows:

**Active Resistance.** A subject makes physically evasive movements to defeat a member's attempt at control. This may be in the form of bracing, or tensing, attempts to push or pull away or not allowing the member to establish control of the subject.

During the investigation, I viewed book-in pictures of Cordero that were taken after his arrest on 02/05/21. I did not observe any signs of injury to Cordero that would suggest he was punched or kicked in the face. I reviewed the pictures taken by Officer Rhoden of Cordero at Advent Health on 02/06/21, and I could see that his left ear had a faint red mark on it. I did not see any injuries to the back of his head or face.

I was unable to find any witnesses, physical evidence, or video evidence to corroborate the allegations of physical violence made by Cordero. Black did report that he delivered an elbow strike to Cordero's head area, with the intention of doing a brachial stun. Black explained that he unintentionally struck Cordero on the head near his ear, due to being off-balance and in a struggle. Based on the situation, Black followed Lake Wales Police Department General Orders when he attempted to deliver a brachial stun to Cordero, in an attempt to gain control of him.

I was unable to establish that Black or Officer Worley violated any statutes involving Use of Force or Battery.

During the investigation, I learned Black was involved in an incident in 2018 where he was severely battered by a suspect. After reviewing the reports of the incident, it did appear this was a traumatic event for Black. I then looked at literature in reference to PTSD and the effects it could have on perception. I found numerous articles that referenced how PTSD could alter the perception of an event after one has experienced a past traumatic event. For example, one article titled *PTSD and Emotionally Augmented Perception: An Argument for Direct Realism* discussed how a person with PTSD can suffer an experience that will produce a sense of them re-experiencing a past traumatic event in the present. The article also discusses how stress can be amplified by past experiences and how fear has a strong effect on perception.

Reference:

Woodruff, Patrick Travis, "PTSD and Emotionally Augmented Perception: An Argument for Direct Realism"(2016).  
Electronic Theses and Dissertations. 751.  
<https://egrove.olemiss.edu/etd/751>

During an interview with Black, he explained that he believed Cordero was charging at him and he made it to his patrol vehicle bumper. Black said that he believed Cordero was going to attack him and he was in fear at that time. During an interview with Cordero, he said he was upset when he got out of his vehicle and he slammed his door, walking a few steps towards Black's vehicle. After the incident, Black viewed the Ring video and realized he was wrong about how far Cordero was away from his vehicle. Black completed a supplement saying that his perception was altered, due to the high stress of the incident.

I discussed the case with the State Attorney's Office and they confirmed that all of the charges against Cordero were dropped. I spoke to Assistant State Attorney, Nicole Orr, about the case and she said the State Attorney's Office would not pursue any charges against Black, Officer Worley, or Cordero.

Case Status: Closed-Non-Criminal Incident

# POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Narrative

I swear or affirm this report is correct and true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

(This report has been electronically signed.)

FULCHER, ERNEST - 4319

03/25/2021

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Deputy/Agency Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Sworn before me this 25th day of March, 2021.

TAN, ALEXANDER HIENJONG - 7908

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary/Law Enforcement Officer

-  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commission Number/Expiration

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**Images**

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
03/18/2021	15:20	4319	

Description  
Scan001.jpg

Detailed History for Police Event #S210360811 As of 3/18/2021 14:32:50  
Output for: 4606

Priority:2U Signal:559 - ASSAULT  
Location:POLK AVE E/3RD ST S, LWL <300/ 400>  
Created: 02/05/2021 09:36:55 CDP11 5759  
Entered: 02/05/2021 09:36:55 CDP11 5759  
Dispatch: 02/05/2021 09:36:55 CDP11 5759  
Enroute: 02/05/2021 09:36:55 CDP11 5759  
Onscene: 02/05/2021 09:36:55 CDP11 5759  
Control: 02/05/2021 09:37:32 CDP11 5759  
Transprt: 02/05/2021 10:09:18 CDP17 5847  
Complete: 02/05/2021 10:10:39 CDP17 5847  
Closed: 02/05/2021 12:53:51 CDP11 5759

ICUnit: PrimeUnit:L400 Dispo:L Signal:559 - ASSAULT  
Agency:LWPD District:SE Beat:47 Block:47C  
Case #:LW210000248 Detail

09:36:55est CREATE 5759/CDP11 Location:POLK AVE E/3RD ST S, LWL Signal:T District:SE Beat:47C  
SigDesc:TRAFFIC STOP LocDesc: <300/ 400> Priority:3N Agency:LWPD LocType:H  
09:36:55 ENTRY  
09:36:55 DISPOS L400 Location:POLK AVE E/3RD ST S, LWL Operator:L400 OperNames:BLACK,DAVID  
COLT  
09:36:55 -PRIU L400  
09:36:55 -PREMIS Comment:CE, PPR, PHZ  
09:37:03 BACKER L388 UnitID:L400 Location:POLK AVE E/3RD ST S, LWL Operator:L388  
OperNames:WORLEY,TRAVIS  
09:37:30 MISC L400 Comment:X98 X33  
09:37:32 OK L388  
09:37:34 OK L400  
09:38:15 MISC L388 Comment:X15 1X  
09:38:20 BACKER L366 UnitID:L388 Location:POLK AVE E/3RD ST S, LWL Operator:L366  
OperNames:JOYNER,JARED  
09:40:08 \*ONSCN L366/L60050 L366  
09:40:27 OK 5759/CDP11 L366  
09:52:24 \*CLEAR L366/L60050 L366  
09:54:04 CASE 5847/CDP17 L400 Case#:LW210000248  
09:55:03 MISC L400 Plate:N545KY Comment:TAN SATURN  
10:06:38 \*MISC L400/L60021 L400 Comment:VIOLATION #: ADO6U8E ISSUED TO: CORDERO,  
CHRISTOPHER JOHN VIOLATION: DRIVER NOT WEARING A SAFETY BELT (316.614(4)(B))  
10:06:41 \*MISC L400 Comment:VIOLATION #: ADO6U9E ISSUED TO: CORDERO, CHRISTOPHER JOHN  
VIOLATION: RAN STOP SIGN (316.123(2)(A))  
10:06:44 \*MISC L400 Comment:VIOLATION #: ADO6UAE ISSUED TO: CORDERO, CHRISTOPHER JOHN  
VIOLATION: EXPIRED TAG/REGISTRATION LESS THAN 6 MONTHS (320.07(3)(A))  
10:08:12 REQUEST 8675/CIC1 Rtype:TOW Plate:N545KY Community:47 ReqReason:ARREST  
Name:CORDERO,CHRISTOPHER JOHN -Community:47 -Company:SUN47 -Location:POLK AVE E/3RD ST S,

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**Images**

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
03/18/2021	15:20	4319	
Description			
Scan002.jpg			

LWL VIN:1G8ZK5278VZ403830 VehCol:TAN Year:1997 Make:STRN Model:STRN-SL Comment:OWNER  
 AWARE / VIN CLEAR - CP8675  
 10:09:13 MISC 5847/CDP17 L400 Comment:1015 1X S59 ON LEO S89 W/OUT  
 10:09:18 TRANSP L400 Location:LAKE WALES POLICE DEPARTMENT, LWL  
 10:10:28 SENT 8675/CIC1 Rtype:TOW Company:SUN47 ReqReason:ARREST Comment:SUNBELT  
 TOWING 863-439-5800 IS RESPONDING / ETA:15-20MINS - CP8675  
 10:10:39 CMLPT 5847/CDP17 L400  
 10:10:41 OK L400  
 10:12:20 INV 8675/CIC1 InvType:ARR Priority:1 Name:CORDERO,CHRISTOPHER JOHN Race:U Sex:M  
 DOB:11/22/1983 Age:37 InvDesc:INNV OWNER OLN:C636110834220 Category:P Comment:CP8675  
 10:17:09 TRANSP 5759/CDP11 L400 Location:ADVENT HEALTH MEDICAL, LWL Comment:X12 X15  
 10:22:52 \*RI L400/L60021 L400  
 10:23:09 CMLPT 5759/CDP11 L400  
 10:40:18 CLEAR L388  
 11:04:19 OK L400  
 11:21:50 BACKER 6826/CDP18 L366 UnitID:L400 Location:ADVENT HEALTH MEDICAL, LWL  
 Operator:L366 OperNames:JOYNER,JARED  
 11:47:20 \*RI L400/L60021 L400  
 11:56:00 \*BACKER L388/L60052 L388 UnitID:L400 Location:ADVENT HEALTH MEDICAL, LWL  
 Operator:L388 OperNames:WORLEY,TRAVIS  
 12:01:32 CLEAR 6826/CDP18 L388  
 12:12:54 TRANSP 5759/CDP11 L400 Location:POLK COUNTY SHERIFFS OFFICE-BOOKIN, BAR  
 Comment:X12 X15  
 12:35:30 CMLPT L400  
 12:35:36 OK L400  
 12:50:36 \*CLEAR L366/L60050 L366  
 12:52:14 \*RI L400/L60021 L400  
 12:53:51 CLEAR 5759/CDP11 L400 Signal:T-->S59 Priority:3N-->2U Dispo:L Comment:QUEBEC MIKE 3X  
 12:53:51 -CLEAR  
 12:53:51 CLOSE  
 12:54:15 MISC Comment:LEO

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**Images**

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
03/18/2021	15:20	4319	

Description  
Scan003.jpg

**Arrest Report  
LAKE WALES POLICE DEPARTMENT**

21-248

Supplement No  
ORIG



133 E. TILLMAN AVENUE  
LAKE WALES, FL 33859

Reported Date  
02/05/2021  
Incident Type  
RESISTING W/O VIOLENCE  
Member#  
BLACK, DAVID COLT

Phone  
(863) 678-4223 x260  
Fax  
(863) 678-4298

**Administrative Information**

Agency	Report No	Supplement No	Reported Date	Reported Time
LAKE WALES POLICE DEPARTMENT	21-248	ORIG	02/05/2021	09:36

CAD Call No	Status	Incident Type
210360811	Report to follow	Resisting Officer Without Violence

Location	City
POLK AVE E/3RD ST S	Lake Wales

ZIP Code	Beat	District	Sector	From Date	From Time	To Date	To Time
33853	47C	SE	47	02/05/2021	09:36	02/05/2021	09:38

Member#	Assignment
L400/BLACK, DAVID COLT	Lake Wales Police Patrol Shift A

Entered By	Assignment	RMS Transfer	Misc #1
L400	Lake Wales Police Patrol Shift A	Pending	Arrest Report

Approving Officer	Approval Date	Approval Time
L366	02/07/2021	17:50:47

# Offenses	Offense	Description	Attempted
1	784.07(2) (A)	Assault on Law Enfor	

Link	Involvement	Invl No	Name	Race	Sex
SUS	ARR	1	CORDERO, CHRISTOPHER JOHN	H	M

DOB
11/22/1983

Link	Involvement	Invl No	Name	Race	Sex
VIC	VAS	1	ST OF FL		

DOB

# Offenses	Offense	Description	Attempted
2	843.02	Resist Officer witho	

Link	Involvement	Invl No	Name	Race	Sex
SUS	ARR	1	CORDERO, CHRISTOPHER JOHN	H	M

DOB
11/22/1983

Link	Involvement	Invl No	Name	Race	Sex
VIC	VAS	1	ST OF FL		

DOB

# Offenses	Offense	Description	Attempted
3	836.12	Threat of death/SBI	

Link	Involvement	Invl No	Name	Race	Sex
SUS	ARR	1	CORDERO, CHRISTOPHER JOHN	H	M

DOB
11/22/1983

Link	Involvement	Invl No	Name	Race	Sex
VIC	VAS	1	ST OF FL		

DOB

**Person Summary**

Invl	Invl No	Type	Name	MNI
ARR	1	P	CORDERO, CHRISTOPHER JOHN	10535130

Race	Sex	DOB
H	M	11/22/1983

Invl	Invl No	Type	Name	MNI
VAS	1	S	ST OF FL	

Race	Sex	DOB

**Vehicle Summary**

Invl	Type	License No	State	Lo Year	Year	Make	Model	Style	Color
OC	1	N545KY	FL	2020	1997	STRN	AU	4D	TAN

Report Officer	Printed At
L400/BLACK, DAVID COLT	02/18/2021 13:31

# POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
03/18/2021	15:20	4319	

Description  
Scan004.jpg

**Arrest Report**  
**LAKE WALES POLICE DEPARTMENT**

21-248

Supplement No  
ORIG

### Summary Narrative

On 2/5/2021, I arrested Christopher Cordero for assault on a law enforcement officer, resisting an officer without violence, and threats to do great bodily harm on law enforcement officer.

Report Officer L400/BLACK, DAVID COLT	Printed At 02/18/2021 13:31	Page 2 of 6
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Report Officer 4319/FULCHER, ERNEST	Printed At 03/25/2021 11:40	Page 18 of 197
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**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**Images**

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
03/18/2021	15:20	4319	
Description			
Scan005.jpg			

**Arrest Report  
LAKE WALES POLICE DEPARTMENT**

21-248

Supplement No  
ORIG

**Arrestee 1: CORDERO, CHRISTOPHER JOHN**

Involvement	Invl No	Type	Name
Arrestee	1	Person	CORDERO, CHRISTOPHER JOHN
MNI	Race	Sex	DOB
10535130	Hispanic/Mexican/Latin	Male	11/22/1983
Age	Ethnicity	Juvenile?	Height
37	Hispanic	No	6'01"
Weight	Hair Color	Eye Color	Gen Appearance
240#	Brown	Brown	Casual
Build	Hair Description		
Large	Short hair		
Facial Hair	Speech	Demeanor	
Unshaven	Loud	Angry/Violent	
Jail Transfer	ARR_FLAG	Mem #	Oper Date
Successful	Yes	BLACK, DAVID COLT	02/05/2021
Oper Time	Notary Mem #	Notary Date	
11:40:20	L366	02/05/2021	
Notary Time	SIGNED		
11:40:23	Yes		
Type	Address		
Home	1518 SCENIC HWY N		
City	State	ZIP Code	Date
Lake Wales	Florida	33853	02/05/2021
Type	ID No	GLS	
Driver License	C636110834220	Florida	
Type	ID No		
Social Security Number	XXX-XX-XXXX		
Marital Status	US Citizen		
SINGLE	Y		
Involvement	Arrest Type	Arrest Date	Arrest Time
Arrested	Arrested	02/05/2021	09:38:00
Booking No	Status	Dispo	
21-4319	Booked	Misdemeanor	
Arrest Location	City		
POLK AVE E/3RD ST S	Lake Wales		
Beat	Place of Birth	City of Birth	Sector
47C	New York	Unknown	47
SIGNED			
Yes			
Charge	Counts	Level	Charge Literal
784.07(2)(A)	1	M1	Assault on Law Enfor
Charge	Counts	Level	Charge Literal
843.02	1	M1	Resist Officer witho
Charge	Counts	Level	Charge Literal
836.12	1	M1	Threat of death/SBI

Incident location: Polk Avenue/3rd St, Lake Wales, Florida 33853

On 2/5/2021 at approximately 0936 hours, I observed a tan Saturn sedan, bearing Florida tag N545KY, traveling south on 3rd Street approaching Polk Avenue. I saw the driver was not wearing a seatbelt. I got behind the vehicle and it immediately ran the stop sign on 3rd Street, turning west onto Polk Avenue. I began to inform dispatch of the traffic stop when the vehicle slammed on its brakes immediately and the driver, later identified as Christopher Cordero, immediately exited the driver door and began to charge towards my patrol vehicle. I activated my emergency lights on my marked patrol unit and told dispatch I needed backup. Cordero continued approaching me with closed fists, yelling, "You can't stop me, you don't have the right." I told Cordero to back up and get back into his vehicle. Cordero continued to charge towards me with closed fists. Believing Cordero was getting ready to attack me, I pointed my agency issued dart firing stun gun at Cordero and commanded him to stop charging me or I would tase him. Cordero stopped charging me upon hearing the D.F.S.G. commands. I re-holstered my agency issued D.F.S.G. due to Cordero discontinuing his assault. I then commanded Cordero to give me his name and then sit on the curb, but he refused. Cordero continued yelling, "I don't have to tell you who I am, I'm not going to sit down." I told Cordero I stopped him for not wearing his seatbelt and running a stop sign. I told Cordero again to provide me with his identity or I would place him under arrest for resisting an officer. Cordero said, "I don't have to I'm a famous YouTuber."

I told Cordero to turn around and place his hands behind his back and he was under arrest for assault and resisting. Cordero interlocked his arms across his chest and backed up against his car and said he was not going to put his hands behind his back. At this time, Officer Worley (L388) arrived as backup. I grabbed Cordero's right arm and attempted to place his hand behind his back. Cordero pulled away from me when I grabbed his arm. I was unable to control Cordero and get him into handcuffs. Due to Cordero continually actively resisting arrest, I escorted him to the ground and attempted to place him into a handcuffing position. I told Cordero, "Stop resisting, put your hands behind your back. Cordero refused and continued to shove his hands towards the front of his waistline. After struggling with Cordero, I was able to gain control of Cordero's right arm and place it behind his back. Officer Worley advised me Cordero was still reaching for his waistline. Due to Cordero's extreme and

Report Officer	Printed At
L400/BLACK, DAVID COLT	02/18/2021 13:31
	Page 3 of 6

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**Images**

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
03/18/2021	15:20	4319	
Description			
Scan006.jpg			

**Arrest Report  
LAKE WALES POLICE DEPARTMENT**

21-248

Supplement No  
ORIG

persistent attempts to get to his waistband, I believed he was possibly reaching for a weapon. Due to being unable to gain control of Cordero's hands and believing he was reaching for a weapon, I delivered one elbow strike to the left side of Cordero's head. Immediately upon utilizing the strike, Cordero quickly stopped resisting and placed both hands behind his back. Officer Worley and I placed Cordero into handcuffs. I informed Cordero he was under arrest for assault on a law enforcement officer and resisting an officer without violence.

I read Cordero his Miranda Warnings from my agency issued Miranda Card. Cordero advised he understood his rights and told me he would kick my ass if he saw me on the street without a gun and badge. Cordero then apologized and told me he understood why he was going to jail. Cordero immediately became angry again, claiming I stopped him for being a Hispanic male. I issued Cordero civil citation ADO6UAE for expired tag, civil citation ADO6U9E for running a stop sign, and civil citation ADO6U8E for not wearing his seat belt. I took Cordero to the Advent Health Center for medical clearance. When at the hospital, Cordero was handcuffed to the hospital bed. Cordero attempted to lunge off of the bed and pull free from his handcuffs while saying, "Im gonna fuck you up when I get these handcuffs off. You don't know who you're fucking with, I'm coming for you." I informed Cordero he was additionally charged with threats towards a law enforcement officer. Once Cordero was medically cleared, he was transported to the Polk County Jail.

**Victims (State of Florida) 1: ST OF FL**

Involvement	Invl No	Type
Victims (State of Florida)	1	State of Florida
Name	SIGNED	
ST OF FL	Yes	
Type	Address	
Work/Business	133 TILLMAN AVE E	
City	State	ZIP Code
Lake Wales	Florida	33853
Date	02/05/2021	
Phone Type	Phone No	Date
Business	(863) 678-4223	02/05/2021

**Vehicle: N545KY**

Involvement	Type	License No	State	Lic Year	
Other Crime/Not Auto Theft	Auto	N545KY	Florida	2020	
Lic Type	Year	Make	Model	Style	
Regular Passenger Automobile Plates	1997	Saturn	Auto	4-door Automobile	
Color	Value	VIN	Storage		
Tan	\$100.00	1G8ZK5278VZ403830	Released to Wrecker Service		
Dispo	Dispo Date	# Occupants			
Impounded	02/05/2021	1			
Tow By	Condition	Auth By			
704 Scenic Hwy, Lake Hamilton FL 33851	Not damaged	BLACK, DAVID COLT			
Tow From	Tow To				
POLK AVE E/3RD ST S	SUNBELT TOWING				
Person Notified	Nfy Date	Nfy Time			
OWNER	02/05/2021	10:30:00			
Nfy By	Phone No	Phone Type	Tow Type		
BLACK, DAVID COLT	(321) 978-2037	Cell	Tow Rotation List		
Link	Involvement	Invl No	Name	Race	Sex
OWN	ARR	1	CORDERO, CHRISTOPHER JOHN	H	M
DOB	11/22/1983				
Link	Involvement	Invl No	Name	Race	Sex
OTH	VAS	1	ST OF FL		

**Modus Operandi**

Gang Act?	Arson Inhabited?	Crime Code(s)
No	No	Resisting Officer Without Violence

**Narrative**

Incident location: Polk Avenue/3rd St, Lake Wales, Florida 33853

On 2/5/2021 at approximately 0936 hours, I observed a tan Saturn sedan, bearing Florida tag N545KY, traveling

Report Officer	Printed At	Page
L400/BLACK, DAVID COLT	02/18/2021 13:31	4 of 6

## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
03/18/2021	15:20	4319	

Description  
Scan007.jpg

## Arrest Report LAKE WALES POLICE DEPARTMENT

21-248

Supplement No  
ORIG**Narrative**

south on 3rd Street approaching Polk Avenue. I saw the driver was not wearing a seatbelt. I got behind the vehicle and it immediately ran the stop sign on 3rd Street, turning west onto Polk Avenue. I began to inform dispatch of the traffic stop when the vehicle slammed on its brakes immediately and the driver, later identified as Christopher Cordero, immediately exited the driver door and began to charge towards my patrol vehicle. I activated my emergency lights on my marked patrol unit and told dispatch I needed backup. Cordero continued approaching me with closed fists, yelling, "You can't stop me, you don't have the right." I told Cordero to back up and get back into his vehicle. Cordero continued to charge towards me with closed fists. Believing Cordero was getting ready to attack me, I pointed my agency issued dart firing stun gun at Cordero and commanded him to stop charging me or I would tase him. Cordero stopped charging me upon hearing the D.F.S.G. commands. I re-holstered my agency issued D.F.S.G. due to Cordero discontinuing his assault.

I then commanded Cordero to give me his name and then sit on the curb, but he refused. Cordero continued yelling, "I don't have to tell you who I am, I'm not going to sit down." I told Cordero I stopped him for not wearing his seatbelt and running a stop sign. I told Cordero again to provide me with his identity or I would place him under arrest for resisting an officer. Cordero said, "I don't have to I'm a famous YouTuber."

I told Cordero to turn around and place his hands behind his back and he was under arrest for assault and resisting. Cordero interlocked his arms across his chest and backed up against his car and said he was not going to put his hands behind his back. At this time, Officer Worley (L388) arrived as backup. I grabbed Cordero's right arm and attempted to place his hand behind his back. Cordero pulled away from me when I grabbed his arm. I was unable to control Cordero and get him into handcuffs. Due to Cordero continually actively resisting my efforts to place him under arrest, I escorted him to the ground and attempted to place him into a handcuffing position. I told Cordero numerous times, "Stop resisting, put your hands behind your back." Cordero refused and continued to shove his hands towards the front of his waistline, concealing them from my view. After struggling with Cordero, I was able to gain control of Cordero's right arm and place it behind his back. Officer Worley advised me Cordero was still reaching for his waistline with his other hand. I was kneeling next to Cordero in an unbalanced position. I did not want to let go of Cordero's arm to access any tools on my duty belt because I would have lost control of Cordero's arm. Due to Cordero's extreme and persistent attempts to reach into his waistband, I believed he was possibly reaching for a weapon. Due to being unable to gain control of Cordero's hands and believing he was reaching for a weapon, I delivered one (pain compliance) elbow strike to the left side of Cordero's head. I was attempting to deliver a brachial stun to temporarily stun Cordero, which would allow Officer Worley and I to place Cordero in handcuffs, as outlined in my department policy; however, due to Cordero's resisting movements and my unbalanced position, the elbow strike landed slightly higher than intended. Immediately upon utilizing the strike, Cordero quickly stopped resisting and placed both hands behind his back. Officer Worley and I placed Cordero into handcuffs.

I informed Cordero he was under arrest for assault on a law enforcement officer and resisting an officer without violence. I asked Cordero if he was all right. Cordero said, "Yeah man, you can let me go I won't tell anyone." I informed Cordero I could not let him go and he was under arrest for assault on a law enforcement officer and resisting an officer without violence. Cordero told Officer Worley and I he was a confidential informant for Captain Dave at the Lake Wales Police Department and we needed to let him go. I told Cordero I could not release him and he was under arrest. Then Cordero said if I did not release him he was going to lie about what happened and sue me. Cordero said if I did not let him go he was going to get me fired and criminally charged. I informed Cordero again of his charges and told him he was not getting released.

I read Cordero his Miranda Warnings from my agency issued Miranda Card. Cordero advised he understood his rights and told me he would kick my ass if he saw me on the street without a gun and badge. A few moments later, Cordero then apologized and told me he understood why he was going to jail. Cordero said, "I understand why yall put me down, yall didn't know if I was strapped or not." Cordero immediately became angry again, claiming I stopped him for being a Hispanic male. Cordero mentioned he knew karate and I better watch out for him. Cordero then began apologizing again, telling me he had anger issues, aggression problems, and shouldn't have approached me in an aggressive manner. Cordero then told me he was going to claim he was punched multiple times in the head while in handcuffs. I issued Cordero civil citation ADO6UAE for expired tag, civil citation ADO6U9E for running a stop sign, and civil citation ADO6U8E for not wearing his seat belt.

I took Cordero to the Lake Wales Police Department. Cordero then told me his head hurt and claimed I knocked

Report Officer L400/BLACK, DAVID COLT	Printed At 02/18/2021 13:31	Page 5 of 6
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Report Officer 4319/FULCHER, ERNEST	Printed At 03/25/2021 11:40	Page 21 of 197
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# POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
03/18/2021	15:20	4319	

Description  
Scan008.jpg

### Arrest Report LAKE WALES POLICE DEPARTMENT

21-248

Supplement No  
ORIG

#### Narrative

out one of his teeth. I immediately took Cordero to the Advent Health Center for medical attention. The Dr. at Advent Health informed Cordero the tooth had been missing for some time and had not been removed recently. Cordero had no visible injuries or any bleeding from his mouth. When at the hospital, Cordero was handcuffed to the hospital bed. Cordero attempted to lunge off of the bed and pull free from his handcuffs while saying, "Im gonna fuck you up when I get these handcuffs off. You don't know who you're fucking with, I'm coming for you." I informed Cordero he was additionally charged with threats towards a law enforcement officer. Cordero had extreme and continual behavioral changes throughout the investigation. Cordero would be extremely apologetic for his actions and then immediately become irate and begin screaming. Cordero was told multiple time by hospital staff to lower his voice so he did not disturb the other patients. Cordero told me he has anger issues and was sorry for acting out of anger. Cordero also told me he sees aliens and UFO's frequently. Once Cordero was medically cleared, he was transported to the Polk County Jail.

I e-filed the cost affidavit, arrest affidavit, and the citations. I have nothing further.

I swear or affirm this report is correct and true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

(This report has been electronically signed.)

BLACK, DAVID COLT - L400

02/06/2021

Signature of Deputy/Agency Member

Date

Sworn before me this 6th day of February, 2021.

JOYNER, JARED - L366

Notary/Law Enforcement Officer

Commission Number/Expiration

Report Officer  
L400/BLACK, DAVID COLT

Printed At  
02/18/2021 13:31

Page 6 of 6

Report Officer  
4319/FULCHER, ERNEST

Printed At  
03/25/2021 11:40

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**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**Images**

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
03/18/2021	15:20	4319	
Description			
Scan009.jpg			

**Supplemental Report  
LAKE WALES POLICE DEPARTMENT**

21-248

Supplement No  
0001



133 E. TILLMAN AVENUE  
LAKE WALES, FL 33859  
  
Phone  
(863) 678-4223 x260  
Fax  
(863) 678-4298

Reported Date  
02/05/2021  
Incident Type  
RESISTING W/O VIOLENCE  
Member#  
WORLEY, TRAVIS

**Administrative Information**

Agency	Report No	Supplement No	Reported Date	Reported Time
LAKE WALES POLICE DEPARTMENT	21-248	0001	02/05/2021	11:26
CAD Call No	Status	Incident Type		
210360811	Report to follow	Resisting Officer Without Violence		
Location				City
POLK AVE E/3RD ST S				Lake Wales
ZIP Code	Beat	District	Sector	From Date
33853	47C	SE	47	02/05/2021
From Time	To Date	To Time		
09:36	02/05/2021	09:38		
Member#	Assignment			
L388/WORLEY, TRAVIS	Lake Wales Police Patrol Shift A			
Entered By	Assignment	RMS Transfer	Prop Trans Stat	
L388	Lake Wales Police Patrol Shift A	Successful	Successful	
Misc #1	Approving Officer	Approval Date	Approval Time	
Supplemental Report	L366	02/08/2021	09:21:35	

**Summary Narrative**

This supplement report is in reference to my involvement with this case.

**Modus Operandi**

Gang Act?	Arson Inhabited?	Crime Code(s)
No	No	Resisting Officer Without Violence

**Narrative**

On 2-5-2021, I responded as back up to Officer Black on a traffic stop. Upon arrival, I observed a Hispanic male (Christopher Cordero) yelling loudly at Officer Black. I heard Officer Black ask Cordero for his Florida Driver's license. Cordero then yelled back at Officer Black and stated, "I don't have to give you my license, and I'm a famous you tuber." I then observed Officer Black reach for Cordero's wrist. At this point, Cordero pulled away from Officer Black. I assisted Officer Black with escorting Cordero to the ground. I yelled several times for Cordero to stop resisting and to give me his hands. Cordero refused to give me his hands as he placed his hands near his front waistline. I continued to struggle with Cordero to gain control of his hands as I was now in fear he may be trying to retrieve a weapon from his waistline. I continued yelling for Cordero to give me his hands and stop resisting. I was eventually able to gain control of Cordero's hands and I assisted Officer Black with handcuffing Cordero. I asked Cordero why his vehicle wasn't registered. Cordero told me the vehicle was properly registered and told me to retrieve his registration from the glove compartment. I searched the front glove compartment, however I was unable to find the registration nor any additional documents with Cordero's name on it.

While standing next to the rear window of the seat Cordero was sitting in, I heard him tell Officer Black "I am stronger than you are and I would kick his your ass on the street." Cordero told Officer Black "I have several years of karate training and you couldn't beat me if you didn't have a gun and badge." Cordero made several comments about putting the Lake Wales Police Department on YouTube. Cordero told me this case would be his word against the Lake Wales Police Department and he was going to make up lies to tell his attorney. Cordero told me he was smarter than all cops and even smarter than the judge that would try this case. Cordero told me he knew the Chief of Police for the Lake Wales Police Department (John) personally and he would be calling him. Cordero also told me he was a confidential informant for "Dave" with the Lake Wales Police Department and he recently got two kilos of meth off the streets. Cordero stated all confidential informants were supposed to be let go and not arrested. Based on Cordero's actions and statements, it was apparent Cordero was willing to do or say anything in-order to not be arrested.

I then stood by with Cordero's vehicle until Sunbelt Towing arrived on scene to tow the vehicle. I have placed a copy of the tow sheet into an e-file in this report.

Report Officer	Printed At	Page
L388/WORLEY, TRAVIS	02/18/2021 13:31	1 of 2

# POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
03/18/2021	15:20	4319	

Description  
Scan010.jpg

### Supplemental Report LAKE WALES POLICE DEPARTMENT

21-248

Supplement No  
0001

#### Narrative

This concludes my involvement with this case and I have nothing further.

I swear or affirm this report is correct and true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

(This report has been electronically signed.)

WORLEY, TRAVIS - L388

02/08/2021

Signature of Deputy/Agency Member

Date

Sworn before me this 8th day of February, 2021.

HARTWELL, RICKY - L394

Notary/Law Enforcement Officer

Commission Number/Expiration

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**Images**

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
03/18/2021	15:20	4319	
Description Scan011.jpg			

**Supplemental Report  
LAKE WALES POLICE DEPARTMENT**

21-248

Supplement No  
0002



133 E. TILLMAN AVENUE  
LAKE WALES, FL 33859

Reported Date  
02/06/2021  
Incident Type  
RESISTING W/O VIOLENCE  
Member#  
BLACK, DAVID COLT

Phone  
(863) 678-4223 x260  
Fax  
(863) 678-4298

**Administrative Information**

Agency <b>LAKE WALES POLICE DEPARTMENT</b>	Report No <b>21-248</b>	Supplement No <b>0002</b>	Reported Date <b>02/06/2021</b>	Reported Time <b>13:39</b>
CAD Call No <b>210360811</b>	Status <b>Report to follow</b>	Incident Type <b>Resisting Officer Without Violence</b>		
Location <b>POLK AVE E/3RD ST S</b>				City <b>Lake Wales</b>
ZIP Code <b>33853</b>	Beat <b>47C</b>	District <b>SE</b>	Sector <b>47</b>	From Date <b>02/05/2021</b>
				From Time <b>09:36</b>
				To Date <b>02/05/2021</b>
				To Time <b>09:38</b>
Member# <b>L400/BLACK, DAVID COLT</b>	Assignment <b>Lake Wales Police Patrol Shift A</b>			
Entered By <b>L400</b>	Assignment <b>Lake Wales Police Patrol Shift A</b>	RMS Transfer <b>Pending</b>	Misc #1 <b>Supplemental Report</b>	
Approving Officer <b>L366</b>	Approval Date <b>02/07/2021</b>	Approval Time <b>17:52:05</b>		

**Summary Narrative**

Supplemental report.

**Modus Operandi**

Gang Act? <b>No</b>	Arson Inhabited? <b>No</b>	Crime Code(s) <b>Resisting Officer Without Violence</b>
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**Narrative**

On 2/6/2021, I recalled the traffic stop I initiated on 2/5/2021. I also reviewed surveillance footage from a nearby residence. After reviewing the footage, I believe my perception was altered due to the high stress of the incident. Based upon the video, I could see Cordero did not get as close to me as I originally thought he did while he was tensing up; therefore, the elements for the assault on law enforcement charge were not met. I contacted the Polk County Sheriff's Office book in and requested the assault on a law enforcement officer charge be dropped. The PCSO advised Cordero had already been bonded out and I would have to contact the State Attorney's Office to drop the assault on a law enforcement officer charge. I was unable to locate any after-hours contact information for the State Attorney's Office. I am requesting the assault on law enforcement officer charge be dropped. I will contact the State Attorney's Office on Monday to resolve the incident.

Report Officer <b>L400/BLACK, DAVID COLT</b>	Printed At <b>02/18/2021 13:31</b>	Page 1 of 2
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# POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
03/18/2021	15:20	4319	

Description  
Scan012.jpg

### Supplemental Report LAKE WALES POLICE DEPARTMENT

21-248

Supplement No  
0002

I swear or affirm this report is correct and true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

(This report has been electronically signed.)

BLACK, DAVID COLT - L400

02/07/2021

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Deputy/Agency Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Sworn before me this 7th day of February, 2021.

MEYERS, ROCKY - L404

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary/Law Enforcement Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Commission Number/Expiration

Report Officer  
L400/BLACK, DAVID COLT

Printed At  
02/18/2021 13:31

Page 2 of 2

Report Officer  
4319/FULCHER, ERNEST

Printed At  
03/25/2021 11:40

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**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**Images**

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
03/18/2021	15:20	4319	
Description			
Scan013.jpg			

**L366**  
**LAKE WALES POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**21-248**

Supplement No  
0003



133 E. TILLMAN AVENUE  
LAKE WALES, FL 33859

Reported Date  
02/07/2021  
Incident Type  
RESISTING W/O VIOLENCE  
Member#  
JOYNER, JARED

Phone  
(863) 678-4223 x260  
Fax  
(863) 678-4298

**Administrative Information**

Agency	Report No	Supplement No	Reported Date	Reported Time			
LAKE WALES POLICE DEPARTMENT	21-248	0003	02/07/2021	15:20			
CAI Call No	Status	Incident Type					
210360811	Report to follow	Resisting Officer Without Violence					
Location				City			
POLK AVE E/3RD ST S				Lake Wales			
ZIP Code	Beat	District	Sector	From Date	From Time	To Date	To Time
33853	47C	SE	47	02/05/2021	09:36	02/05/2021	09:38
Member#	Assignment		Entered By				
L366/JOYNER, JARED	Lake Wales Police Canine		L366				
Assignment	RTIS Transfer	Misc #1	Approving Officer				
Lake Wales Police Canine	Pending	L366	L366				
Approval Date	Approval Time						
02/07/2021	18:02:25						

**Summary Narrative**

Supplement report.

**Modus Operandi**

Gang Act?	Arson Inhabited?	Crime Code(s)
No	No	Resisting Officer Without Violence

**Narrative**

On 02/05/21 I responded to the area of Polk Ave and 3rd Street in reference to Officer Black calling for back-up via the radio. Upon arrival, I observed the defendant, Cordero, sitting on the curb in handcuffs. I did not observe any injuries on Cordero. Cordero was yelling and appeared to be very agitated. Cordero said he did nothing wrong and Officer Black had no right to arrest him. Cordero was then placed in the back of a patrol vehicle. While in the vehicle, Cordero was constantly talking. I heard Cordero say that he was sorry for jumping out of his vehicle and that he should not have used vulgar language with Officer Black. a few minutes later, Cordero's mood changed again and he began yelling again saying we beat him up and had no right to arrest him.

Once Cordero was transported to the police department, he stated that his head hurt and that he needed to go to the hospital. Officer Black then transported Cordero to Advent Health in Lake Wales. Once Cordero was inside the ER, he began yelling and acting irrationally again. Cordero was told multiple times to calm down and be quiet, so that other patients were not disturbed. After being medically cleared, Officer Black placed Cordero in the back of his patrol car. I then spoke with Cordero about the incident. I asked Cordero why he jumped out of his vehicle when Officer Black stopped him. Cordero then began talking rapidly, so I pulled out my note pad and wrote down what he was saying. Cordero said the following "I know, I was wrong, I'm sorry. I'll never do that again. I should have just stayed in my car. I shouldn't have said those things to you. I'll be honest with you, I fucked up." I told Cordero I appreciated his apology and not to worry about it. Officer Black then transported Cordero to PCJ.

The following day I was able to view security footage of the incident that was captured by the cameras at 226 E Polk Ave. However, I was unable to download the footage to a disk. The IT department will be requested to obtain the video on a later date.

Report Officer	Printed At	Page
L366/JOYNER, JARED	02/18/2021 13:31	1 of 2

# POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
03/18/2021	15:20	4319	

Description  
Scan014.jpg

L366  
LAKE WALES POLICE DEPARTMENT

21-248

Supplement No  
0003

I swear or affirm this report is correct and true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

(This report has been electronically signed.)

JOYNER, JARED - L366

02/07/2021

Signature of Deputy/Agency Member

Date

Sworn before me this 7th day of February, 2021.

BLACK, DAVID COLT - L400

Notary/Law Enforcement Officer

Commission Number/Expiration

Report Officer L366/JOYNER, JARED	Printed At 02/18/2021 13:31	Page 2 of 2
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Report Officer 4319/FULCHER, ERNEST	Printed At 03/25/2021 11:40	Page 28 of 197
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**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**Images**

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
03/18/2021	15:20	4319	
Description			
Scan015.jpg			

**Supplemental Report  
LAKE WALES POLICE DEPARTMENT**

21-248

Supplement No  
0004



133 E. TILLMAN AVENUE  
LAKE WALES, FL 33859

Phone  
(863) 678-4223 x260  
Fax  
(863) 678-4298

Reported Date  
02/19/2021  
Incident Type  
RESISTING W/O VIOLENCE  
Member#  
RHODEN, MATTHEW

**Administrative Information**

Agency	Report No	Supplement No	Reported Date	Reported Time
LAKE WALES POLICE DEPARTMENT	21-248	0004	02/19/2021	19:04
CAD Cat No	Status	Incident Type		
210360811	Report to follow	Resisting Officer Without Violence		
Location				
POLK AVE E/3RD ST S				City
				Lake Wales
ZIP Code	Beat	District	Sector	From Date
33853	47C	SE	47	02/05/2021
Members	From Time	To Date	To Time	
L384/RHODEN, MATTHEW	09:36	02/05/2021	09:38	
Assignment	Lake Wales Police Canine			Entered by
Lake Wales Police Canine	RMS Transfer	Prep Trans Stat	Micro #1	L384
	Successful	Successful	Supplemental Report	
Approving Officer	Approval Date	Approval Time		
L384	02/20/2021	22:25:04		

**Summary Narrative**

Supplement report.

Prep #	Involvement	Incl Date	In Custody?	Security	Tag No	Item No	# Pieces
1	Evidence	02/19/2021	Yes	No	210005103	1	2
Description							
CD containing video. CD containing photographs							Type
							A
Cat					Article	Rev Date	Rev Time
Radio, TV, Sound, and Video Game Devices					CD Disk	02/06/2021	03:28
Recv Value							
\$0.00							
Recv Location							
410 11TH ST S							Recv City
							Lake Wales
Rev St	Beat	Sector	District	Initial Dispo	Entered Date	Entered Time	RMS Transfer
Florida	47B	47	SE	Other	02/20/2021	22:14	Successful
Control							
L384	0220212225						

**Modus Operandi**

Gang Act?	Arson Inhabited?	Crime Code(s)
No	No	Resisting Officer Without Violence

**Narrative**

On February 6, 2021, at approximately 0033 hours I received a call from the Polk County Sheriff's Office desk sergeant. The desk sergeant advised Christopher Cordero wanted to speak with a Lake Wales Police Department supervisor, in regards to a complaint against officers. I made land line contact with Cordero, who stated he was unhappy with treatment he received while being arrested by Officer Colt Black and Officer Travis Worley on 02/05/2021 (21-248.) I asked Cordero what his specific complaints were and he advised Officer Black was following him and had no reason to stop him. Cordero stated he did not run a stop sign and was told by Officer Black he did.

Cordero stated he exited his vehicle and Officer Black pulled his "Taser" from its holster while yelling at him. Cordero stated Officer Black then put him in handcuffs and made him sit on the curb. Cordero stated Officer Worley then arrived after he was already in custody and began "beating" him in the face. Cordero stated Officer Worley punched him in the face with a closed fist "five or six times." Cordero stated Officer Worley then spit in his face, and called him a "spick" and a "nigger." Cordero stated Officer Worley told him to "Go back to New York or Puerto Rico or wherever you're from."

I asked Cordero to come to the Police Department and I would provide him with a citizens complaint form.

Report Officer	Printed At
L384/RHODEN, MATTHEW	02/22/2021 13:21
	Page 1 of 9

## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
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Description Scan016.jpg			

## Supplemental Report LAKE WALES POLICE DEPARTMENT

21-248

Supplement No  
0004**Narrative**

Cordero stated he would be coming to the police department and disconnected.

Approximately an hour and a half later, I was again contacted by the PCSO desk sergeant advising Cordero requested a phone call. I made land line contact with Cordero, who again advised he was unhappy with treatment he received during his arrest. I reiterated to Cordero the first step he should take would be to complete a citizens complaint form, which I could provide for him. Cordero stated he was in fear of coming to the police department because he was afraid of Officer Black and Officer Worley. I told Cordero he could also come to the police department during business hours on the following Monday (02/08/2021) when a dayshift Sergeant and Lieutenant would be on duty. Cordero stated he would come first thing on Monday morning and ended the phone call.

At approximately 0328 hours, I was contacted by the desk sergeant a third time, requesting I contact Cordero and advised he was at Lake Wales Advent Health. I responded to Lake Wales Advent Health, along with Officer Jerome, and made contact with Cordero in room number 9.

The interaction with Cordero was recorded on my agency issued digital recorder. Cordero stated he wanted to make a report about what the officers did as well as "admit my wrongs." Cordero pointed to the left side of his neck and said he was injured. Cordero advised he believed his jaw was broken. Cordero stated both officers punched him "all over" his body. At that time, I did not see any injuries to Cordero's face, head, or body. I did see slightly red marks on Cordero's wrists, which he stated was caused by the handcuffs from when he was arrested. Cordero stated the officers picked him up by the handcuffs.

Photographs of Cordero's neck, face, head, and wrists were collected and later placed into evidence. I also obtained a medical release form, signed by Cordero.

Cordero also mentioned a residence, in the area of Polk Avenue/3rd Street, which may have camera footage of the incident. This information, along with the signed medical release form, were turned over to the day shift supervisor, Jared Joyner, on 02/06/2021.

Cordero went on to say during the traffic stop, he in fact stopped and exited his vehicle before Officer Black turned his emergency lights on. Cordero stated he did this because he wanted to ask the officer why he was following him. Cordero stated he did not violate any traffic laws and he in fact had stopped at the stop sign. Cordero stated once he exited his vehicle, Officer Black immediately pulled out his "Taser" and told him to put his hands behind his back. Cordero stated he never approached or acted aggressively towards the officers.

Cordero later stated, "I aggressively yelled at him," and "I cursed him out real bad." Cordero also stated, "I wasn't a good guy today, but I damn don't agree with a man laying on his stomach while he's handcuffed being punched. Not kicking, not moving, I'm already down."

Cordero stated when he was originally transported to the hospital after the arrest, he passed out during an MRI and was told he had a concussion.

Cordero stated Officer Black "created" the citations because he did not run a stop sign and he was wearing a seat belt.

Cordero advised he would be contacting the Daily Ridge and Tampa news.

Cordero claimed Officer Black and Officer Worley claimed he was reaching for something and stated, "He's reaching," in order to punch him.

This recorded interaction was placed onto a CD disk and submitted into evidence.

Report Officer  
L384/RHODEN, MATTHEWPrinted At  
02/22/2021 13:21

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Report Officer  
4319/FULCHER, ERNESTPrinted At  
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Description  
Scan017.jpg

**Supplemental Report  
LAKE WALES POLICE DEPARTMENT**

21-248

Supplement No  
0004

I swear or affirm this report is correct and true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

(This report has been electronically signed.)

RHODEN, MATTHEW - L384

02/20/2021

Signature of Deputy/Agency Member

Date

Sworn before me this 20th day of February, 2021.

LUDLOW, JUSTIN - L412

Notary/Law Enforcement Officer

-  
Commission Number/Expiration

Report Officer  
L384/RHODEN, MATTHEW

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Report Officer  
4319/FULCHER, ERNEST

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# POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

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Description Scan018.jpg			

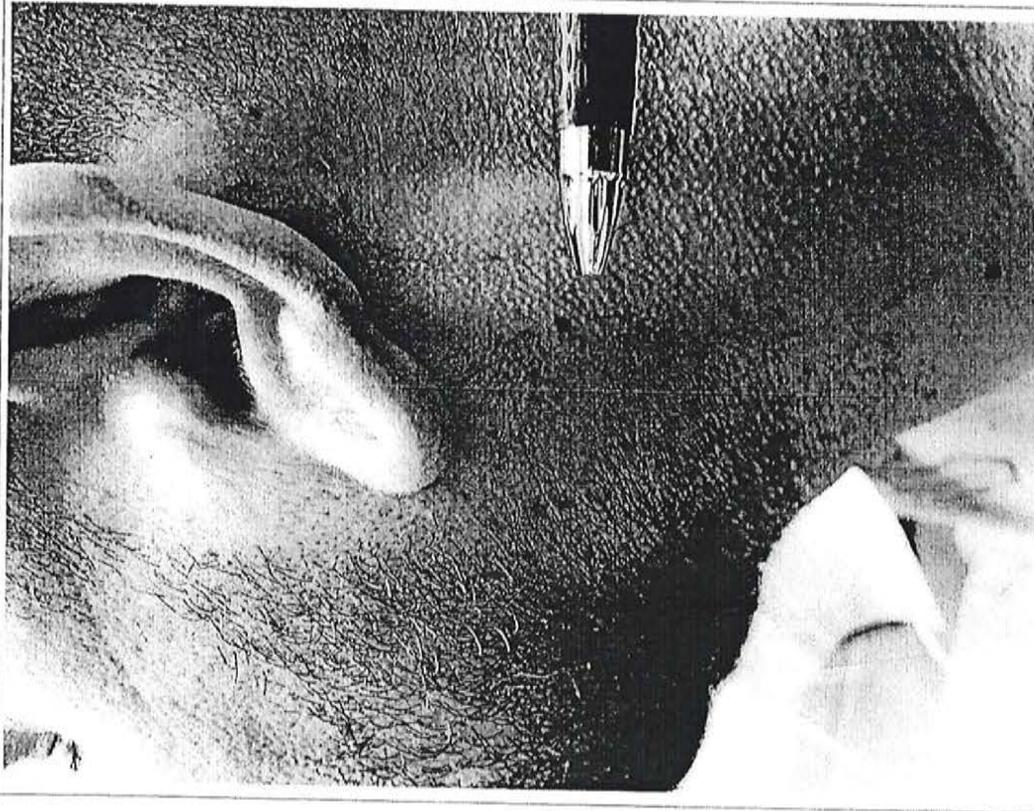
**Supplemental Report**  
**LAKE WALES POLICE DEPARTMENT**

21-248

Supplement No  
0004

## Images

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02/20/2021	22:08	L384	PHOTO
Description photo			



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## Images

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**Supplemental Report**  
**LAKE WALES POLICE DEPARTMENT**

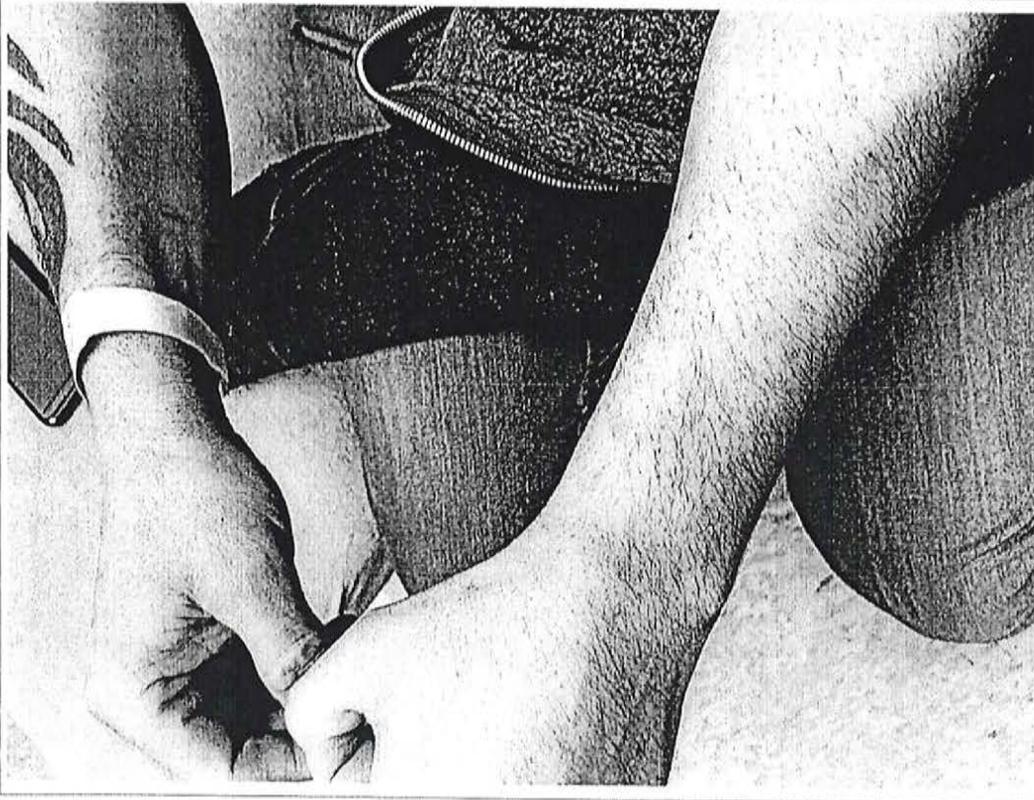
21-248

Supplement No  
0004

## Images

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
02/20/2021	22:09	L384	PHOTO

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# POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

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**Supplemental Report**  
**LAKE WALES POLICE DEPARTMENT**

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Supplement No  
0004

## Images

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
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Description  
photo



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L384/RHODEN, MATTHEW

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4319/FULCHER, ERNEST

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**Supplemental Report**  
**LAKE WALES POLICE DEPARTMENT**

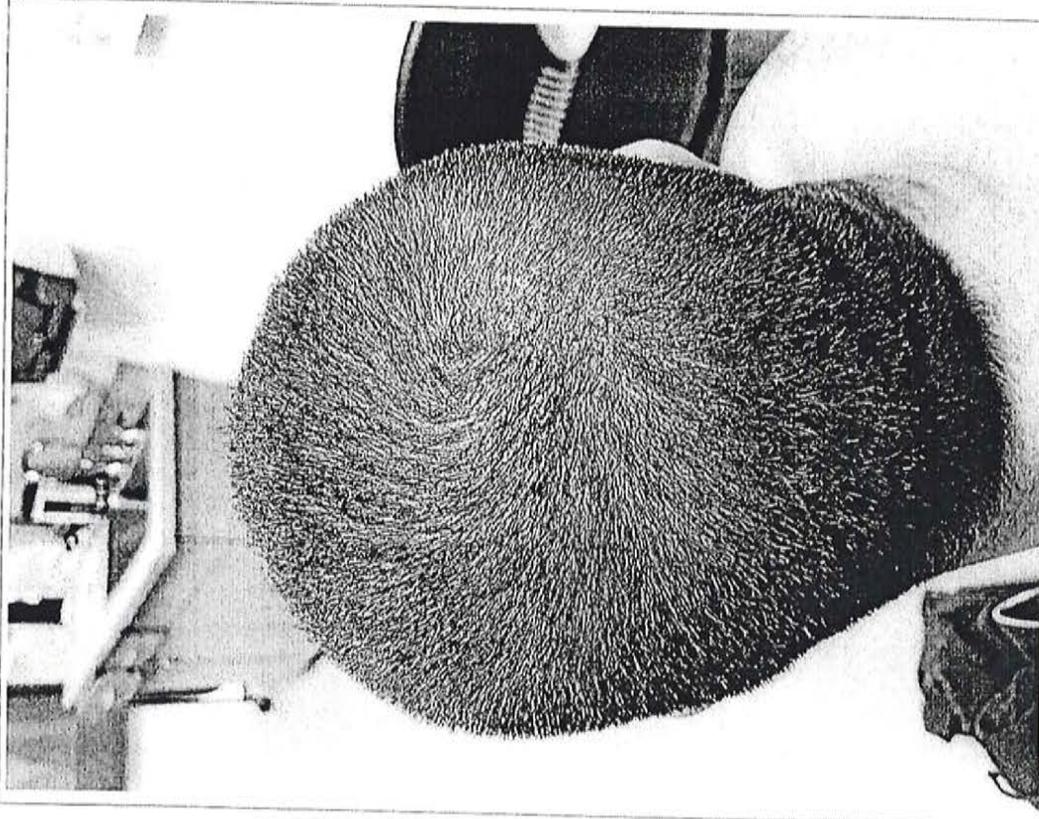
21-248

Supplement No  
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## Images

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
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### Supplemental Report LAKE WALES POLICE DEPARTMENT

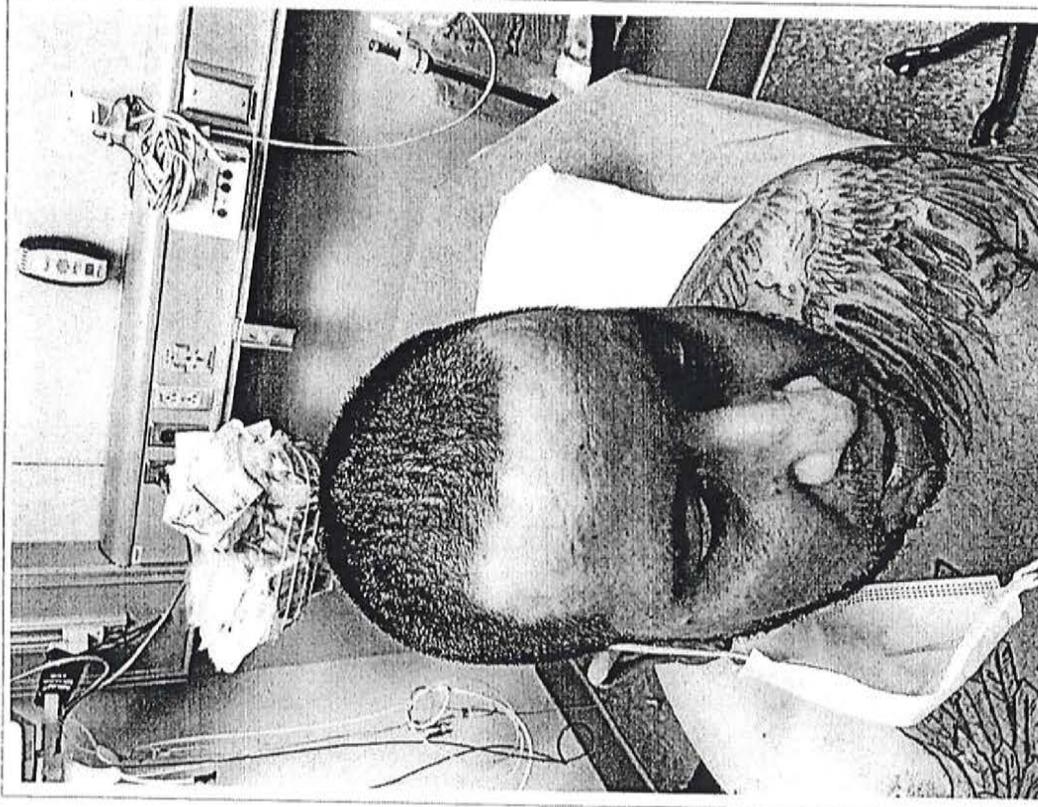
21-248

Supplement No  
0004

#### Images

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
02/20/2021	22:10	L384	PHOTO

Description  
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provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

(3) In any prosecution for perjury under this section:

- (a) The prosecution may proceed in a single count by setting forth the willful making of contradictory statements under oath and alleging in the alternative that one or more of them are false.
- (b) The question of whether a statement was material is a question of law to be determined by the court.
- (c) It is not necessary to prove which, if any, of the contradictory statements is not true.
- (d) It is a defense that the accused believed each statement to be true at the time the statement was made.

(4) A person may not be prosecuted under this section for making contradictory statements in separate proceedings if the contradictory statement made in the most recent proceeding was made under a grant of immunity under s. 914.04; but such person may be prosecuted under s. 837.02 for any false statement made in that most recent proceeding, and the contradictory statements may be received against him or her upon any criminal investigation or proceeding for such perjury.

**837.05 False reports to law enforcement authorities.**

- (1)(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) or subsection (2), a person who knowingly gives false information to a law enforcement officer concerning the alleged commission of any crime, commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- (b) A person who commits a violation of paragraph (a) commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, if the person has previously been convicted of a violation of paragraph (a) and subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2. applies:
  1. The information the person gave to the law enforcement officer was communicated orally and the officer's account of that information is corroborated by:
    - a. An audio recording or audio recording in a video of that information;
    - b. A written or recorded statement made by the person who gave that information; or
    - c. Another person who was present when that person gave that information to the officer and heard that information.
  2. The information the person gave to the law enforcement officer was communicated in writing.

(2) A person who knowingly gives false information to a law enforcement officer concerning the alleged commission of a capital felony, commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

**837.06 False official statements.**

Whoever knowingly makes a false statement in writing with the intent to mislead a public servant in the performance of his or her official duty shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

**92.525 Verification of Documents; perjury by false written declaration.**

(3) A person who knowingly makes a false declaration under subsection 2 is guilty of the crime of perjury by false declaration, a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

Acknowledgement and Receipt

Date Provided: 2/10/2021  
 Time: 11:00 am  
 By: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Complainant's Name: Christopher Cardero  
 Address: 1918 N. Scenic Hwy. #1  
 Home Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: (813) 895-6086

I acknowledge that I have received a Citizen Complaint Form and I have read the above Florida Statutes and understand that to make false statements in an official proceeding is a criminal act punishable by said statute.

 2/10/21

# POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

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Description  
Scan024.jpg

Signature

Date

Supervisor

Date



Date Occurred: 2/5/21 Time: 9 AM Location: POLK AVE Date  
 Received: / / Time: / / By:  Officer Name:  
Colt Black ID Number:  Division:  Officer Name:  
Travis Worley ID Number:  Division:  Complainant's Name:  
Christopher Cordero  
 Address: 1518 N. Scenic Hwy. #1 Home  
 Phone: ( ) Work Phone: (321) 895-6096

I, Christopher Cordero swear or affirm the statement herein is correct and true to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I have volunteered this information.

Statement of Complaint:

On 2/5/2021, before approaching the stop sign at the intersection of Polk & 2nd Street, the officer was following me at a high rate of speed, following extremely close. We entered the intersection, & the officer stopped behind me. I turned right onto Polk at the 2nd blue house, and upon stopping my vehicle, I exited the vehicle to ask the officer why he had been following me prior to this traffic stop. (I was in the Lake Wales Lake Park and noticed officer Black drive by me at least three times. I could see his face.) I exited the vehicle, and took 1-2 steps forward & asked him from a distance if he could check the glove box for my registration since he asked for my ID and registration. I told him I had my ID in paper format & he then told me to go back inside my car. Upon opening the door to my vehicle, he then told me to go to the back of my vehicle with my body facing my vehicle and my back facing him. I put my hands on the car on the trunk & I realized that I had been immediately sucker punched from behind. When I didn't fall, he put his arms around my waist & tackled me down to the grass next to where my car was parked. I was lying on my stomach with my hands in front of me, to brace myself for the fall. Ofc. Black was restraining my left hand and my body had my right hand pinned underneath me. Black was on top of me with his knee. Black only had one hand & I never resisted, and he then elbowed my head (the back part). My body was pinning my arm and Black was on top of me.

Worley arrived and started kicking my ribs with his foot. He also punched me in the head yelling "stop resisting. Take your hands away from your waistline." He told Black "I think he's got a gun" Black kept pounding the left side ear with his elbow. They then cutted me. I became unconscious for a few seconds while they

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have read the foregoing statement and that the facts stated in it are true. Verified the same by my hand this 10 day of February, 20 21

Signature of Person Making

Lake Wales Police Department  
Citizen Complaint Form

## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

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Description			
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continued on 10-11-21  
 for hitting me. He then punched me in my face with either a fist or  
 an elbow. My face was on the grass & I was unable to see.  
 Worley kicked me in the side of my chest, not hard, putting his  
 foot against me, telling me to stop resisting. I was cuffed &  
 Worley bent down, called me a spic nigger and spit in  
 my face. He also called me a piece of shit and told  
 me to go back to New York. I've never met either  
 officer and I wonder how they knew I was from N.Y.

I feel like I was profiled racially and abused and  
 mistreated for no reason. I was wearing my seatbelt,  
 I had paperwork to prove I had a valid license, but  
 officer Black wouldn't let me explain anything I was  
 trying to tell him. When I was <sup>held</sup> unconscious and in  
 handcuffs, I believe I remember that I ~~was~~ <sup>held</sup> by a Colt Black.  
 I was from N.Y., but I had a Florida Driver's license.

# POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

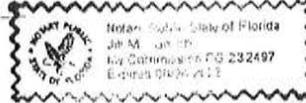
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Sworn to and subscribed before me, the undersigned authority, this 10 day of February 2021.

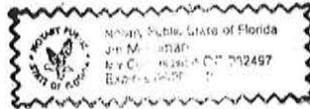
Jill M. Tuman  
Signature of L.E.O. or Notary Public

Personally Known \_\_\_ Or Produced Identification



Jill M. Tuman  
Printed Name of L.E.O. or Notary Public

Type of Identification Produced Florida Identification Card Number C636110834220  
Driver's License



**Recommendation:**

- Complaint Resolved / No Further Action Required
- Assign to Supervisor
- Request Conduct Review
- Other / See Attached

Supervisor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Commander's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Deputy Chief's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Approved  Authorization for Conduct Review

Chief's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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General Order 4.01 – Protective Action  
Chapter: Protective Action

Effective: June 26, 2020

PROTECTIVE ACTION.

A. PURPOSE. The purpose of this General Order is to establish guidelines and procedures for the use of deadly and non-deadly protective action by members.

B. POLICY. It shall be the policy of the Lake Wales Police Department to ensure the preservation of human life and to ensure sworn members exercise the utmost care and reasonable judgment in the performance of their duties. It shall be the policy of the Lake Wales Police Department to train members in approved methods of protective action prior to assignment to duties where protective action may be used to protect the public welfare. It is also the policy of the Lake Wales Police Department that excessive force by sworn members will not be tolerated.

C. SCOPE. This General Order shall apply to all Department members.

D. DISCUSSION. In vesting members with the lawful authority to use protective action to protect the public welfare, a careful balancing of all human interests is required. Therefore, members shall use only the minimum action reasonably necessary to effect lawful objectives to bring an incident under control, while protecting themselves or others from physical harm. The Department shall ensure members act in good faith in the exercise of protective action in accordance with Florida Statutes and this General Order. [CFA 4.01]

E. PROCEDURES.

1. Authorization

a. Sworn members must successfully complete the Florida Basic Recruit Training Program or its equivalent, prior to assignment in any capacity in which the member is allowed to carry a firearm or is in any position to make an arrest, except as part of a formal field training program. [CFA 4.03]

b. Sworn members will be issued copies of and instructed in the protective action policy before they are authorized to carry a lethal or non-lethal weapon or placed into a position where they may use protective action. [CFA 4.02]

c. Sworn members, while exercising law enforcement authority, are prohibited from carrying any weapons (lethal or non-lethal) with which they have not proven proficiency. While exercising law enforcement authority when off-duty, sworn members are authorized to carry and use any weapon (lethal or non-lethal) that they are authorized to use on duty. [CFA 4.06 C]

d. Members who complete an approved training course are authorized to carry and use non-lethal weapons in accordance with the Protective Action Guidelines. Members shall carry only agency-issued non-lethal weapons while on duty, and may also carry these while off duty. [CFA 4.06 A, B]

e. Non-sworn members will be issued copies of and instructed in the protective action policy before they are authorized to carry chemical defense sprays.

f. Only equipment and techniques for which members received department authorized training shall be used, while on or off duty, except in a case of exigent circumstances.

g. Pursuant to Florida Statutes, a law enforcement officer need not retreat or desist from efforts to make a lawful arrest because of resistance or threatened resistance to the arrest. The sworn member is justified in the use of any force:

## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

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Description			
Scan028.jpg			

- 1) Which he or she reasonably believes to be necessary to defend himself or herself or another from bodily harm while making the arrest;
- 2) When necessarily retaking felons who have escaped; or
- 3) When necessarily committed in arresting felons fleeing from justice.

2. Protective Action Guidelines

a. The Protective Action Guidelines provide a framework for making decisions involving the reasonable protective action by members. The structure of the Protective Action Guidelines is based on constitutional considerations and case law and describes appropriate decision making in a fluid and dynamic situation. The Protective Action Guidelines consider the relationship between subject resistance and various situational factors in determining the member's response options.

b. The Protective Action Guidelines define the various resistance levels and correlative protective action authorized by the Department to control and subdue persons who resist arrest. In practice, the Protective Action Guidelines are a graduated process that is based on employment of the minimum force to counter or subdue the physical actions of a non-compliant subject. Using any techniques shall be predicated on the physical actions of the subject with due consideration given to any special circumstances or member subject factors present during the incident.

c. Members shall observe the subject for any signs of "excited delirium" or illicit drug use as taught in training. If either is observed, emergency medical services should be notified prior to any use of force action taken, if circumstances allow. [CFA 4.08]

d. Each department member has the individual responsibility to intervene and stop any other member from committing an unlawful or improper act, including but not limited to, acts of excessive force, abuses of process, abuses of authority, and any other criminal acts or major violations of department General Orders. Successful intervention does not negate a duty to report.

3. Resistance Levels The resistance levels presented in this General Order are based on guidelines provided by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission.

a. Presence. A subject is present at the scene.

b. Verbal. A subject verbally refuses to comply with a member's request or the subject attempts to control the situation. The subject threatens the member with further resistance or, the subject does not respond to the member.

c. Passive Resistance. A subject verbally and/or physically refuses to comply or respond to the member's lawful direction. The subject does not make any attempt to physically defeat the actions of the member, but instead forces the member to employ physical maneuvers to establish control.

d. Active Resistance. A subject makes physically evasive movements to defeat a member's attempt at control. This may be in the form of bracing, or tensing, attempts to push or pull away or not allowing the member to establish control of the subject.

e. Aggressive Resistance. A subject makes overt, hostile, or attacking movements that may cause injury, but that is not likely to cause death or great bodily harm to the member or others.

## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

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f. Aggravated Resistance. A subject makes overt, hostile, or attacking movements with or without a weapon that creates a perception by the member that the subject intends to cause, and is capable of causing, death or great bodily harm to the member or others.

4. Member Response Levels. Members should always try to resolve a situation with the least amount of protective action practicable to achieve compliance with the level of resistance exhibited by the subject.

a. De-Escalation

- 1) De-escalation tactics and techniques are actions used by officers, when safe and feasible that seek to minimize the likelihood of the need to use force during an incident and increase the likelihood of voluntary compliance.
- 2) Selection of de-escalation options should be guided by the totality of the circumstances with the goal of attaining voluntary compliance; considerations include:
  - a. Communication: Using communication intended to gain voluntary compliance such as verbal persuasion, clear instructions, and avoid language that could escalate the incident.
  - b. Time: Attempt to slow down or stabilize the situation so more time, options, and resources are available for incident resolution.
  - c. Distance: Maximizing tactical advantage by increasing distance to allow for greater reaction time.
  - d. Shielding: Utilizing cover and concealment for tactical advantage such as placing barriers between an uncooperative subject and officers.
- 3) Consider whether any lack of compliance is a deliberate attempt to resist rather than an inability to comply based on factors including, but not limited to medical conditions, mental impairment, developmental disability, physical limitation, language barrier, drug use, behavioral crisis, fear, or anxiety.
- 4) If a Member(s) is met with resistance, as a subject's level of resistance decreases, the member(s) response shall decrease also.

b. Presence

- 1) Member Presence. The member is present on the scene. This includes proper voice or other identification, body language, and awareness by the subject that the subject is dealing with a member.
- 2) Interview Stance. The member adopts a stance outside of his or her danger zone that provides appropriate protection and forms the basis of an effective physical response, if attacked. In such a stance the firearm or strong side leg is back; the non-firearm or weak side leg is forward; the feet are approximately shoulder width apart; the knees are slightly bent to give balance, control, and a lower body center of gravity to equally distribute body weight; and the hands are raised to guard the upper body.

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**Images**

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Scan030.jpg

c. Verbal Resistance - Verbal Commands/Communication. The member may be able to obtain compliance by providing verbal direction to the subject.

- 1) Dialogue. A two-way, controlled, non-emotional communication between the member and the subject, to facilitate problem identification and/or resolution.
- 2) Verbal Direction. A member enunciates or directs a subject to engage in or refrain from a specific action or non-action.
- 3) Touch. A member employs a soft, assisting touch when directing, or a firm, strong touch prior to escalating to a higher level of force.

d. Passive Resistance - Physical Control/Soft Controls. The member may use empty-hand or leverage techniques such as:

- 1) Restraint Devices. Mechanical tools used to restrict a subject's movement and facilitate searching. Handcuffs, flex cuffs, nylon restraining device, etc. are examples of restraint devices.
- 2) Transporters. Techniques used to control or move a subject from point A to point B with minimum effort by the member in order to gain and retain control over the subject.
- 3) Take-Down. Techniques employed to place a subject onto the ground in a controlled manner for the purpose of limiting his or her physical resistance, and to facilitate the application of a restraint device.
- 4) Pain Compliance. Techniques that force a subject to comply with an member as a result of the member inflicting controlled pain upon specific points in the subject's body, such as pressure point techniques and controlled chemical weapons.

e. Active Resistance - Intermediate Weapons/Hard Controls. The member may achieve compliance by the use of:

- 1) Counter Moves. Techniques that impede a subject's movement toward a member or others, such as, brachial stun, blocking, striking, distracting, kicking, parrying, dodging, weaving, redirecting, or avoiding, followed by appropriate controlling techniques.
- 2) Non-Lethal Weapons Weapons that are not fundamentally designed to cause death or great bodily harm: such as an impact weapon (ASP baton), chemical weapons and dart-firing stun gun.

f. Aggressive Resistance. To gain compliance, the member may use incapacitating control/intensified techniques intended to stun or render a subject temporarily unconscious, delivered with or without an impact weapon, such as a strike to a major nerve area.

g. Aggravated Resistance - Deadly Protective Action. The member may achieve compliance using techniques that may result in imminent death or great bodily injury, unconsciousness or permanent disfigurement, such as impact weapon strikes to the head or use of firearms. "Ramming" or "tapping out" of vehicles is also a use of deadly protective action. Deadly protective action techniques are a last resort. Deadly protective action does not mean that someone died from the action used. Deadly protective action can cause great bodily harm or no harm at all. For example, returning fire is deadly protective action even if the member misses the target.

5. Totality of Circumstances. The decision to use any protective action to achieve a lawful objective or overcome a subject's resistance is a decision sworn members must make based on all

## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Office of the State Attorney, Tenth Judicial Circuit  
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## INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

**Defendant:** CHRISTOPHER CORDERO  
**Case #:** 53-2021-SA-000007-A000-XX  
**Agency:** OFFICE OF STATE ATTORNEY 10TH CIRCUIT  
**Agency Case #:** SA21000007XX  
**Investigator:** CHRISTOPHER SHEA      **Date:** March 4, 2021  
Supplement

Synopsis:

Cordero was arrested on 2/5/21 and alleged police brutality during his arrest which he reported was caught on video surveillance.

Subjects

CHRISTOPHER CORDERO  
H/M DOB:11/22/1983  
DL:C636-110-83-422-0/FL  
1518 SCENIC HWY N #1  
LAKE WALES, FL 33853

Investigation:

On 2/9/21 a subject who identified himself as Christopher Cordero (11/22/83) called our office to allege he was the victim of police brutality during his arrest on 2/5/21 by the Lake Wales Police Department and that the entire incident was captured on video surveillance.

Inv. Hank Smith and I responded to Cordero's location, 1518 Scenic Hwy N, #1 (Towerview Motel), in Lake Wales to retrieve the thumb drive in which Cordero had preserved the video surveillance recording. Prior to our arrival I placed an audio recorder in my pocket to document our encounter with Cordero.

Upon our arrival we were met in the parking lot outside room #1 of the Towerview Motel by a subject who identified himself as Christopher Cordero. The subject matched the jail book-in photo of Cordero. Cordero was reluctant to turn over the thumb drive at first, but after being reassured we would make our own copy and return his, he turned the thumb drive over to us. Cordero stated he wanted to tell us what happened the day of his arrest and what was captured on the video surveillance of the incident.

Cordero was advised that he had attorney representation and that we could not speak to him. Cordero stated he currently was not represented by any attorney and that he wanted to speak to us. Cordero then began to give us a statement of the events surrounding his arrest and stated the

## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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video surveillance clearly shows his innocence and the police brutality he suffered at the hands of Officer Black and Officer Worley of the Lake Wales Police Department.

After completing his statement to us, we assured Cordero after making a copy of his thumb drive we would return his thumb drive to him. Upon return to our office, a copy of the thumb drive was completed and Cordero's thumb drive was returned to him.

A review of the video surveillance captured of the arrest of Christopher Cordero did not substantiate the claims made by Cordero and were inconsistent with the statement provided by Cordero. Our office took no further actions of the claim by Cordero of police brutality.

Approximately a week later I received a call from a subject who identified himself as Christopher Cordero. The subject stated he called the Lake Wales Police Department seeking assistance getting his vehicle returned to him. He was told to come to the police department. Upon arrival he reported he was met by an unknown officer and ushered into an interview room. He states the officer told him he ruined the careers of two of his fellow officers and he now was going to write a report which exonerated both officers from the police brutality claims he was making against them.

The subject reported he attempted to leave but the officer pulled his weapon and told him after completing the report he would be allowed to leave. The subject was eventually allowed to leave the police department unharmed. The subject also reported in the room he was held in, the table he sat at had multiple firearms laid out, one being a black AR15.

The subject advised he recorded the entire incident using his cell phone which he hid in a plastic type bag. The subject reported he attempted to video record the incident but was unsuccessful, but he was able to capture the audio of the entire incident.

I advised the subject if what he was telling me was the truth, he needed to make a copy of the recording and have his attorney bring it to our office. The subject assured me he would do exactly that. As of the writing of this report the subject's recording of the alleged incident has not been turned over to our office.

Date Completed: 3/4/2021

*Inv At Sa* SAO # 11  
STATE ATTORNEY INVESTIGATOR

Sworn to and Subscribed before me,  
The undersigned authority, this 4th day of March, 2021.

## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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255 North Broadway Avenue • Drawer SA, P.O. Box 9000 • Bartow, Florida 33851-9000  
(863) 531-1800 • www.sao10a.com

## INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

**Defendant:** Christopher Cordero  
**Case #:** 53-2021-SA-000007-A000-XX  
**Agency:** OFFICE OF STATE ATTORNEY 10TH CIRCUIT  
**Agency Case #** SA21000007XX  
**Investigator:** HENRY SMITH II  
**Date:** March 4, 2021  
**Supplement**

Synopsis:

Christopher Cordero alleged police brutality by the Lake Wales Police Department during his arrest on 02/05/21. Cordero stated the incident was caught on video surveillance.

Subjects

CHRISTOPHER CORDERO  
H/M DOB: 11/22/1983  
DL: C636-110-83-422-0/FL  
1518 SCENIC HWY N  
LAKE WALES, FL 33853

Investigation:

February 09, 2021 1000 hrs.

Chief Investigator, Beverly Cone received a telephone call from a subject identifying himself as Christopher Cordero. Cordero stated he was a victim of police brutality during his arrest and had video evidence of his encounter with two Lake Wales police officers. Cordero wanted this office to review the video.

Investigator Cone directed Investigator Shea and I to respond to Cordero's location and obtain the video surveillance. Cordero provided his address as the Towerview Motel located at 1518 N. Scenic Hwy in Lake Wales. Cordero stated he was in apartment #1.

Prior to arriving at Cordero's apartment, I turned my digital recorder on and Investigator Shea placed it on his person. Upon arrival, I noted a Hispanic male standing in the parking lot. The Hispanic male appeared to match a recent book in picture of Christopher Cordero. Investigator Shea and I exited my vehicle and met with the Hispanic male who identified himself as Christopher Cordero. Cordero was reluctant to give us the device and stated it was worth "a

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

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million dollars". We assured Cordero we would make a copy of the device and return his to him as soon as possible. Cordero provided a thumb drive device to Investigator Shea and began stating what occurred during the traffic stop. Cordero was told he is currently a defendant in a criminal case in which this office was prosecuting and he should not say anything without his attorney. Cordero said he has not hired an attorney and he wanted to tell us what occurred during the traffic stop. Refer to CDR for entire recording of the meeting with Cordero.

Investigator Shea and I returned to our office wherein a copy of the thumb drive was made. Upon reviewing the surveillance video provide to us by Cordero, it was learned Cordero's account of what transpired did not accurately depict what occurred on the surveillance video.

Based on Cordero's statements conflicting with the video surveillance, this office took no further action in the claim of police brutality made by Cordero.

**February 11, 2021**

Investigator Dan Cash returned Cordero's thumb drive to Cordero.

No further action taken by this investigator.

Date Completed: 3/4/2021

*Hy E. Steinhilber, III*  
SAO # SA15  
STATE ATTORNEY INVESTIGATOR

Sworn to and Subscribed before me,  
The undersigned authority, this 4th day of March, 2021.

*INU At Sa*, SAO # 11  
Law Enforcement Officer

\*\* Image Type: DISCOVERY, Sub-type: REPORTS \*\*

# POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Law Enforcement Officer, SAO # 15

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**Redacted Medical Information**

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**BUREAU OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS  
HOMICIDE UNIT**

**Lead Investigator:** Detective Fulcher

**Classification:** Information

**Case Number:** 2021-007464

The following is a copy of the typed transcription taken from the recorded statement of Christopher Cordero Pt. 1 on February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

**Transcriptionist:** Lisa Tomberlin

**Date:** March 18, 2021

*This tape statement took approximately 1 Hour and 35 Minutes to type.*

\*\*\*\*\*  
"TEN STAR ACCREDITED AGENCY"

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

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Statement of  
Christopher Cordero Pt. 1

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<b>CASE NUMBER 2021-007464</b>	<b>Information</b>
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**PERSON INTERVIEWED:** Christopher Cordero Pt. 1

**LAKE WALES PD:** Officer Rhoden/Officer Jerome

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RHODEN Go in, that's what I told him. He said, go in where you take the prisoner, which (inaudible, device covered) our entrance. And he's like the third room on the left.

JEROME Third on the left?

RHODEN That's what he said.

JEROME One, two, so either seven or eight. Check with them.

RHODEN Hello, I'm looking for Chris Cordero.

NURSE Cordero? Police Department?

RHODEN Mhm (yes).

NURSE In bedroom nine.

RHODEN Number nine? Ok. Thank you.

JEROME It's a little further down.

RHODEN A little further. Hey Chris.

CORDERO Hey, how ya doin'?

RHODEN Good, how are you man?

CORDERO Good, there's two people.

RHODEN I'm Officer Rhoden, this is Officer Jerome.

CORDERO How ya doin'?

JEROME (Inaudible).

CORDERO Fantastic.

RHODEN You doing ok?

CORDERO Yeah. Yes, yes. Um, I would like to make a report and um, just kind of explain to you what happened and admit my wrong. As well as not just giving the other officer up but including what I did as well.

RHODEN Ok.

CORDERO I think it's important to speak the truth.

RHODEN Sure, absolutely. Um, that's why we're here.

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

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**Statement of  
Christopher Cordero Pt. 1**

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**CASE NUMBER 2021-007464** **Information**

CORDERO Thanks.

RHODEN Do you have any injuries?

CORDERO Yeah. Right here. I need you to come see this real quick.

RHODEN Ok.

CORDERO I'm laying on cuffs right? On my belly in someone's yard, and I hope they have, an old lady came out today she said, be my girlfriend went out there, she's going to give us the video that shows him hitting me with the handcuffs, I had handcuffs on.

RHODEN Ok.

CORDERO I didn't resist, I did move, I was eating grass.

RHODEN Ok.

CORDERO And he kept punching me on the side of my head and all over him and the other cop.

RHODEN If you don't mind, if I could take a couple pictures okay?

CORDERO Yeah. Can you guys (inaudible, device covered, moving) there? (Inaudible) can you see that right there?

JEROME Yeah, just stop touching it for me so I can.

CORDERO Yeah.

JEROME And where else are you complaining of injury?

CORDERO All over my head they punched me, so I can't, I can't tell you.

RHODEN (Inaudible) take one.

CORDERO I can't see back there.

RHODEN (Inaudible).

JEROME Anything on your body itself?

CORDERO Yeah, they, they, they uh, manhandled me by my handcuffs too. Like when they picked me up, they just, like a dog, and I, this was at um, 11:00. And it's still there.

JEROME That's fine.

CORDERO Yeah.

JEROME Well, unfortunately handcuffs are not...

CORDERO No, I know, but.

JEROME May leave the top of your, leave them up first.

## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Statement of  
Christopher Cordero Pt. 1

CASE NUMBER 2021-007464

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CORDERO Cool.

JEROME Ok, now roll them over.

CORDERO I've been arrested before. And they never lasted long. I was mistreated.

JEROME Any, any other marks?

CORDERO They punched me all in the back of my head. Everywhere.

RHODEN Will you take one of just the back of his head and then one from looking forward?

CORDERO All this back here.

JEROME Stop, stop moving for me hon. And then, I'm just gonna come around.

CORDERO And my forehead.

RHODEN Anything else?

CORDERO I've been having headaches bad. Um, I took a shower when I got home (inaudible, device covered, moving) I almost passed out in the shower.

JEROME Ok.

CORDERO I don't know if you if you ever felt your legs freezing on you and it felt like needles. (Inaudible, device covered, moving) I said I'ma come in and get checked out just in case.

JEROME (Inaudible, device covered, moving).

RHODEN A couple things, um, first thing, and this is up to you. Ok?

CORDERO Yes.

RHODEN Um, would you mind signing a medical, a release, a medical release form?

CORDERO Yes, yes.

RHODEN So that we can....

CORDERO Yeah.

RHODEN ...once you get your records, figure out what, what injuries you have, they can release that to us so that we can further (Inaudible, device covered, moving). You don't mind doing that?

CORDERO No, no.

RHODEN Ok. Um, (Inaudible, device covered, moving)?

JEROME I don't, but I'll.

RHODEN And then once we got that taken care of, I have a complaint form....

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**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

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Statement of  
Christopher Cordero Pt. 1

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CORDERO Thank you, I appreciate it.

RHODEN ...I'll explain it to you and we'll, we'll get, get it done for ya.

JEROME Chris, what's your middle name?

CORDERO John.

JEROME JOHN?

CORDERO Yes. JOHN.

RHODEN Um, you were talking about a house that may have had a camera of the incident?

CORDERO Yeah, I'm hoping she had the camera, because it, basically...

RHODEN Where did all this happen at?

CORDERO So (Inaudible) Towerview Motel, it's a rundown motel down the road. And I have a 3 month old daughter that has RH B negative blood type and she's in (inaudible) Palmer hospital. I was just leaving the hospital to go pick up her prescription, unfortunately I didn't know my, the little yellow sticker on the license plate was expired. So I got upset and I got out the car, I slammed the door, I'm like why is he pulling me over, I didn't (inaudible) stop sign....

RHODEN Chris, I don't mean to interrupt you. But, and I'm gonna...

CORDERO Yeah I was...

RHODEN We're gonna go over the whole story....

CORDERO Ok. Go ahead.

RHODEN But um, where exactly did the traffic stop happen? I know...

CORDERO I don't know the two streets, but I, I went there. I could get there.

RHODEN Ok. Was it Polk Avenue and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street? Does that ring a bell?

CORDERO It was over by that Christian School. On that road. That same road.

RHODEN Polk Elementary?

CORDERO Yeah.

RHODEN Ok. There was like a four way stop?

CORDERO Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.

RHODEN So, which way, do you know, which way were you going?

CORDERO I was heading, I was heading towards Publix to pick up some prescriptions.

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Statement of  
Christopher Cordero Pt. 1

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CASE NUMBER 2021-007464 Information

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RHODEN So towards Hwy 60?

CORDERO Correct.

RHODEN Ok.

CORDERO From Towerview Motel.

RHODEN Ok.

CORDERO I stopped at the stop sign, which he lied, he still gave me a ticket for (inaudible).

RHODEN Ok. Were, were you on the North side of, of the intersection?

CORDERO I was on the right hand side um, leaving like, Lake Wales Police Department heading across 60 heading that way.

RHODEN Ok. So, so had you already gone through the intersection?

CORDERO No, I stopped at the stop sign. And then I turned. Cause I, I seen him behind me.

RHODEN So you turned onto Polk, Polk Ave?

CORDERO To that school with the Christian (inaudible).

RHODEN So you were headed towards the school?

CORDERO Correct.

RHODEN Ok.

CORDERO Alright. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

RHODEN So, can you describe to me where the house was?

CORDERO So like, five, five houses down on your right.

RHODEN Once you turn?

CORDERO I stopped my car cause he doesn't have his lights on, I stopped, and I got out the car, and I'm like hey why you following me for so long with no lights? He told me to shut up and put my hands behind my back immediately. He didn't play around with me, he didn't give me a time, I didn't jump at him, he's telling the other officer I bulged at him, I didn't do any of that. I, I just hope there's a camera there.

RHODEN And that's why I'm trying to get at is where exactly that house is. So you said once you turn on Polk Ave from 3<sup>rd</sup> St....

CORDERO Correct.

RHODEN (Inaudible, device covered, moving) stop.

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

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Statement of  
Christopher Cordero Pt. 1

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CASE NUMBER 2021-007464 Information

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CORDERO There was an altercation, a verbal altercation.

RHODEN Ok. So, I'm just trying to establish which house it was.

CORDERO It was on the right hand side, it was across the street from a Sheriff's police vehicle.

RHODEN Ok. And you said about five houses down?

CORDERO Yeah, yeah.

RHODEN So basically, can you describe the house at all?

CORDERO I looked, cause I wanted to know if there was a camera there as I was laying on the ground after he hit me. Cause I, I really wanted like, to make sure (Inaudible, device covered, moving).

RHODEN Do you, do you know (Inaudible, device covered, moving)?

JEROME (Inaudible) do you have a pen I can borrow? For him to sign this?

UNKNOWN Sure. How are you?

JEROME I'm fine how are you?

UNKNOWN I'm ok. (Inaudible, device covered, moving)

JEROME Yeah.

RHODEN Now there's a lot of reading here.

CORDERO Correct.

RHODEN Um, you don't have to turn this, back into me today.

CORDERO Ok.

RHODEN You can turn it back into me later.

CORDERO Ok.

RHODEN But I'm gonna go over a few things. Ok?

CORDERO Alright.

RHODEN So, like I said, there's a few pages of reading. I would recommend reading. Ok? Um, it's important stuff and as a matter of fact, on, like I said, it's a lot of reading. On this page, uh, your, when you, when you swear to it, you're, you're acknowledging that you've read all these pages. Ok? So it's important that you read them. Ok? It goes over some important stuff. Including false, official statements, what can happen if you were writing a false statement.

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**Statement of  
Christopher Cordero Pt. 1**

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CORDERO No, I'm honest. I, I, I aggressively yelled at him.

RHODEN Right. Sure.

CORDERO And I cursed, I cursed him out real bad.

RHODEN Ok. Um, and it goes over a law enforcement officers and correctional officers rights, uh, complaint review board, civil suits. It goes over a lot of good information. Ok? Once you read....

JEROME Cause. Sorry I was just gonna say, what's your address?

CORDERO Um, 1514 Scenic Hwy. I'm not sure. I think it's a motel.

JEROME 1518?

RHODEN 1518.

CORDERO Yeah. I just got there two days ago.

RHODEN What room number?

CORDERO Um, room one.

RHODEN Ok.

CORDERO I'm struggling, so I'm just trying to...

RHODEN So once you read all that, um, I'll ask for your address again on here, a phone number and a signature....

CORDERO Can I tell you something though?

RHODEN We'll, we'll, real quick, I'm...

CORDERO Yeah, yeah.

RHODEN I don't mean to cut you off.

CORDERO Yeah ok, alright.

RHODEN I'd like to explain all this. Once you read all that and fill out your address here, just sign that, that you swear to that. And then this next page, you fill out this top block and then tell me your story here.

CORDERO Ok.

RHODEN Ok? And we put in a couple extra pages here.

CORDERO Just in case.

RHODEN Just in case...

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Statement of  
Christopher Cordero Pt. 1

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CORDERO	Jot down whatever extra information.
RHODEN	Yep, yep. And then um, you'll sign one more time saying that everything's true.
CORDERO	Gotcha.
JEROME	Actually, don't sign until you're in front of either a notary or law enforcement.
CORDERO	Exactly. Yeah, I need a witness. OK.
RHODEN	So, if, if you're gonna do it right now, I'll hang out for a little while and you can turn it back into me.
CORDERO	No, no, no, this needs to be uh, cause I have, my head hurts.
RHODEN	That's fine.
JEROME	That's fine.
RHODEN	That's completely fine. So whenever you're finished with it though, you'll just turn it back in to uh, a supervisor at Lake Wales Police Department, you'll just come up there and ask to speak with a supervisor. And you'll turn that in to them, and they'll, they'll, they'll notarize your signature.
CORDERO	Alright.
RHODEN	And, and, we'll begin the investigation.
CORDERO	Thank you, I appreciate you.
JEROME	Chris, what's your phone number?
CORDERO	Um, 321-895-6086.
JEROME	6086?
CORDERO	Yes.
JEROME	Officer Rohoden you wanna put his information? And then what you, just need you to um, just need you to sign here and date. This is just, this is just for us to get your medical records.
CORDERO	Well, they're still checking me so I don't think they're gonna tell ya.
JEROME	Well, that's why, we're not gonna get it today. This is just for later on. Ok?
RHODEN	Can I get a good phone number for you?
CORDERO	Uh, 321-895-6086. You guys wear body cams or no?
RHODEN	Uh, no sir we don't.

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

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Statement of  
Christopher Cordero Pt. 1

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CORDERO	Why?
RHODEN	It's just not something we've ever done....
CORDERO	I'm gonna have to speak to the board of commissions about that.
RHODEN	Ok, well....
CORDERO	That's unfair because...
RHODEN	It's something that's been in discussion recently. I'll tell you that much.
CORDERO	Yeah. Can I tell you something? I, I wasn't a good guy today. But I damn don't agree with a man laying on his stomach while he's handcuffed being punched. Not kicking, not moving, not nothing.
RHODEN	Right.
CORDERO	(Inaudible, device covered, moving). I didn't, you can, you can tell that's what he did as you look at what happened here. And um, he brung me here to the hospital and I tried explaining to them, hey man that was the cop (Inaudible, device covered, moving) but I felt like that he did. It was unnecessary.
RHODEN	Ok. Um, so they did take you here earlier though?
CORDERO	Yeah. I just came back cause my head hurts.
RHODEN	What did they tell you earlier? Or what did they do earlier?
CORDERO	Concussion, concussion. That's what they told me. I had a concussion.
RHODEN	Did they give you medical paperwork....
CORDERO	Cause I passed out when, when they were doing the MRI.
RHODEN	Did they give you medical paperwork before?
CORDERO	Yeah. It's at home.
RHODEN	Did they tell you had a concussion?
CORDERO	They said I had a concussion. That's exactly what they said.
RHODEN	Ok. Ok.
CORDERO	They said it's just trauma from the hit. But.
RHODEN	Go ahead and sign and date here as well.
CORDERO	And now they're back again checking just to see if there's anything in my brain so they can, or blood, any, I know it's not.

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

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**Statement of  
Christopher Cordero Pt. 1**

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RHODEN Can, can you write the date for us.

JEROME Just, it's, it's February 6<sup>th</sup>.

CORDERO Yeah, yeah.

JEROME 2-6 of 21.

CORDERO Yeah, I, I really, can I just explain something real quick to you?

RHODEN Yes. Go ahead. Yeah, yeah.

CORDERO I'm not playing injured here man, at all. I, what I did was totally wrong, um, I shoulda stood at my car until you guys approached me. Um, I wasn't hostile and neither was I aggressive. We're gonna find out with the footage. Cause there was a camera there at the at the (inaudible) like 3 foot deep. And um, I'm just very concerned about you having someone on the squad that has the audacity to do something like that and he's still employed.

RHODEN Sure. I hear what you're saying. Remember, that's why we're...

CORDERO And he called me....

RHODEN ....doing this.

CORDERO Can I just say something here to you? He called me a fucking nigger, he spit in my face, he told me to go back to New York you Puerto Ricans keep coming here. He said, you fuckin, he called me, this is what he told me, you're a fucking pussy. He spit in my face as I'm handcuffed on the floor with this Corona Virus going on. I'm not lying, this is gonna come out all in the camera.

RHODEN Ok. Well, um, so we're, we're obviously gonna investigate.

CORDERO Yeah, and then, and then your other officer, David (inaudible) whatever his name is. He just created these three tickets, I didn't have a seat belt, that's a lie.

RHODEN Ok. So all, when you start writing these, ok, um, I need you to draw out all this talk, yanno, when it happened, uh, if you, if you don't know the exact time, approximate. Uh, the location, um, and if you know the officer's name, write that for us.

CORDERO Ok. There was two guys. And they, they kinda manhandled me while I was already down.

RHODEN (Inaudible) he filled that out?

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JEROME      What's that?

RHODEN      Date occurred and times?

JEROME      Um.

RHODEN      Received?

JEROME      No, that's. His occurred, we, it's not been received back yet.

RHODEN      Alright.

JEROME      I mean, if you wanna put, if you want to, do we know this...

RHODEN      We gonna add like, officer's name.

JEROME      You can put the officer's names on there, you can put.

CORDERO    I just have one question.

RHODEN      Yes, sir.

CORDERO    And I'm not gonna talk a lot, cause I, I know you guys, I know how you guys think.

RHODEN      What's up?

CORDERO    If I pull the footage and it shows him hitting me as I'm cuffed and I didn't move and he's punching me in the back of my head consistently, will he, will he get in trouble for that? Because I don't think the officer should do that to someone.

RHODEN      We can't say yes or no.

CORDERO    Ok, alright.

JEROME      Cause that's not gonna be a decision.

RHODEN      Who will be making that decision will be going up our chain of command and dealing with it and making a decision based on everything.

CORDERO    The thing is I'm gonna be honest to you. From day one. I'm gonna do this report, but I'm also contacting, I've contacted the Daily Ridge, I've contacted Tampa news.

RHODEN      Ok.

CORDERO    I'm really trying to take the media to this.

RHODEN      You know what time this happened at? The traffic stop?

CORDERO    I want to say about 10:30-11:00. Somewhere around there. I've contacted the media already about it. And I will, I will protest about it. I've got a couple people that I spoke to. And I'm not really happy about it, that's why I'm doing all this. And I just want y'all,

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don't get mad at me but, if I don't do this, this guy's gonna keep doing this to people.  
And it makes you guys look bad, cause I can tell you guys are not like that.

RHODEN Well, well, no that's for somebody else to fill that out later. I don't, I don't know the time and what not.

JEROME Yeah, we don't that.

CORDERO Can you, can you do me a favor? Can you just tell me what officers I was dealing with since you work with them and you can probably call the station? I need to know before I leave here, cause I'm, I don't think I'm comfortable staying in Lake Wales. I'm scared.

RHODEN The, the officer that arrested you was Officer Colt Black. Ok?

CORDERO I told you he had Black, yeah.

RHODEN Yeah, and his back up officer was Officer Travis Worley.

CORDERO He's the one that spit in my face.

RHODEN Ok.

CORDERO Yeah.

RHODEN Well, here, here what we need....

CORDERO And he calls me a nigger.

RHODEN Ok. So, like I said, there's a couple sheets here for ya so, so you can take up the space if you need to. This one here, and then we add a couple pages in there. On this next page you'll be swearing everything is true, but again make sure an officer is here before you sign it.

CORDERO Yeah, man I ...

RHODEN So be as detailed as you can um, you know the two officers names.

CORDERO You guys shouldn't spit in peoples face (inaudible, device covered).

RHODEN Well, (Inaudible, device covered, moving) ok, you know the two officers names. So if you can, use their names.

CORDERO Not you, but.

RHODEN Um, I know you've already read your report. So you knew their names already. Um, just be as detailed as possible.

CORDERO I just don't remember it cause I don't deal with you guys every day.

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RHODEN      Ok.

CORDERO     I can maybe remember the first name.

RHODEN     Ok. Take your time doing it though. And whenever you're finished with it, you just bring it up to Lake Wales Police Department. Uh, or you could call us and, and ask for a supervisor.

CORDERO     Also, I need you to be aware of something your officers are doing. I'm not trying to get em in trouble or anything. He's reaching, he's reaching. While I'm cuffed. Just so they could be able to punch me.

RHODEN     Ok.

CORDERO     I never reached and I didn't have a gun. I wouldn't be out if I had battery on a LEO.

JEROME      Chris, those are the things that you....

RHODEN     Put all in....

CORDERO     All of that in here.

RHODEN     That's all important information we need to know. Ok? Be as descriptive as you can...

CORDERO     You know he's gonna get fired, right? For what he did to me.

RHODEN     Well I, I don't know what's gonna happen. But just put all that in the....

CORDERO     You don't call, you don't call people a nigger.

RHODEN     Ok.

CORDERO     I'm just letting you know, listen, listen, I know you want me to do this but I need your ears to hear what I'm saying.

RHODEN     No, I, I'm hearing....

CORDERO     Because I'm emotional, I'm scared, I'm a victim.

RHODEN     And, but....

CORDERO     Yeah, yeah.

JEROME      I was gonna say, the thing you have to understand is....

CORDERO     I'm scare.

JEROME      ....we are not going....

CORDERO     I'm scared.

JEROME      ....to be making those decisions...

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CORDERO Yeah.

JEROME ...you have to do this so it goes up the chain. And once....

RHODEN And when you're waiting for something to be done you have to ....

CORDERO Can I tell you something? I've dealt with police, and I've never felt this scared before because I know how gangster he was. How much of a thug. The procedure (Inaudible, device covered, moving) to handle me, it was like, he's gonna say whatever he wants but at the end of the day, there's that video camera. I, I'm just letting you guys know.

RHODEN Mhm (yes). Yeah.

CORDERO I'm gonna be honest too, I kinda (Inaudible, device covered, moving) ball already. He's done.

RHODEN Ok.

CORDERO You won't be seeing him work there for too long.

RHODEN Alright, well....

CORDERO I will do this, I, this was part of that procedure but, he's a very racist person. I just want to personally let you know that before I fill this out. He called me a spic, he told me to go back to where I'm from, he called me a pussy, and he punched me in the face. As I'm laying there on the floor.

RHODEN Ok.

JEROME And you just need to document which officer did what.

CORDERO Yeah. You guys should, you guys shouldn't have someone like that on the force. Because racism shouldn't be tolerated.

JEROME Ok. Well make sure when you're doing, when you're doing your statement and filling this out, you document which officer did what to you.

CORDERO Yeah. Yeah.

JEROME Ok? That's what you need, that's where you need to be detailed.

CORDERO I just, I just wanted you guys to know what happened. I'm not playing injured, I'm not gonna lie, I aggressively slammed the door, I got out the car, as I was cuffed I didn't have to get beat up. I really didn't.

JEROME No.

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RHODEN Alrighy, Mr. Cordero. Well.

CORDERO I appreciate you. I know, I know there's not much you can do. You can just bring me the report yanno.

RHODEN Well, I'll tell you this....

CORDERO Let it be known he's wrong, he's wrong. Yeah.

RHODEN I'll tell you this...

CORDERO The other, the black guy, the (inaudible) black.

RHODEN Huh?

CORDERO He's not a bad dude. At all, I can understand why he put my hands behind my back threw me in the (inaudible). But that other dude, he took it way too far. Spitting in my face.

RHODEN Put all that in there. Tell what each one did.

CORDERO Yeah, yeah, yeah.

RHODEN Ok. This is the way to get something done. Alright?

CORDERO I wonder if he's got complaints with other people like this, because....

RHODEN You have any other questions for us?

CORDERO The behavior was so unnormal, it wasn't nothing like I've ever seen a cop do.

JEROME And unfortunately we won't know that. That's not something that we're involved in.

CORDERO Yeah. I'm gonna do a primal investigation on him with my, with a...

JEROME And that's what that does.

CORDERO Yeah.

RHODEN Ok.

CORDERO He needs to be, he needs to be out. I appreciate you guys.

RHODEN Well, we just can't move forward until that's done and returned. Ok? So you either come bring it to the police department um or give us call. Alright? And I'm, like I said, I'm gonna let the day shift, the supervisor, the same one who was working during ...

CORDERO Can I ask you a question?

RHODEN Sure.

CORDERO And this is sincerely, and I'm asking you this, I shouldn't even record this, but I won't can

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you guys put him in, on administrative leave?

RHODEN That's nothing we can do.

CORDERO Oh, you can't do that huh.

RHODEN Until that gets done, and that is given uh, our supervisors...

CORDERO Yeah, I want a thorough investigation.

RHODEN Yeah.

CORDERO Because I am a human being, I do have a right.

RHODEN Yeah, yeah, you're right. And, but again, it takes that to be done before that, anything else can happen.

CORDERO I'm gonna make sure this is perfect, picture perfect.

RHODEN Ok.

CORDERO Yeah, yeah.

RHODEN Alright. Well, that's all we can do.

CORDERO Hey look, I'm sorry, thank you. Not much I can say.

RHODEN Alright man. Well...

JEROME Just get that done and bring it back. Ok?

CORDERO Appreciate it, thank you.

JEROME Bye Chris.

RHODEN Thank you.

TRANSCRIBED:  
*February 25, 2021*  
*Lisa Tamberlin, BCI*  
*1 Hour and 35 Minutes*

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BUREAU OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS  
HOMICIDE UNIT

Lead Investigator: Detective Fulcher

Classification: Information

Case Number: 2021-007464

The following is a copy of the typed transcription taken from the recorded statement of  
Christopher Cordero Pt. 2 on February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

Transcriptionist: Lisa Tomberlin

Date: March 18, 2021

*This tape statement took approximately 1 Hour and 5 Minutes to type.*

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"TEN STAR ACCREDITED AGENCY"

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Statement of  
Christopher Cordero Pt. 2

CASE NUMBER 2021-007464

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PERSON INTERVIEWED: Christopher Cordero Pt. 2

STATE ATTORNEY'S OFFICE: Investigator Smith/Investigator Shea

Today's date is February the 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the time now is approximately 11:38 AM. Uh, Investigator Shea and myself are pulling up to 1518 North Scenic Hwy in Lake Wales. Uh, looking for a Christopher Cordero, concerning a complaint our office received.

SHEA Hi Mr. Cordero, how you...

CORDERO How are ya man?

SHEA Well, we were on our way cause we tried to call you.

CORDERO Yeah, how ya doin'?

SHEA Good. Good. We got the documents that you, that you sent....

CORDERO Thank you, I appreciate you guys, man. Cause I can't really leave the house. I'm not feeling too good.

SHEA Oh, no that's fine. Listen, we ....

CORDERO I don't want, I don't want no one to take it. Can you make a copy here?

SHEA We can't.

SMITH I cannot.

SHEA We have to bring it to our IT division. You have his number.

CORDERO That's a million dollars to me right there.

SMITH I understand, ok? But I guarantee you we're gonna take it back to our office, we're gonna make a copy and then we will get it back to you.

CORDERO I trust you.

SMITH Ok? Here's my card.

SHEA If it's not gonna be today, it'll tomorrow.

CORDERO Ok.

SHEA Alright? Cause we gotta review it and everything.

CORDERO Yeah. Can I give a small explanation too?

SHEA It, it's up to you but you....

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CORDERO Ok.

SMITH It's up to you.

SHEA You have an attorney, so.

CORDERO Yeah, no, no, no. I, I have an even higher (inaudible).

SMITH Ok, so you understand our office, you currently have criminal charges.

CORDERO Correct.

SMITH Ok. You have the right to have an attorney. You understand that?

CORDERO Yes, sir.

SMITH Ok.

CORDERO I'm gl, I wish the officer would've told me this.

SMITH Ok, but...

CORDERO Yeah, yeah, yeah.

SMITH I can't stop you from saying whatever it is you want to say.

CORDERO Gotcha.

SMITH Ok?

CORDERO I just want to let you know a brief description.

SMITH Do you want to write it down?

CORDERO No.

SMITH Or do you want to tell us?

CORDERO I can verbally tell you.

SMITH Ok.

CORDERO Cause I already have it in writing and I'm also gonna email that to you. But I'm gonna give you a short description.

SMITH My, my email is on that card. Ok?

CORDERO I will send it to you ASAP.

SMITH That's fine. Alright? We're, we're listening Mr. Cordero.

CORDERO Ok, thank you, thank you. Ok, I'm at Lake Wales Park, I do calisthenics. I own a YouTube channel, I got 45 thousand subscribers for that. I also own a UFO channel.

SMITH Ok.

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CORDERO      So I bring my laptop with me, that's my hobby, I'm into UFOs, Unidentified Flying Objects, not little green men.

SMITH          Ok.

CORDERO      And, that's where I go to meditate, I get on my laptop, I sit at the picnic table, I work on my stuff.

SMITH          Ok.

CORDERO      Um, at one point I put my laptop in, in the back, in the truck and I see this police car run back and forth. And it's the same officer that pulled off later on down the road near um, highway, before I hit highway 60 over there by 3<sup>rd</sup> Street.

SMITH          Ok.

CORDERO      And um, I noticed when I get to the stop sign I stopped there's a SUV police vehicle behind me pursuing me very close with no lights. So I stopped, he claims I didn't, I pull over right after the stop sign, I make a right, second house down on the right I pull over. He's about 15 feet away from me behind me. Um, I, he didn't, he didn't pull me over, there's no lights. I decided on my own free will to stop and ask him why he's been following me since the park. Cause I noticed him. And upon getting out of my vehicle, when both feet hit the ground, I'm standing out there for a couple of seconds, then he decides to turn on his lights.

SMITH          Ok.

CORDERO      So he kinda played it off with that. So, I remain by my driver's door with my back leaning on the window, one foot up on the metal, just waiting for him to let me know what's going on, is it my tag? Is it my license? Yanno what I'm saying? I want to know what's going on. He claims in his report that as soon as I open the driver door that I went like this, like I was fighter man or someone, and I thought the video evidence that you have there show otherwise. You would see me come out of the driver door and stand there for at least 59 seconds to a minute leaning against the door waiting for him to tell me what to do next.

SMITH          Ok.

CORDERO      At one point I'm leaning against my car on the driver's door, he's 10 feet, 15 feet behind

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me on the computer researching whatever he's gotta do. At one point he comes out of his SUV and requests that I get back inside my driver, um, inside the car. So as I go to open the door to get back inside, he says, wait, wait, wait, no, no, no. Hold on. Come back here. I need, I need you to put both hands on the trunk I want to search you to see if you got a weapon. So you see me in the video opening the door to kinda get back in and respect his wishes, but as I notice I started walking towards the back of the car. As soon as I put my hands on the car right here, you'll see me come from (inaudible, device covered, moving) right here. And as soon as I go like this, I felt a big blow to the side of my face, which he knocked out my tooth, it's, I have the medical paperwork. It caused my face to get real big, it swelled up real bad. I had a contusion and a concussion. I'm standing here and I just feel a punch to the back. No, put your hands behind your back, no warning, no let me see your ID, nothing. After that, I fall to, there's like a, the grass, the, the house is there, the grass. So I fall and before I fall I don't wanna fall on my face, I don't want to get hurt, so my hands are in front of me. As I'm falling I see another SUV unit arriving. Which is Officer Worley.

SMITH

Ok.

CORDERO

He comes running outta nowhere, kicks me in the mouth, punches me without even knowing what's going on. Not giving me the opportunity to get my hands from here to where they want them.

SMITH

Ok.

CORDERO

So I'm trying to give them my hands but I fell with my hands in front of me. Cause I'm trying to stop my fall. That's when both officers are yelling, he's reaching, he's reaching. It looks like he's got a gun. And they're beating the crap out of me.

SMITH

Ok.

CORDERO

They beat me up, after that they handcuffed me. I'm laying there flat as a pancake.

SMITH

Ok.

CORDERO

I'm not moving, I'm not resisting, I'm not kicking. In the report he says resisting with that arrest. So that automatically shows I didn't do anything to him. I didn't hurt, I didn't try to hurt him, I didn't push him, I didn't pull, I didn't yank, I didn't (inaudible). So I'm

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laying there like a pancake with my handcuffs on and I will not lie to you, I play tough guy and I called them a fucking pussy. Because I didn't like standing here and being punched in the mouth from behind. That's a sucker thing. And I didn't do anything to you to threaten your life as you didn't, you didn't explain that in your report. So I'm just standing here and got punched. And then I'm on the floor the next thing you know. So I called him a pussy. After that he gets down on one knee and he elbows me right here, all over again on this side of my head. My whole face was swollen, I got video footage, I got pictures. The ER documents explain the same thing. When we get to the hospital I tell the doctors that I'm afraid of the police officer, I don't want them in the same room, I'm nervous, I'm petrified and I tried, I asked for a social worker. I told them, they thought I was crazy. And um, they did my MRI, he's in the same room with me. I told them I didn't want him in there either. He's in there laughing. Looking at me, telling me that I'm crazy.

SMITH            Ok.

CORDERO        At one point when he arrested me and I'm in the back of the patrol unit, I don't know if its audio recording, and I hope there is, I specifically told him that I own a YouTube channel and I'm a big YouTuber and that I'm gonna expose him for what he did to me. He construed that and made me look delu, delusional on the report. He said that I was slurring things to him like that. That happened to me while I was in the back of the car. Now as I'm in the back of the patrol car, Officer Worley, the guy that arrived behind him to kick me in the mouth when I was already down.

(Inaudible, device covered, moving).

CORDERO        ....on the computer and I'm in the back, I'm yelling to both of them, you guys are fucking grass. When I get out I'm suing your ass. Worley tells corrupt Worley tells David Holt, the off, the arresting officer, did you hear that? He said he's gonna fucking kill you when he gets out. And you could hear me in the background if you listen to a audio recording, that's not what I said, sir. That is not what I said. But then you could hear me the first time saying exactly what I told you the first time I said, when I get out, I'm gonna sue the shit out of you. That's all I told em so, he gave me a threat, that was one of the charges,

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the other charge was resisting without violence. So why did I get beat up, why did I have a contusion and concussion? Why did I go to the hospital? Why would I have blood all over my face? There was no necessary need to beat me up. This was a matter of racial, racial profiling. When I observed the video I noticed that the police officer was already in the area, in a residential area driving at least 40 to 50 to 60 miles an hour with no lights, going back and forth. As if they were creating a sting or looking for someone. I noticed upon watching the video that when he pulled me over he, he didn't pull me over, I pulled over on my own, so this is all a matter of racial profiling. I'm gonna explain to you something. I have a very, my car's in impound, but I have loud speakers. And I don't have any tints on my car. I had the same hoodie on, I left the park, I'm sweaty, I didn't want to sit in that car. So I remained by the driver's door with my foot up on the metal like that. The whole time in the video and he claims in his statement I got out the driver's door and rushed him and he had his tazer on me. And that's why all of this, he beat me up and all of this happened. That's what he's saying that, this is why he defended himself and that's why I got hurt. But if you look at the video, you will see me calm, calm. Like God. Leaning against the car and then you'll see him requesting me to get back inside and then say, wait, wait, wait, no, no, no. I need you to go to the back, put your hands on the trunk. You'll see when I get back here, I don't, I don't make a move. He hits me....

SHEA            Alright, we're gonna get, alright we're gonna go back, we're gonna do this.

CORDERO       Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.

SHEA            We're gonna read all the reports and everything....

CORDERO       I'm not afraid because I know I didn't do nothing wrong.

SHEA            No, no, you're fine.

CORDERO       Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.

SHEA            Now....

CORDERO       I'm, I'm actually motivated.

SHEA            I just wanted....

CORDERO       Yeah, yeah, yeah.

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SHEA Can you hear any voice or anything on the recording?

CORDERO That's from across the street and it has no audio to begin with.

SHEA Ok.

CORDERO Yeah, yeah, yeah.

SHEA How did you find out that there was video?

CORDERO I'm smart. I knew what they did to me was wrong and I wanted to catch em in the act. I noticed his report didn't go with the video. Thank God.

SHEA Yeah, but, how'd you find out there was....

SMITH How'd you know there was video? How did you ....

CORDERO I went back there with my girlfriend and I seen where it happened. I noticed the camera.

SMITH Oh, ok.

CORDERO And, we didn't go inside the house.

SHEA No, no, no, no, no.

CORDERO Yeah, the people were outside walking the dog.

SMITH Yeah, ok.

CORDERO It was a Mexican family.

SMITH Right.

CORDERO And we asked them, we said, hey man something happened to me. We want to know if we can retrieve the video. They said that's absolutely fine.

SMITH Ok.

CORDERO They did it free will.

SMITH Oh, ok.

SHEA What was the address (inaudible) that you got...

CORDERO I don't remember. But it was across the street from where this happened.

SMITH From where (inaudible) stop happened?

SHEA What's the house look like?

CORDERO It's a blue house.

SHEA Ok.

CORDERO Where I got attacked by the officer.

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## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
03/18/2021	15:20	4319	
Description			
Scan026.jpg			

Statement of  
Christopher Cordero Pt. 2

CASE NUMBER 2021-007464

Information

SMITH It is, is it....

CORDERO But the house where it happened, it has a beautiful white um, vinyl fencing around it. You can't see through the fence. It's in full, I couldn't explain to you.

SMITH That's fine.

CORDERO The mailbox has bricks around it.

SHEA Ok. Well, we will be in touch. We will definitely be in touch.

SMITH You got my email.

CORDERO Yes, yes, yes, yes.

SHEA And we will get you a copy of this.

CORDERO Yes.

SHEA Either this back or a copy of it. Ok?

CORDERO My thing is, he didn't think I would go back there and get the video. What he states in his report is absolutely contradictive to that.

SHEA Ok. Alright.

CORDERO And that's why I called the District Attorney's office.

SMITH Absolutely. And that's why we're here.

CORDERO He thought I was a tough guy huh?

SMITH It may be tomorrow....

CORDERO Yes man, yes man. How can I get that back from you again?

(Both Investigators talking)

SHEA Yeah, we'll bring it back to you.

CORDERO Ok, ok.

SHEA Oh, yeah.

CORDERO Can I just explain something to you two? I never gave permission for anybody to go to the Lake Wales Police Department to go get a report on me. I had news media, Black Panther Party, Board of Commission, some girl that works there, I don't know her name. Sarah Jones is gonna be my attorney, she's the only one that I would think that would go there and do that. But people already started sharing the video on the internet. Which I'm scared of because I don't want my identity revealed. Because I am essential

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## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
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Description			
Scan027.jpg			

Statement of  
Christopher Cordero Pt. 2

CASE NUMBER 2021-007464

Information

informant at one point and I, I retrieved 2 kilos off the street.

SHEA Ok.

CORDERO And the officer had the audacity to throw that in the report, so that makes me look bad.

Yeah.

SMITH Let us look into that. There's something that we don't have the answer for right now.

SHEA And you have to realize, some things are public record.

SMITH Right.

CORDERO Gotcha.

SHEA And they, they don't...

CORDERO If you, if you, if you go to the Lake Wales Police, I'm sorry, Lake Alfred Police Department, they know me very well.

SHEA Ok.

CORDERO I live in a mobile home park where I was buying weed from somebody and I knew that two kilos of cocaine were coming in. Yanno what I'm saying? I helped them out with that.

SHEA No problem.

CORDERO I kinda told them to see if they let me go, I told them I wasn't gonna let no one know they beat me up. It was kinda like a tactic for me to get outta there.

SHEA We understand.

CORDERO And they used it against me in my report. But I was wondering if you guys could block that out. Because now....

SHEA Well, let us, let us look at everything first.

CORDERO Ok. Alright.

SHEA Then....

SMITH (Inaudible, device covered).

SHEA Yeah, yeah, let's, let's...

CORDERO I know what you're saying.

SHEA One-step at a time.

CORDERO Yeah, yeah, it's too much.

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# POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

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Description  
Scan028.jpg

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Statement of  
Christopher Cordero Pt. 2

CASE NUMBER 2021-007464

Information

SHEA            Yeah, one step at a time.

CORDERO      Ok, alright.

SHEA            Ok?

CORDERO      Alright, no problem.

SHEA            We'll be in touch Mr. Cordero. Thank you.

SMITH           Alright we just met with Mr. Cordero, we obtained a thumb drive that he says contains video of the incident. We are pulling away from 1518 North Scenic Hwy. The time now is 11:52 AM, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

TRANSCRIBED:  
February 25, 2021  
Lisa Tomberlin, BCI  
1 Hour and 5 Minutes

**Pages 99 - 113**  
**Redacted Active Internal Investigation**

# POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
03/18/2021	15:39	4319	
Description			
Scan001.jpg			



**BUREAU OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS  
HOMICIDE UNIT**

Lead Investigator: Detective Fulcher

Classification: Information

Case Number: 2021-007464

The following is a copy of the typed transcription taken from the recorded statement of ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~  
~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ on February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021. *Juvenile Interview*

Transcriptionist: Lisa Tomberlin

Date: March 18, 2021

*This tape statement took approximately 30 Minutes to type.*

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 "TEN STAR ACCREDITED AGENCY"

# POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
03/18/2021	15:39	4319	
Description			
Scan002.jpg			

Statement of  
**Alberto Cervantes**

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CASE NUMBER 2021-007464 Information

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PERSON INTERVIEWED: **Alberto Cervantes**

PCSO LAW ENFORCEMENT: Detective Fulcher

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This is Detective Fulcher with the Polk County Sheriff's Office. This is gonna be a recorded interview in reference to case number 2021-7464. Today's date is February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the current time is 1:23 PM. This interview is being conducted at **[REDACTED]** East Polk Avenue in Lake Wales, 33853.

FULCHER Sir, for the record, could you state your name?  
**[REDACTED]** **Alberto Cervantes**

FULCHER And, is that **[REDACTED]**  
**[REDACTED]** Yes, sir.

FULCHER And your birthdate?  
**[REDACTED]** **[REDACTED]**

FULCHER Do you have a phone number?  
**[REDACTED]** No.

FULCHER A, a house phone or any?  
**[REDACTED]** My grandma's.

FULCHER Grandma? Ok, what's that?  
**[REDACTED]** **[REDACTED]**

FULCHER Ok. You go to school? You doing home schooling?  
**[REDACTED]** Yes, sir I go to school.

FULCHER What grade are you in?  
**[REDACTED]** 10<sup>th</sup>.

FULCHER 10<sup>th</sup> grade? You make pretty good grades?  
**[REDACTED]** Yes, sir.

FULCHER What kind of grades you make?  
**[REDACTED]** Um, C's and B's.

FULCHER You in regular classes and everything?  
**[REDACTED]** Yes, sir.

FULCHER Ok, Um, for the record, could you raise your right hand?

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**Images**

Date 03/18/2021	Time 15:39	Mem # 4319	Type
Description Scan003.jpg			

Statement of  
[REDACTED]

CASE NUMBER 2021-007464 Information

[REDACTED] Yes, sir.

FULCHER: Do you swear and affirm the statement you're about to give is the truth and nothing but the truth?

[REDACTED] Yes, sir, nothing but the truth.

FULCHER: Ok. So I talked to you just a second ago just to see if you seen anything and you told me some stuff that something happened. How long has it been you think?

[REDACTED] Like two weeks ago. Like two weeks ago.

FULCHER: Ok. So, start from the beginning, and I'll just let you tell what happened and what brought your attention to something and it's that you saw.

[REDACTED] Ok. So um, I was in the house, whatever, whatever, and I go and I look out the window and this officer is pulling somebody over. Or, yeah, the officer is pulling somebody over. And the dude gets out the car. And I think the dude got out the car before the officer even got out the car. And he's sittin there tryin to talk to the officer but, and then the officer ends up getting out the car and yanno, they get in front of the police officer which, which is behind the dudes car. Which is behind...

FULCHER: So you're saying the guy driving the car that got pulled over standing behind his car but in front of the police car?

[REDACTED] Yeah.

FULCHER: Like between them?

[REDACTED] Like, yeah, in between em.

FULCHER: Did you see what he was doing at that point?

[REDACTED] No.

FULCHER: Ok.

[REDACTED] No. Ok. So, when they got out the car they got um, where they were talking. I went back inside and um, I called my grandma. Well I was already inside, I called my grandma and whatever, then I walked outside. And when I walked outside, the dude was already on the floor. He was on the floor, his head was facing um, the house. And his feet were facing the road. He had black flip flops and grey jacket on. And um, during that while I was outside, I heard the guy yell, you fucking pussy at the officer. And while he's yelling

## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
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Description			
Scan004.jpg			

## Statement of

[REDACTED]

CASE NUMBER 2021-007464

Information

that they're sitting there, it, it looks like they're struggling trying to like, they're, like they're on the floor but they're struggling trying to, as if he's resisting or something.

FULCHER Ok.

[REDACTED] But, and...

FULCHER You were standing right in this area out here in the yard?

[REDACTED] Yes. I was right here.

FULCHER And you could, could you clearly see over there?

[REDACTED] Yep, from right here.

FULCHER Ok.

[REDACTED] They were right there. Right there where that mailbox was.

FULCHER Was he on the ground on this side of the mailbox or the other side?

[REDACTED] No, on that side. Like he was on the grass and his head was facing the house.

FULCHER Ok. So you could see, could you see between the cars him on the ground over there?

[REDACTED] Yeah. It was like, I could see, I could see one officer but I couldn't see the other officer cause the car was right there.

FULCHER Ok. So did you see how he got on the ground?

[REDACTED] No, I went to go grab, get my grandma.

FULCHER Ok. So, could you tell what they were talking about? Did you hear what they were saying?

[REDACTED] No, but what I did hear was the guy yell, you fucking pussy.

FULCHER And that was after he was already on the ground?

[REDACTED] Yeah.

FULCHER And how many officers did you see?

[REDACTED] Two.

FULCHER Two? Now when the guy was standing up behind the car, did you see the guy that they pulled over punch anybody or strike anybody?

[REDACTED] The guy that they pulled over or the officer?

FULCHER The guy they pulled over?

[REDACTED] No, sir.

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# POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
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Description  
Scan005.jpg

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Statement of

CASE NUMBER 2021-007464

Information

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FULCHER Did you see any officers hit anybody or punch anybody?  
 [REDACTED] No, but it was, it looked like, it looked like they were struggling, fighting on the floor. Like, like, they, it, it, I don't know if any punches were thrown or anything, but it was like they were wrestling on the floor, like, for sure.

FULCHER Ok. Like, maybe trying to get him secure or something? Is that what you thought? To put cuffs on him or something?  
 [REDACTED] Yeah, yeah. But it was like, he couldn't move also cause the officer's knee was on him. But they were trying to move him, but he couldn't move.

FULCHER Ok. So from what you're saying it looks like they were wrestling on the ground trying to do something.  
 [REDACTED] Yeah.

FULCHER But you didn't see nobody punch anybody, kick anybody anything like that?  
 [REDACTED] No, I didn't see nobody kick anybody, but there was a lot of hand movements. But I couldn't really, cause the car like, I seen one officer, one officer was like tryin to grab his arms but I really couldn't see the other officer. But it was like the other officer was like, wasn't really trying strike him but it was like, he was, like, I don't know what they were doing, it was like they were wrestling on the floor. And out of nowhere I just heard the guy yell.

FULCHER Started yelling and calling names?  
 [REDACTED] Yeah.

(Inaudible, both talking)

FULCHER Did you ever see them cuff him up?  
 [REDACTED] No.

FULCHER Did you ever see the guy get up off the ground?  
 [REDACTED] Yes.

FULCHER What was he doing then?  
 [REDACTED] Nothing. He got up off the floor and they just um, put him in the front, front of the police car, there was two police cars behind the um, dude's car. They, he took him to the first one. The first car. And he, he was on the door like this. It wasn't like he was

# POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
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Description			
Scan006.jpg			

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Statement of  
[REDACTED]  
 Information

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CASE NUMBER 2021-007464

tryin to, it wasn't like he was tryin run or nothing but it was like they just had him against the car.

FULCHER      Was he saying anything at that time?

[REDACTED]      Nope. Well, it was like they were talking but I couldn't like understand what they were saying cause I was right here.

FULCHER      Did you shoot a video of it?

[REDACTED]      No.

FULCHER      Ok. Do you know anybody that did?

[REDACTED]      No, but them people over there, they say, they got a um, they got a camera.

FULCHER      Ok.

[REDACTED]      And yeah, and I guess um, I don't know, the camera, I don't know if the camera caught anything cause there was two, they were in between the cars.

FULCHER      Yeah. Do you think the cars were right about where the mailbox is?

[REDACTED]      Yes. Yes. Cause they were right here.

FULCHER      If we walk over there can you show me like where the front of the one, back of the one car was that got pulled over?

[REDACTED]      Yes, sir. Yes, sir.

FULCHER      Hold on. I'm not, when we get done with this we'll go over there.

[REDACTED]      Oh, ok.

FULCHER      Alright, so just to recap. Tell me if I'm saying anything wrong. You was in the house, I think you might've said, did you say you looked out the window or something and saw the traffic?

[REDACTED]      Yeah, I looked out the window and saw the traffic of the two police (inaudible).

FULCHER      And the guy was, got out before the officer and then you, then at some point he's standing behind his car but in front of the police car.

[REDACTED]      Yeah, no, yeah like when the dude got out he went behind his car and like he just leaned on his car like this. But it was like he was talking to the officer.

FULCHER      Which way was he facing?

[REDACTED]      He was facing towards the officer's car.

# POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
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Description  
Scan007.jpg

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Statement of  
**Alberto Cervantes**

---

CASE NUMBER 2021-007464 Information

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FULCHER Was he facing that way the whole time that you saw him?  
**[REDACTED]** Yes. Yes. But he had his hands like, like that.

FULCHER Was he moving them around or anything?  
**[REDACTED]** No, he wasn't moving his hands around.

FULCHER So then you go, you said you went and called your grandma?  
**[REDACTED]** Yeah, that's when I turned around, I don't know what happened after that, I turned around, went to my grandma's room, got her and then right after that we came, we came right back outside and the dude was already on the floor.

FULCHER Ok. And you heard him yell that?  
**[REDACTED]** Yeah, and then I...

FULCHER Did you, did you hear them yell anything to him?  
**[REDACTED]** No. No. It was like they were wrestling on the floor. No, they didn't say nothing.

FULCHER In the grass over there?  
**[REDACTED]** Yep.

FULCHER Ok. Everything you told me today the truth?  
**[REDACTED]** Yes, sir.

FULCHER Anybody tell you what to say?  
**[REDACTED]** No, sir.

FULCHER Anybody force you to talk to me?  
**[REDACTED]** No, sir.

FULCHER Ok. This is gonna conclude this interview. The time now is 1:30 PM

TRANSCRIBED:  
 February 24, 2021  
 Lisa Tamberlin, BCI  
 30 Minutes

# POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
03/18/2021	15:39	4319	

Description  
Scan008.jpg



### BUREAU OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS HOMICIDE UNIT

Lead Investigator: Detective Fulcher

Classification: Information

Case Number: 2021-007464

The following is a copy of the typed transcription taken from the recorded statement of Travis Worley on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021.

Transcriptionist: Lisa Tomberlin

Date: March 18, 2021

*This tape statement took approximately 55 Minutes to type.*

\*\*\*\*\*  
"TEN STAR ACCREDITED AGENCY"

## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
03/18/2021	15:39	4319	

Description  
Scan009.jpg

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Statement of  
Travis Worley

CASE NUMBER 2021-007464

Information

PERSON INTERVIEWED: Travis Worley

PCSO LAW ENFORCEMENT: Detective Fulcher/Detective Brannon

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This is Detective Fulcher with the Polk County Sheriff's Office. This is gonna be a recorded interview in reference to case number 2021-7464. Today's date is February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021, the current time is 1:00 PM. Location of this interview is at the Lake Wales Police Department in Lake Wales, FL. Present during this interview is uh, Detective Brannon from the Sheriff's Office and ...

FULCHER Your name sir?  
HARTWELL Detective Hartwell.  
FULCHER How do you spell that?  
HARTWELL HARTWELL.  
FULCHER And your first name?  
HARTWELL Ricky. RICKY.  
FULCHER And you're a....  
HARTWELL I'm his union rep.  
FULCHER Union rep?  
HARTWELL Yeah.  
FULCHER And ma'am, your name?  
GELL Debra Gell. I'm a PB, his lawyer.  
FULCHER Ok, you're an attorney that's here uh, representing Officer Worley?  
GELL Yes.  
FULCHER Is that correct?  
GELL Yes.  
FULCHER And your name for the record, can you state your name?  
WORLEY Uh, Travis Worley.  
FULCHER And I want to let you know before we get started that uh, if at any time you don't want to talk to me or answer any questions, you can do that. You understand?  
WORLEY Yes, sir.

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## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
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Description			
Scan010.jpg			

Statement of Travis Worley		Information
<b>CASE NUMBER 2021-007464</b>		
FULCHER	And you do have an attorney that's here with you. Is that correct?	
WORLEY	That's correct.	
FULCHER	Ok. Now, what, what, basically what I want to talk to you about is an incident that occurred on February the 2 <sup>nd</sup> , actually February the 5 <sup>th</sup> , at approximately 9:36 in the morning. And I think it's the 200 block of East Polk Avenue.	
WORLEY	That's Correct.	
FULCHER	Um, there was a traffic stop that at some point uh, you arrived on and that's what I'm here to talk about. Do you understand?	
WORLEY	I do.	
FULCHER	Ok. Have you had a chance to talk to uh, your attorney before we came in here?	
WORLEY	Yes, I have.	
FULCHER	Ok. So one of the things I want to get out of the way is, how long have you been working, you're a police officer here at Lake Wales, how long have you been doing that?	
WORLEY	I've been um, employed here at the Lake Wales Police Department for a little over 5 years.	
FULCHER	Ok. And what are your main responsibilities here at the police department?	
WORLEY	Right now I'm a patrol officer.	
FULCHER	Ok. And were you a patrol officer on patrol on February the 5 <sup>th</sup> ?	
WORLEY	Yes, sir I was.	
FULCHER	2021?	
WORLEY	Yes, sir.	
FULCHER	Ok. So, the incident that I'm, I wanted to talk about is, it was a traffic stop on a gentleman by the name of Christopher Cordero. Do you recognize that name?	
WORLEY	Yes, sir I do.	
FULCHER	And is that a person that was stopped during this traffic stop?	
WORLEY	Yes, sir.	
FULCHER	And, did you do the stop or somebody else?	
WORLEY	Someone else did it.	
FULCHER	Do you know who did that?	

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## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Date	Time	Mem #	Type
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Description Scan011.jpg			

Statement of Travis Worley		Information
CASE NUMBER 2021-007464		
WORLEY	It would've been Officer uh, Black.	
FULCHER	And kinda go through, like, how you got involved. Like how you got there, or how'd you know to go there?	
WORLEY	Um, I'm not, I don't recall exactly what was said over the radio, but Officer Black was requesting um, signal 35, which is what we, it's a signal code for help, ah, backup, assistance.	
FULCHER	Ok.	
WORLEY	He requested assistance and I was the closest one to him.	
FULCHER	At that time, did you know he was on a traffic stop?	
WORLEY	Um, no I did not.	
FULCHER	Ok. And he obviously gave the location of where he was at?	
WORLEY	Yes.	
FULCHER	Ok. So you go there, is anybody else there besides Officer Black when you get there?	
WORLEY	Uh, Mr. uh, Cordero.	
FULCHER	Cordero? And once you got there, did you realize at that point it was a traffic stop?	
WORLEY	I thought it was at that point. I knew that ah, Officer Black was working traffic that morning.	
FULCHER	Ok.	
WORLEY	Um, we worked the same shift together.	
FULCHER	What kind of vehicle does he drive, is it like an SUV?	
WORLEY	It's a, it's a Ford Explorer.	
FULCHER	With lights on the top and everything?	
WORLEY	Mhm (yes).	
FULCHER	Ok. So it's, it's clearly marked as a police car?	
WORLEY	Yes, sir it is.	
FULCHER	Is your car marked as a police car?	
WORLEY	Yes, sir it is.	
FULCHER	Is it a car or SUV?	
WORLEY	It's an SUV, Ford Explorer.	

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## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
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Description  
Scan012.jpg

Statement of Travis Worley		Information
<b>CASE NUMBER 2021-007464</b>		
FULCHER	Ok. So it's the same as his?	
WORLEY	They're identical, yes sir.	
FULCHER	Ok. So do you pull up beside him, behind him, where do you pull up?	
WORLEY	I pulled up behind him.	
FULCHER	Behind Officer Black's vehicle?	
WORLEY	Yes, sir.	
FULCHER	And Cordero's vehicle, correct me if I'm wrong, was in front of his vehicle?	
WORLEY	That's correct.	
FULCHER	Ok. Like a traffic stop would look?	
WORLEY	Yes, sir.	
FULCHER	Ok. So you, whenever you get there where do you see Officer Black at?	
WORLEY	I see Officer Black standing in front of his marked patrol unit.	
FULCHER	In front of his?	
WORLEY	Yes, sir.	
FULCHER	Ok. And, did you approach to where Officer Black was at?	
WORLEY	I did.	
FULCHER	And did you see Mr. Cordero anywhere?	
WORLEY	Yes, sir I did.	
FULCHER	Where was he at?	
WORLEY	He was standing in front of Officer Black.	
FULCHER	Ok. So it was in front of his patrol vehicle and then there's obviously Cordero's car in front of that.	
WORLEY	Right.	
FULCHER	So, is it between the two cars?	
WORLEY	They were between the two cars.	
FULCHER	Ok. Did you notice if Cordero was facing Officer Black or facing away?	
WORLEY	He was facing Officer Black.	
FULCHER	Ok. And so, do you hear any, any dialogue when you first start walking up.	
WORLEY	Yes, sir I did.	

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## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
03/18/2021	15:39	4319	

Description  
Scan013.jpg

Statement of Travis Worley		Information
<b>CASE NUMBER 2021-007464</b>		
FULCHER	What'd you hear?	
WORLEY	I heard a lot of yelling coming from Mr. Cordero.	
FULCHER	Ok. Do you know what he was talking about?	
WORLEY	Um, I heard some yelling when I stepped out of my vehicle. My window was closed so when I opened the door I could begin to hear yelling. Uh, I begin to approach and as I got close enough to hear um, Officer Black is kind of soft spoken, um, as I approached Officer Black, I heard him ask for Cordero's driver's license.	
FULCHER	Ok.	
WORLEY	And then I hear Cordero start the onslaught of the cussing and yelling and screaming at him um, told him he wasn't gonna give him his license, told him he was a famous YouTuber, um, just a lot of really extremely rapid speaking, it was really loud.	
FULCHER	So what you do recall of that is he was saying, he was requesting for his license, he said he's not gonna give it to him, he's a famous YouTuber.	
WORLEY	That's correct.	
FULCHER	Ok. And what happened then?	
WORLEY	Um, I hadn't quite made it to him yet, um, I, um, I observed Officer Black go reach for Cordero's arm or wrist or whatever he was trying to get ahold of. And I, um, Cordero pulled back. Like into, I thought he was fixing to run. Um, but he was just resisting, not allowing uh, Officer Black to get ahold of him. Um, at that point Officer Black moved closer to him and got his hands on him and they began to struggle a little bit and that's the point I made it to where I was able to help.	
FULCHER	Ok. What side did you approach on, that would've been ah, Officer Black's passenger side or driver's side?	
WORLEY	The passenger side.	
FULCHER	Ok, so you come up from the passenger side?	
WORLEY	Yes, sir.	
FULCHER	So, when you, you turn in between the vehicles at that point?	
WORLEY	Yes, sir.	
FULCHER	And they were still in between the vehicles?	

## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
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Description  
Scan014.jpg

Statement of  
Travis Worley

CASE NUMBER 2021-007464

Information

WORLEY They had moved at that point, they had moved over towards the ah, right side of the vehicle.

FULCHER Ok.

WORLEY Closer to the curb.

FULCHER So, whenever, so you first observed him refusing to give his license.

WORLEY Yes, sir.

FULCHER Or hear em. And then, does he say anything, does Black say anything to him after he says no I'm not giving my license or anything?

WORLEY Um, I think he told him, he said, you don't have a choice in it, or something like that. Your, you have to give me your license.

FULCHER Ok.

WORLEY And he just, it was hard to hear Officer Black because of all the yelling that Cordero was doing.

FULCHER Ok. So he went and you saw him go to grab his arm. When he grabbed his arm, was Cordero facing him?

WORLEY They were facing each other, yes sir.

FULCHER Facing each other? And you saw, you saw him pull away?

WORLEY Yes, sir I did.

FULCHER And then he approached him again and then that's when you got over there?

WORLEY Yes, sir.

FULCHER Ok. And then at some point y'all end up on the ground?

WORLEY Yes, sir.

FULCHER Do you know how y'all ended up on the ground?

WORLEY Um, Officer Black attempted to assist Mr. Cordero to the ground. Um, he went to his knees and I assisted Officer Black with pushing him over to a grassy area, which was just past the curb.

FULCHER Ok. At any time when you was walking up there while Cordero was standing up, did you see Officer Black uh, punch or strike him at any time in the head or face or body?

WORLEY No, sir I did not.

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## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Statement of Travis Worley		Information
CASE NUMBER 2021-007464		
FULCHER	And once, once y'all got on the ground, what was, what was occurring on the ground? Did he automatically just put his hands behind his back or did y'all cuff him? Or what happened then?	
WORLEY	Um, no he immediately, as soon as he went to the ground, he kinda landed on his or not landed but went down to his right side and um, and then onto his stomach. But he was, it was more him going to his stomach cause we were just trying to get ahold of his arms at that point. Um, and his hands and arms immediately tensed up and went down towards his midsection. Which I couldn't see his hands at that point.	
FULCHER	What were you thinking at that point?	
WORLEY	Right in the, as soon as, well not immediately, I thought he was just trying to actively resist. But when I felt how strong he was and felt he wasn't giving in to get his hands out, first thing I thought was a weapon.	
FULCHER	And, once he wasn't taking his hands out, did you do anything to try to get his hands out?	
WORLEY	Um, just continued giving loud, lawful commands for him to stop resisting, give me your hands, stop resisting....	
FULCHER	I mean, like pulling on his arms or anything?	
WORLEY	Oh yeah. Yes, I was pulling on his arms. On his left arm.	
FULCHER	Ok. And so you're, you're pulling on his left arm?	
WORLEY	Yes, sir.	
FULCHER	And what about Officer Black? Could you tell what he was doing at that point?	
WORLEY	I could not, I was uh, I, I said to Officer Black a couple of times, I said, I can't see if he has a weapon, I can't see if he has a weapon, I think I may have said, I think he has a gun. Um, so I actually got down closer I was down towards his arm, so I moved down closer, I was on my knees to try to see as I was pulling. Um, I couldn't see anything Officer Black was doing.	
FULCHER	Ok. And at some point, were y'all able to both get his hands out...	
WORLEY	Yes, sir we were.	
FULCHER	...from under him? And was he cuffed at that point?	

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

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	Statement of Travis Worley	Information
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	<b>CASE NUMBER 2021-007464</b>	<hr/>
WORLEY	Yes, sir he was.	
FULCHER	And what happened after he was cuffed?	
WORLEY	Um, Mr. Cordero was helped to his feet and then he was escorted to the rear seat of Officer Black's patrol unit.	
FULCHER	Ok. Was he saying anything at that point?	
WORLEY	He was saying a lot of stuff.	
FULCHER	I mean, do you remember anything specifically that he might have said?	
WORLEY	Um, I think he, when he first got to his feet, he started pleading for Officer Black to let him go. He said um, I know how this works, y'all gonna let me go, I don't work for y'all. Let me go. And then when Officer Black would get a chance to respond and would tell him, hey buddy that's not how this works, you're under arrest. He would go back up to getting loud and screaming again. That happened during the whole entire encounter. It would bounce back and forth to being calm to ....	
FULCHER	Did he say anything about wanting to fight anybody or anything like that?	
WORLEY	Yes, sir he did.	
FULCHER	What did he talk about?	
WORLEY	Um, he told Officer Black that if he didn't have his gun and badge uh, he would kick his ass. He told him that he was um, extremely versatile in karate and that if he ever caught him out on the street he was gonna kick his ass.	
FULCHER	Ok.	
WORLEY	Um, and then he made some other comments that weren't directly towards threatening Officer Black.	
FULCHER	Once he was secured, did you see if he had any injuries or anything visible injuries?	
WORLEY	I never did observe any injuries, no sir.	
FULCHER	Ok. Did he say anything about being injured?	
WORLEY	Not in my presence. No, sir.	
FULCHER	Ok. He say anything about his teeth being knocked out?	
WORLEY	No, sir.	
FULCHER	Or tooth?	

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

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Statement of  
Travis Worley

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**CASE NUMBER 2021-007464** **Information**

WORLEY No, sir.

FULCHER Ok.

WORLEY He talked a lot about attorneys and cases and YouTube and aliens.

FULCHER Ok. Did he mention UFO?

WORLEY Yes, sir he did.

FULCHER Ok. At any time during this incident did you kick uh, Mr. Cordero in the head?

WORLEY No, sir I did not.

FULCHER Did you spit on him?

WORLEY No, sir I did not.

FULCHER And these are basically allegations that he's made.

WORLEY Ok.

FULCHER Which yanno, there is a video of the incident. I don't know if you've seen the video or not. Um, but the video's obviously from far away and it's not very clear yanno, you can obviously see that there's something going on and go to the ground, but um, after he was cuffed and everything did you see him bleeding or anything from the mouth or lips?

WORLEY No, sir I did not.

FULCHER And once he was put in the car, where did he go from there?

WORLEY Um....

FULCHER Or did you, did you go....

WORLEY I wasn't present, I stayed and, I'll explain it to you. Um, Officer Black asked me to assist with um, a tow truck coming to pick up Mr. Cordero's vehicle.

FULCHER Ok.

WORLEY Um, I went to Mr. Cordero requested me, he said, one of his calm moments, he said, can you get my cell phone for me? So I went to his car got his cell phone, um, looked for a registration for Officer Black, came back to the car, stood there with Officer Black as Mr. Cordero was in the back seat. When Officer Black left, I got in my vehicle um, and sat inside my vehicle until the tow truck driver got there. He reached in my window, signed his tow sheet, went and hooked up the tow truck and left. I had, there was no further involvement I had after that.

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

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Statement of  
Travis Worley

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**CASE NUMBER 2021-007464** **Information**

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FULCHER      Ok.

WORLEY      I did hear Officer Black say on the radio that he was headed to Lake Wales Police Department to begin the booking process. And while he was here I believe he said that, hey uh, I'm now headed to Advent Health to the hospital.

FULCHER      Ok.

WORLEY      And I don't know what the details were of that, I don't know what took place.

FULCHER      Ok. So, whenever Mr. Cordero was on the ground, did you ever see, did you see Black uh, punch, kick or hit uh, Mr. Cordero in any way?

WORLEY      No, sir I did not.

FULCHER      Ok. And you explained that you were kind of on the side trying to get his hand?

WORLEY      Yes, sir.

FULCHER      And you said something to him that you know, he might have a weapon.

WORLEY      Yes, sir.

FULCHER      Ok. And whenever somebody says that, it puts everybody on high alert.

WORLEY      Absolutely.

FULCHER      At that point. And your job is to basically secure him the best way you can?

WORLEY      Yes, sir.

FULCHER      Ok. Um, is there any time during this incident that you used any um, racial slurs or anything towards Mr. Cordero? And the reason I'm asking this because he has said uh, that that was said uh, by you and I quote, this is from him in his complaint.

WORLEY      Yes, sir.

FULCHER      Is that you called him a "Spic".

WORLEY      No, sir I did not.

FULCHER      Ok. And another quote, for the record this is a quote, did you ever call him a "nigger"?

WORLEY      No, sir I did not.

FULCHER      Ok. Did you ever say anything to him about going back to New York?

WORLEY      No sir, I did not.

FULCHER      Ok. If he said that was something that was said, is that untruthful on his part?

WORLEY      I'm, I'm sorry?

## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Statement of  
Travis Worley

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CASE NUMBER 2021-007464	Information
FULCHER	Is that untruthful on his part if he says that happened?
WORLEY	If he's, if that's his statement, he said that happened, it's 100% untruthful. It did not happen.
FULCHER	Alright. Do you got anything Brannon?
BRANNON	No.
FULCHER	Ok. Alright. Everything you told me today the truth?
WORLEY	Absolutely.
FULCHER	Anybody tell you what to say?
WORLEY	No, sir they did not.
FULCHER	Anybody force you to talk?
WORLEY	No, sir they did not.
FULCHER	Anybody make you any promises or make any threats towards you to make this statement?
WORLEY	No, sir. No, sir they have not.
FULCHER	Ok. This is gonna conclude this interview. The time now is 1:14 PM.

## TRANSCRIBED:

February 24, 2021  
Lisa Tomberlin, BCI  
55 Minutes

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**Images**

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**BUREAU OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS  
HOMICIDE UNIT**

**Lead Investigator:** Detective Fulcher

**Classification:** Information

**Case Number:** 2021-007464

The following is a copy of the typed transcription taken from the recorded statement of David Black on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021.

**Transcriptionist:** Lisa Tomberlin

**Date:** March 18, 2021

*This tape statement took approximately 1 Hour and 20 Minutes to type.*

\*\*\*\*\*  
"TEN STAR ACCREDITED AGENCY"

# POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Statement of  
David Black

CASE NUMBER 2021-007464 Information

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PERSON INTERVIEWED: David Black

PCSO LAW ENFORCEMENT: Detective Fulcher/Detective Brannon

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This is Detective Fulcher with the Polk County Sheriff's Office. This is gonna be a recorded interview in reference to case number 2021-7464. Today's date is February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021, the current time is 1:59 PM. Location of this interview...

FULCHER What's the address here?

BLACK It's uh, [REDACTED]

FULCHER Lake Wales?

BLACK Yes, sir. [REDACTED]

FULCHER Uh, present during this interview is Detective Brannon with the Sheriff's Office and myself. Sir, for the record, could you state your name?

BLACK Yes, sir. It's David Black.

FULCHER Do you go by another name as well?

BLACK I go by Colt. It's uh, COLT.

FULCHER So most people talk to ya, they call you Colt?

BLACK Yes, sir.

FULCHER Ok. And what's your birthdate?

BLACK Uh, [REDACTED]

FULCHER And you live here at this address?

BLACK Yes, sir.

FULCHER And a phone number for ya?

BLACK It's [REDACTED]

FULCHER Is that a cell phone?

BLACK Yes, sir.

FULCHER Sometimes I gotta get my glasses out. So I basically I come out to your, I called you on the phone to see if I could come out and talk to you today, and you said ok. I come out here to talk to you about an incident that occurred uh, at the Lake Wales Police

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

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Statement of David Black		Information
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	Department. Uh, you was in the capacity of a uh, patrol officer. Is that right?	
BLACK	Yes, sir.	
FULCHER	And, before I talk to you, I just want to read you your rights so you know what they are. You have the right to remain silent. Anything you say can and will be held against you in a court of law. You have the right to talk to a lawyer before and during any questioning. If you cannot afford to hire a lawyer, one will be appointed to represent you before any questioning if you wish. You can decide at any time to exercise these rights and not answer any questions or make any statements. You understand that?	
BLACK	Yes, sir.	
FULCHER	Ok. So basically this pertains to February the 5 <sup>th</sup> , um, 21 at about 9:36 AM. Uh, I got information that you conducted a traffic stop on a gentleman uh, who was the sole person in the vehicle, his name was Christopher Cordero. Do you recognize that name?	
BLACK	Yes, sir.	
FULCHER	And I believe this was in the 200 block of East Polk Avenue in Lake Wales?	
BLACK	Yes, sir.	
FULCHER	Do you recall that incident?	
BLACK	Yes, sir.	
FULCHER	Ok. What I wanted to do is just, you just go through what happened, um, like how you, how'd you, why'd you stop him, what happened when you stopped, what was going on?	
BLACK	Absolutely. Um, so I was conducting traffic enforcement uh, in the area. Um, I was, I forget if I was on um, I think I was on Bullard, uh, at 3 <sup>rd</sup> Street, uh, and he was driving South on 3 <sup>rd</sup> Street. Um, no tint on the windows when he drove by. Uh, I could see that he didn't have a seatbelt on. Um, so I turned in behind him uh, he ran the stop sign at uh, 3 <sup>rd</sup> and Polk uh, headed uh, headed West on Polk. Um, and also noticed the registration was expired. Um, so at that time I believe I started to call out on the radio the traffic stop before I turned my lights on. Um, and before I could even get my lights on, he kinda swerved a little bit inside of his lane and locked the brakes up, uh, exited the vehicle uh, and begin to come back at me. Uh, yanno, just raising cane, yanno, cussing, carrying on. Um, saying I didn't have the right to stop him. Um, just extremely	

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

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Statement of  
David Black

**CASE NUMBER 2021-007464** **Information**

10-8, um, uh, at which time, and I, from what I remember he was coming at me in a capacity which put me in fear that he was wanting to uh, fight me or attack me. Um, so I pulled my tazer out, I told him to um, get back or I was gonna tase him. Uh, at which time he went back towards his driver seat, um, I told him, yanno, I don't want you back in the car. Come back and, yanno, sit on the curb. Uh, so I holstered my tazer, uh, and I asked for backup sometime in there. Um, and the whole time he was really, really 10-8. Um....

FULCHER And what is 10-8 mean?

BLACK Uh, just uh, loud, aggressive um...

FULCHER Was he like yelling stuff at you?

BLACK Yes, sir.

FULCHER What kind of stuff was he saying?

BLACK Um, I, from what I can recall he, he was saying um, I didn't have the right to stop him, um, I asked for his information and he was screaming uh, I don't have to give you that, I'm a famous YouTuber. Um...

FULCHER Information, is that like his driver's license or name or something?

BLACK Yes, sir. Um, um, I asked multiple times for that uh, and he refused to give it to me. Um, I asked him to sit on the curb and he refused to sit on the curb. Um, um, I think it was sometime during that point I saw my partner uh, get ready to pull up. Um, and I told uh, Mr. Cordero, I said, yanno, if you don't give me your name, date of birth, license, anything to identify yourself I'm gonna, yanno, put you under arrest, take you to jail for uh, resisting, for not providing me your information. Um, I told him why I stopped him. I said, your seatbelt, stop sign, and registration. Um, and uh, he still refused to identify himself. Um, I told him again, hey you, you have to do this by law or I'll take you to jail. Um, he still said nope. Um, not giving it to you. Um, and I went to grab his arms uh, to put him, cause he wasn't turning around or putting his hands behind his back, so I went to grab his arms and he was like, he folded his arms acrossed his chest, like this, um, and started like, pulling away from me, um, back towards his truck.

FULCHER Did you actually grab onto his arm?

## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Statement of  
David Black

**CASE NUMBER 2021-007464**

**Information**

BLACK At that time I did. Um, I, I grabbed his arm and uh, yanno, tried to get his hand behind his back and it wouldn't go. Um, so I just decided to take him down to the ground where I could control him a little bit better. Um, uh....

FULCHER Is he, was he facing you the whole time? Or was he facing away?

BLACK Uh, at that time he was, he was facing me when I grabbed him, he refused to turn around.

FULCHER Did you tell him to turn around?

BLACK Yes, sir.

FULCHER Ok.

BLACK Um, um, so when, I think my partner was there at that time. Uh, we took him to the ground, um, and I was able to get, I was able to get his right hand uh, out from underneath of him. Um, and when I got his right hand out, my partner said, he's reaching for uh, I forget if he said, he's reaching for his waistband or he's reaching, I forget exactly how he put it. But essentially he was, he was, my partner wasn't able to get his left arm out and he was reaching towards his waistband. Um, so, yanno....

FULCHER Who was the person, the, the other person that was there for back up?

BLACK Uh, Officer Worley.

FULCHER So whenever he went to the ground, was both of y'all there at that time when he went to the ground?

BLACK Yes, sir. I believe so. I know there's video of it I think.

FULCHER So, you tell him that he's, if he doesn't give you the driver's license or identify himself he's gonna go to jail for resisting?

BLACK Yes, sir.

FULCHER And he refused several times, and you told him to turn around and he wouldn't.

BLACK Yes, sir.

FULCHER He fold his arms, you went to grab his arm, and he pulled back from you?

BLACK Yes, sir.

FULCHER And did you reach and try to grab him again?

BLACK Yeah, at that time I had his, uh, when his arms were here I just, I tried to grab ahold of

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	Statement of David Black	
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	him, or I had a hold of him um, and he was a lot bigger guy than me, so I couldn't yanno, get a good grip on his arms. Um, and I tried to pry one off yanno, and turn him around and I couldn't.	
FULCHER	And is that when Worley came up?	
BLACK	I believe so um, you have to ask him for yanno, exactly when he got there, cause um, he came up from behind me.	
FULCHER	Ok. So once you go to the ground, you say his arms are underneath him?	
BLACK	Uh, I, his right arm I got about to here, um, and his left he had underneath of him. Um, and um, I didn't want to, I was kinda like off to the side of him, all tipped off balance. Um, and I was afraid if I let go of his right arm to grab the tazer or spray or whatever that he would yanno, I'd totally lose that arm. And I didn't know if he had any weapons on him, cause I didn't pat him down or anything yet. Um, and so I, I told him yanno, hey give us your hands the whole time, uh, Worley was, yanno, shouting at him, hey stop resisting, um, I kept telling him, giving us your hands, you're under arrest. Um, and he was continuously screaming the whole time. Um, I don't remember what he was screaming. Um, but he, he would not give us um, his left hand um, so at that time per our uh, policy for our protective action, um, we're allowed to utilize a brachial stun uh, so like right underneath the ear, yanno, on the side of the neck. Um, and all that does is, is supposed to shock the person, just to stun them for a second.	
FULCHER	What do you like, strike em right there?	
BLACK	Yes, sir.	
FULCHER	Ok.	
BLACK	Um, and um, so instead of letting go of both hands to utilize one of my tools, that was the, it made sense to me at the time to utilize that strike cause it's the same level as the tools. Um, and so at that time uh, I was trying to maintain control of his right arm and I delivered one uh, like, like, uh, forearm strike, or elbow like, right here. Um, and I tried to hit him where the, where we're taught to yanno, hit the brachial stun. Um, but I think it landed a little bit higher than what I intended just cause he was resisting yanno, I was off balance. Um, I believe the strike hit somewhere around his ear area. Um, as soon, as	

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Statement of David Black	
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	soon as I delivered that one strike, he immediately brought his other hand around um, at which time we got him in handcuffs. Yanno, rolled him over, uh, checked on him. Um, and he said he um, at the time he refused uh, medical treatment. Um, and my uh, supervisor arrived on scene at that time.
FULCHER	Was, what, did he say anything that you remember while he was getting cuffed or after he was cuffed to you?
BLACK	Um, he, he said a lot. Um, I'd have to, if I'm being honest, I'd have to go back in my report cause I remember putting, yanno, his quotes in there as to what he said. Um, cause I don't want to misquote anything. Um...
FULCHER	Ok. So what you wrote in your report would be accurate as for what he said?
BLACK	Yes, sir. Um, um, so I, yanno, ultimately, uh, charged him with assault on Law Enforcement. Uh...
FULCHER	There's a, there's a quote in here that says uh, you told him he was under arrest and this was after he was um, in cuffs and he said, yeah man you can let me go I won't tell anyone.
BLACK	Mhm (yes).
FULCHER	What was that about, do you remember?
BLACK	Um, I think um, that uh, he thought um, we hadn't done our jobs properly. Um, and I believe that he thought that we were in fear of getting in trouble for doing our jobs that what he considered being properly. Um, and I think, um, he was trying to bribe us to let him go. Um, yanno, we told him, hey like, what's done is done, you had your multiple chances to yanno, uh, follow direction essentially and you refused and then you began to resist when we tried to put you handcuffs, so yanno, you're going to jail for these charges.
FULCHER	And you put in here, um, that he said he understood why he's going to jail and apologized and said in quotes, I understand why y'all put me down, y'all didn't know if I was strapped or not. Do you remember him saying that?
BLACK	Yes, sir. I do.
FULCHER	And then uh, he got angry again. And then uh, said something about he knew karate and

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

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Statement of  
David Black

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CASE NUMBER 2021-007464 Information

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you should watch out for him.

BLACK Yes, sir.

FULCHER Do you remember what, how he kinda said that?

BLACK Um, uh, I knew he had mentioned multiple times that um, whenever he gets out uh, I better watch my back um, if he saw me on the street without yanno, a gun and a badge that he'd whoop my ass and uh, all that kind of stuff.

FULCHER Did he say something which is in your report here that he was gonna claim he was punched multiple times in the head while handcuffed?

BLACK Yes, sir. He was um, he was making multiple claims um, in the back of the car um, at which time, I was there, Officer Worley was there, and Officer Joiner was there. Um, he, um, his behavior was really weird for um, a brief time in the report, like I noted, yanno, he would be apologetic and say, ok, yanno, I know I did wrong, and then his behavior would immediately turn to um, yanno, I'm coming for your job, and um, yanno, I'm gonna lie and y'all stopped me just based on my race. Um, and all kind of claims like that. And then he would calm down again and immediately become irate again. Um...

FULCHER Ok. Now, before we, y'all ended up on the ground, is there any time that you punched him in the side of the head or anything from behind?

BLACK Absolutely not.

FULCHER And, at any time when you're on the ground, other than the strike that you said you utilized, was there any other strikes that you performed on him, hitting him in the face or head or kicking him in any way?

BLACK No, sir. Absolutely not.

FULCHER Did you see Officer Worley uh, kick or punch um, Mr. Cordero in the head or the ribs?

BLACK No, sir I did not.

FULCHER Did you see anybody spit on him?

BLACK No, sir.

FULCHER Did you hear uh, Officer Worley use any uh, racial slurs....

BLACK Absolutely not.

FULCHER ....towards him?

## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Statement of  
David Black

CASE NUMBER 2021-007464

Information

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BLACK No, sir.

FULCHER Call him any names?

BLACK No, sir.

FULCHER Did you hear him say anything about you should go back to New York?

BLACK No, sir.

FULCHER Ok. Now I was looking at your reports. And I know one report it says his, his fists were clenched and he was running towards you and you pulled your tazer. Then I saw a supplemental report in which you said you looked at the video and your recollect, you, the next day you got a little bit more uh, clear about what happened.

BLACK Mhm (yes).

FULCHER And you wrote a supplement report saying that you was mistaken about him charging at you. Is that correct?

BLACK That is correct. Yes, sir.

FULCHER Now, did you feel, did he come at you at any way?

BLACK Um, he, um, based on my recollection, the, the way I wrote the original report, um, and I swore to that report. Yanno, that's, that's my word. He had come almost all the way up to my bumper based on what I remember. Um, per our policy, yanno, our supervisors have to do a, a use of force report. Um, and so, um, my supervisor went and pulled video and he, he asked me multiple times, hey are you sure he came at you? I and I said, yes, sir. Absolutely. Um, and he said, ok, can you watch this video I went and pulled from a house nearby?

FULCHER Mhm (yes).

BLACK I said, yes, sir. In the video uh, he exits his vehicle um, he doesn't come any further at me than the back door of his vehicle. Um, and when I saw that, um, I, I immediately wrote that other report, like, yanno, that I had made a mistake, my perception was skewed, um, and um, my uh, I, I wrote in there cause that was a Sunday that I wrote that report, um, I believe it was Sunday. Um....

FULCHER I think this is on a Friday, this happened.

BLACK Yes, sir. Um, the, the, as soon as I seen the video, uh, that's when I did the supplemental

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**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**Images**

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Description			
Scan029.jpg			

**Statement of  
David Black**

**CASE NUMBER 2021-007464**

**Information**

report. It may have been even Saturday. Um, and I put in there that um, I made a mistake and uh, the assault on Law Enforcement Officer charge needed to be dropped. Um....

FULCHER It was signed on the 7<sup>th</sup>.

BLACK Ok.

FULCHER Yeah, I saw that in the report, where you ah, so once you saw the video, you realized that the assault charge was probably not something that would've been charged?

BLACK Yes, sir, absolutely.

FULCHER And based on your experience as a law enforcement officer and your training um, the fact that, as far as from whenever you say he charged at you, everything else after that is that true?

BLACK Yes, sir.

FULCHER Ok. And you said you looked at the video?

BLACK Yes, sir I did.

FULCHER Ok. Is there anything on that video gonna be different than what you told me today?

BLACK No, sir.

FULCHER Do you know of any other videos?

BLACK No, sir I do not.

FULCHER Ok. Um, so has, have you ever had a incident where ah, somebody charged you before on a traffic stop or at a scene or anything?

BLACK Yes, sir.

FULCHER Can you tell me about that?

BLACK Ah, yes sir. Um, uh, this was 2018 I believe. Um, um, I did a traffic stop on a Hispanic male on a bicycle. Um, it was April I think 16<sup>th</sup> of 2018. Um, and uh, he, he ended up running. Um, and uh, I caught up to him and tazed him and when I tazed him he got up and attacked me. Um, and uh, we ended up fighting for a long time uh, before back up got there. Um, and uh, my buddy ended up getting there and um, saving me essentially. Um....

FULCHER Did ya, was ya hospitalized during that?

## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Description Scan030.jpg			

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Statement of  
David Black

CASE NUMBER 2021-007464

Information

BLACK Yes, sir.

FULCHER Ok. Now that incident that you're talking about, because of that incident, does that, does that put you a little bit more, would that put you a little bit more higher alert in the future after that?

BLACK Yes, sir.

FULCHER Ok. And, and based on what happened on this traffic stop, was it a stressful situation uh, based on the way that you say that he was acting and yelling and things like that?

BLACK Yes, sir.

FULCHER Ok. Did he say anything to you about somebody knocking his teeth out, Mr. Cordero?

BLACK Uh....

FULCHER A tooth or something like that?

BLACK Yes, sir. Um, when we got to the hospital uh, well, from, from the scene uh, transport him to uh, the police department. Um, and my supervisor met me there just because of all the claims he was already making um, that were false. Um, just to have two witnesses with him at all times. Um, and as soon as we got to the police department uh, he made yanno, claims that his jaw hurt, um, and we immediately took him to the hospital. Um, at the hospital that's when he started claiming um, one of his teeth were knocked out. Um, and I told the doctor, hey this is what he's saying um, I said the strike, yanno, didn't land anywhere near his, his jaw or yanno, teeth that he's saying got knocked out, um, I said, but can you check and give us a professional opinion so if, yanno, if it was from me, then I can document my report. Um, and the doctors, uh, I don't know if was doc, I don't know what their rank and stuff is, but the medical staff looked at him and said it was the tooth had been missing, it wasn't anything fresh. Um, it wasn't bleeding, um, they said it looked like it'd been gone for, it, it didn't just happen.

FULCHER Did you see the tooth that was missing?

BLACK No, sir, I didn't.

FULCHER Ok. Was, do you know if there was any photographs taken of his mouth?

BLACK Uh, uh, I don't know, I didn't take any pictures. I just don't know.

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## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Description Scan031.jpg			

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Statement of  
David Black

CASE NUMBER 2021-007464

Information

FULCHER Ok. Did you see any injuries on him, visible injuries after the arrest?

BLACK Uh, no sir. Uh, he, he, well his ear was uh, like, just a, like a little bit red afterwards. But nothing um, yanno, no blood, no obvious big bruises or anything like that.

FULCHER Any blood on his mouth or lips or anything?

BLACK Ah, no sir.

FULCHER Ok. So just once again. At no time did you see, you say you didn't see Worley kick him or punch him or spit on him or call ...

BLACK No, sir.

FULCHER ...him any racial slurs?

BLACK Absolutely not.

FULCHER And you're saying that whenever he was standing up, um, in that, one of the allegations that his, he was, his back was to you and you just sucker punched him in the side of the face. In the mouth and it knocked his tooth out. Any, anything like that happen at all?

BLACK Ab, absolutely not. No, sir.

FULCHER And once he was on the ground, the only time he was struck was that uh, with your elbow uh, what you told me about?

BLACK Yes, sir.

FULCHER No other hits or punches or kicks?

BLACK No, sir.

FULCHER Ok. Detective Brannon, you got anything or anything you can think about?

BRANNON (No audible response heard).

FULCHER Ok. Everything you told me today the truth?

BLACK Yes, sir.

FULCHER Anybody tell you what to say?

BLACK No, sir.

FULCHER Anybody ah, force you to talk to me?

BLACK No, sir.

FULCHER Did I make any promises, make any threats to you to say something?

BLACK No, sir.

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# POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Description  
Scan032.jpg

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Statement of  
David Black

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CASE NUMBER 2021-007464 Information

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FULCHER      Ok. This will conclude this interview, the time now is 2:21 PM

TRANSCRIBED:  
*February 24, 2021*  
*Lisa Tomberlin, BCI*  
*1 Hour and 20 Minutes*

## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
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Description Scan033.jpg			



BUREAU OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS  
HOMICIDE UNIT

Lead Investigator: Detective Fulcher

Classification: Information

Case Number: 2021-007464

The following is a copy of the typed transcription taken from the recorded statement of Dr. Ankit Patel on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

Transcriptionist: Lisa Tomberlin

Date: March 18, 2021

*This tape statement took approximately 10 Minutes to type.*

\*\*\*\*\*  
"TEN STAR ACCREDITED AGENCY"

## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
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Description			
Scan034.jpg			

Statement of Dr. Ankit Patel		Information
CASE NUMBER 2021-007464		
PERSON INTERVIEWED:	Dr. Ankit Patel	
PCSO LAW ENFORCEMENT:	Detective Fulcher	

This is Detective Fulcher with the Polk County Sheriff's Office. This is gonna be a recorded interview in reference to case number 2021-7464. Today's date is March the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021, the current time is 12:50 uh PM. The location of this interview is Advent Health in Lake Wales.

FULCHER Is that correct?

PATEL (No audible response heard).

FULCHER Let me find a page here. For the record could you uh, state your name?

PATEL Dr. Ankit Patel.

FULCHER How you spell your first name?

PATEL ANKIT.

FULCHER And.

PATEL PATEL.

FULCHER And your birthdate?

PATEL March 5<sup>th</sup>, 84.

FULCHER And is there like an office number to contact you if somebody needed to contact you or something?

PATEL Uh, I think it would be this number right here. 863-679-6876.

FULCHER Ok. And for the record, could you raise your right hand? Do you swear and affirm the statement you're about to give is the truth and nothing but the truth?

PATEL Yep.

FULCHER Ok. I came, I, I talked to you just a second ago and I showed you a picture of a gentleman by the name of Christopher Cordero.

PATEL Correct.

FULCHER And on February the 5<sup>th</sup>, uh, 2021, he came to the emergency room with law enforcement officers from Lake Wales Police Department, do you recall that?

PATEL Correct, yes I do.

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## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Scan035.jpg			

Statement of Dr. Ankit Patel		Information
CASE NUMBER 2021-007464		
FULCHER	And, you did an examination on him and he was, I guess he had some complaints about injuries or something like that?	
PATEL	Correct.	
FULCHER	And I got a copy of his records, also he signed a waiver uh, to release his records here at the hospital. Uh, whenever you, I, I see the records and the records say that you observed no contusions, no injuries, no bleeding in the mouth.	
PATEL	Correct.	
FULCHER	And it also mentions that you, you saw a chipped tooth and I believe you numbered it 14?	
PATEL	Yep.	
FULCHER	And do you remember see, that tooth, what it looked like?	
PATEL	Yes, it looked, it appeared to be an old injury, no fresh uh, blood, ah, no tooth fragments, nothing.	
FULCHER	Ok. And as far as when you examined his face and head, did you see any injuries or observe any injuries there?	
PATEL	I did not observe any kind of swelling no abrasions, no lacerations.	
FULCHER	And he had a ah, CT scan to check his head I believe?	
PATEL	Correct and face. Yea.	
FULCHER	And that came back normal?	
PATEL	Negative. Yep.	
FULCHER	Ok. So his head and face were checked?	
PATEL	Correct.	
FULCHER	Um, this Christopher Cordero, has made a complaint, just to let you know that during that incident right before he came here.	
PATEL	Yeah.	
FULCHER	He was punched multiple times in the face, kicked in the head, kicked in the ribs, did you see any evidence that would support that claim?	
PATEL	No, and he did not mention that to me either.	
FULCHER	Ok. So he didn't...	

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**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**Images**

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Description  
Scan036.jpg

Statement of Dr. Ankit Patel		Information
<b>CASE NUMBER 2021-007464</b>		
PATEL	He didn't mention that he was hit repeatedly or multiple times at all.	
FULCHER	And over your experience as a doctor, if somebody gets punched, kicked in the face, would you see something maybe?	
PATEL	Usually some visible effects of getting hit or punched.	
FULCHER	Ok. Yanno one time maybe, but yanno, multiple five, six, kicked in the face.	
PATEL	Correct, you might see some bruising.	
FULCHER	Ok. So you saw no evidence that would suggest what he, if he said that happened, would support that?	
PATEL	Yep.	
FULCHER	Ok. And the records that we got, those are the correct records that you put in, so that would be the records we could use on this? Is that right?	
PATEL	Correct. Yeah.	
FULCHER	Ok. Um, could you, do you remember what his state of mind was at that time?	
PATEL	He was very hysterical, he was yelling, screaming, accusing everyone of looking at him wrong and uh, trying to agitate him and uh, states everyone was racist, uh, pretty much.	
FULCHER	Ok. Did you hear, did you hear anybody call him any names or make any racial statements towards him?	
PATEL	No, none at all. Very professional.	
FULCHER	Ok. Ok. Is there uh, anything else you'd like to add as far as Mr. Cordero?	
PATEL	Not that I can think of right now.	
FULCHER	Ok. Everything you, and you're a doctor here at Advent, is that correct?	
PATEL	Correct, yep, I'm a physician here.	
FULCHER	In the, in the ER?	
PATEL	Yep.	
FULCHER	Ok, and you were working that day when he came in?	
PATEL	Correct, yeah.	
FULCHER	Alright, everything you told me today the truth?	
PATEL	Yes.	
FULCHER	Anybody tell you what to say?	

# POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Description  
Scan037.jpg

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Statement of  
Dr. Ankit Patel

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CASE NUMBER 2021-007464 Information

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PATEL        Nope.

FULCHER     Anybody force you to talk to me?

PATEL        Nope.

FULCHER     Make any promises?

PATEL        Nope

FULCHER     To say something?

PATEL        No.

FULCHER     Ok. This will conclude this interview, the time now is 12:54 PM

TRANSCRIBED:  
*March 12, 2021*  
*Lisa Tomberlin, BCI*  
*10 Minutes*

# POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Images

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
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Description  
Scan001.jpg



**BUREAU OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS  
HOMICIDE UNIT**

**Lead Investigator:** Detective Fulcher

**Classification:** Information

**Case Number:** 2021-007464

The following is a copy of the typed transcription taken from the recorded statement of Christopher Cordero Pt. 3 on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

**Transcriptionist:** Lisa Tomberlin

**Date:** March 18, 2021

*This tape statement took approximately 4 Hours and 25 Minutes to type.*

\*\*\*\*\*  
"TEN STAR ACCREDITED AGENCY"

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**Images**

Date	Time	Mem #	Type
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Description  
Scan002.jpg

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Statement of  
Christopher Cordero Pt. 3

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CASE NUMBER 2021-007464 Information

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PERSON INTERVIEWED: Christopher Cordero Pt. 3

LAKE WALES PD: Detective Fulcher/SAO Orr/Lt. Russell

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This is Detective Fulcher with the Polk County Sheriff's Office. This is gonna be a recorded interview in reference to case number 2021-7464. Today's date is March the 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the current time is 9:08 AM. Uh, the location of this interview is the uh, State Attorney's Office in Bartow at the Courthouse. Uh, present during this interview is Lieutenant Russell from the Polk County Sheriff's Office, uh, Attorney Nicole Orr with the State Attorney's Office and uh, also, Christopher Cordero, um, who will be interviewed today.

FULCHER I'm gonna set this up here so it'll pick us all up. Ok?

ORR My name is Nicole Orr, and you got served with uh, an investigative subpoena by Detective Fulcher last week. I just wanted to take a moment to explain to you what that investigative subpoena means.

CORDERO Yes, ma'am.

ORR Detective Fulcher began an investigation about some allegations you made against some officers at the Lake Wales Police Department.

CORDERO Correct.

ORR He came to your home and he tried to interview you and you indicated that you weren't interested. And that's fine but he needed to do an interview. So, when that happens sometimes, we have to issue an investigative subpoena and bring you down.

CORDERO Ok. Alright, thank you.

ORR When you're served with that subpoena um, it means you don't have the right to remain silent, you have to answer these questions. But with that comes some protections for you. Which means, we cannot charge you with a crime for what you talk about here today. If you were to say that you did something, we couldn't charge you with that crime. The only crime that can come from this interview is the charge of perjury. Should you lie about something material to this investigation, that we could prove that you lied about, that's the only charge that could come from today. So that is what happens with being given the, or being told that you don't have the right to

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**Images**

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Scan003.jpg

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**Statement of  
Christopher Cordero Pt. 3**

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**CASE NUMBER 2021-007464** **Information**

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remain silent. Be, it would be the issuance of this subpoena.

CORDERO No problem.

ORR Do you have any questions about this subpoena?

CORDERO Uh, no. I, in the beginning I'm like, um, cause yanno, somebody like me that's not experienced going to court and doing all this....

ORR Right.

CORDERO ....I, I, I've been arrested a couple of times, but this is my first time um, being a witness and uh, yanno, I just know like, yanno, I don't wanna cause any more trouble. This was too much for me. It was traumatic. So I didn't want to say something out the regular....

ORR I understand.

CORDERO ...and then they try to use it against me. Cause that's what they do.

ORR Well that is not the point of it. The point of it is, the Sheriff's Office was tasked with an investigation and to do a complete investigation....

CORDERO Correct.

ORR ....it means they have to interview you. So they have to come to us to help for this to happen.

CORDERO Not you guys, just the police. I'm just, I don't want no more problems with them. Cause if I say something and yanno, they'll try to use to their advantage and they already have tried to manipulate to say things that never happened during a interview.

ORR I'm now going to place you under oath. Just also, to be clear, uh, while this recording is going on....

CORDERO Yes, ma'am.

ORR ....it would be very hard for someone to uh, if they had to transcribe it and type it out later. Uh, hard if we talk over each other.

CORDERO That's fine.

ORR So try to wait until Detective Fulcher's done speaking and he'll try to wait til you're done speaking....

CORDERO No problem.

ORR ....just that way it'll be very hard to um, to, to do so, um, if we talk over each other.

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

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Statement of  
Christopher Cordero Pt. 3

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CASE NUMBER 2021-007464	Information
CORDERO	No problem.
ORR	So, would you raise your right hand please?
CORDERO	Yes, ma'am.
ORR	Do you swear or affirm that the testimony that you're about to give is the whole truth and nothing but the truth....
CORDERO	Yes, ma'am.
ORR	....so help you God? Thank you.
CORDERO	Yes.
FULCHER	Alright Mr. Cordero. Um, like she said, I'm, I wanted to talk to you about allegations that you made uh, during a traffic stop uh, in Lake Wales by the Lake Wales Police Department. Uh, in, in particular it was two officers uh, that were on this traffic stop at some point. Is that correct?
CORDERO	Yes, sir.
FULCHER	And this happened on February the 5 <sup>th</sup> , uh, 2021, it was in the morning time uh, a little after 9:00 or so, around that time. Ok?
CORDERO	Yeah.
FULCHER	Um, I just want you to go through, and I'm gonna let you talk about what happened during that stop, why you believe you got pulled over or why you shouldn't of got pulled over, whatever your statement is....
CORDERO	Yes, sir.
FULCHER	....and uh, what happened uh, during that stop.
CORDERO	Yes. So, I was heading to Publix to get taco meat and um, some prescription. And um, as I was cutting through a street called 3 <sup>rd</sup> , I think it's called 3 <sup>rd</sup> Avenue and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Street. Um, before it hit Polk Avenue, um, I noticed a SUV behind me. He didn't have any lights on and he was drivin real close to my car. And kinda just like swerve, not swerving in and out of the lane, but like, erratic. And then I realized him for a while just drivin behind me and it's like, he's not putting light on, he's just real close to me, and is there a problem here? Yanno, I felt, I felt, I felt threatened. So, I stop at the stop sign, he stops behind me. I saw him priorly to, to me stopping at the stop sign, I let him know that I was aware

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**Images**

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Description  
Scan005.jpg

**Statement of  
Christopher Cordero Pt. 3**

**CASE NUMBER 2021-007464**

**Information**

about that too. Cause he's tryin to give me a ticket for not stopping at that stop sign.  
 And if you watch the video footage from the residential home that I've provided to the  
 DA you could see his vehicle stop at the stop sign. I believe that if I was running from the  
 law and I ate that stop sign, his vehicle would've never stopped at that stop sign. You  
 can see it on the corner of the screen. You can see he SUV patrol unit stop. So I did stop.  
 Um, second, I just want to notify you guys that I also had my seatbelt on. Um, it is very  
 important, I'm very aware how much a ticket costs for a seatbelt. Cause I've had one  
 before. And I no longer drive um, under those conditions. So, he lied about that too.

FULCHER So, just, just go through just from the beginning of the stop to the end and then you can  
 go through yanno, what you think....

CORDERO Ok.

FULCHER ....happened or didn't happen, that kind of thing.

CORDERO Alright. So yanno, I stopped my vehicle, I was upset, I immediately stopped my car. I  
 wanted to know why he was following me. He was too close to my vehicle, he was play,  
 playin around behind my car with no lights. So I pulled over before he could even put his  
 lights on and I just felt like I was being racially profiled. My car does not any tints. It's an  
 older 97 Saturn. You can see right through the window. Um, second, I had a hoodie on  
 and I was playing really loud music. So, I believe that yanno, I was a victim of racial  
 profile. Um, I wouldn't say because of my nationality but I would say most likely because  
 I look like a suspicious person behind the wheel with a hoodie on.

FULCHER Ok. So you stopped before he turned his lights on?

CORDERO Yeah.

FULCHER You meaning like his, like red and blues?

CORDERO Yeah, there was no lights. I made sure that I stopped and then I, when I got out the car,  
 just to show him that I'm going to respect him as an officer, cause yanno, it's the right  
 thing to do. I remained by my car from the driver's door to the, to the back.

FULCHER So, when you got out of the car, what happened once you got out of the car?

CORDERO When I got out the car, he asked me if I had an ID, but he has his, his tazer drawn  
 already, he was, he was, he was upset. Um, yelling, cursing at me, um, I specified to him

**POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

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**Statement of  
Christopher Cordero Pt. 3**

**CASE NUMBER 2021-007464**

**Information**

that I don't have an ID, it made him more irate. He kept pointing his tazer at me telling me he's gonna, he's gonna taze me if I, if I don't get back in the car. So, at that point I let him know that I had an ID but it was in paper format. Because right now with the Corona virus, the DMV, they're not providing IDs for 30 days and I had an appointment. I just got my ID priorly, about a couple of days ago. So I informed him that I had a documentation, which I have here, um, which is an ID that the DMV gives you before you could actually have an ID because about 2 months ago I got pulled over by a cop, I didn't have insurance, it lapsed, he took my ID and broke it in half. I tried to specify all this to him, but he didn't want to hear. He was more angry than, than observant to what I was saying verbally. I noticed that. I noticed his eyes were dilated, his, his, his gun was withdrawn, it was almost like he was angry, he was frustrated with me and yanno, I have no idea why. But I did tell him that I have an ID. But it's in paper format, he didn't, he didn't hear that, it went into one ear and another. Um, at one point, when my car stop, I get out the car, I remained by the vehicle at all times. Um, he's already got his, his tazer out and he's cursing at me, telling me he'll put me under arrest if I don't give him an ID. Um, he said a bunch of things to me to manipulate me to scare me. Uh, tellin me I'm gonna go to jail. And I specifically told him, that I know the law. A little bit, not a lot. But I warned him that, that he cannot arrest me because I don't have an ID on me. It's, it's something that the Sheriff's Department took from me. I didn't have that documentation. I allowed him to know that. Um, so, like I said, when I stopped my car, I remained by the driver's door. Between the driver's door and my vehicle and at one point I can remember him telling me, I need you to get back in your car and sit down, we'll figure this out. I'll run your plate, we'll see if you have an ID, whatever. So at one point I went to go get back inside the car and he's yelling at me, cursin, you know what? Can I curse?

FULCHER

Yeah.

CORDERO

You know what? Get the f, get the fuck over here. Get, get to the back of your car! Face your vehicle, put your hands on the car, I'm gonna search you to see if you got a weapon. So, yanno, I believe that this coulda all been yanno, verbally discussed and

## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Statement of  
Christopher Cordero Pt. 3

CASE NUMBER 2021-007464

Information

deescalated if he woulda just been patient when he allowed me to go back in my car when I went to grab that door, I believe that if I was sitting that seat, this would've never happened. I would've went to Publix, got my taco meat and my medication and went back home. This coulda all been avoided.

FULCHER So he said to go to your trunk and put your hands on the trunk?

CORDERO Yeah, that's right before he asked me to go sit in my car.

FULCHER Ok.

CORDERO It's like he had a sudden....

FULCHER So what, so, so what did you go to the back of your car and put your hands on the trunk?

CORDERO Yeah, he had a sudden change of mind and I went to the back of the car, put my hands on the trunk, but it seemed like he was doing something in his car, so I would just turn around and keep talkin to him and asking him, why you doin this to me, this is against the law? You can see me going like this, turnin around and talkin to him. I never threatened him, I never moved, I never bolt, nothin. So I remained like this. This is in less than 2 minutes. So he comes from behind me, I'm thinkin I'm gonna get patted down for a weapon. And the next thing you know, he sucker punches me. But he doesn't do it immediately, he does it immediately but like, he grabs my body and faces me towards the grass and then you could see him throwin the hook on the video. Which, which I have documentation here that says I have a contusion and a cracked tooth on the side of my face, on my left side of my face which he also never stated in his police report.

FULCHER Ok. So, you're facing away from him and he punches you?

CORDERO Yeah. I'm like this.

FULCHER What side of the face did he punch you on?

CORDERO Right here.

FULCHER The left side?

CORDERO Yeah, yeah. It was, it was a blow to, to the jaw. Um, it my ear, but it, it, it went like this. I could feel it. It was almost like mush punch.

FULCHER Ok. So what happens then?

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**CORDERO** After that, the other officer comes and helps him to take me down. And they, they take me like a ragdoll to the ground. I'm faced on my stomach. My hands by my waist line. He's got his knee on my back, I have no way of getting my hands out in front of me. I mean, I'm 256 pounds. So, I'm a big dude. It's, it's hard for me to get my hands out. And the only thing I could hear them doing is yelling, he's reaching for a gun! Continuously, really loud. Because then I noticed there's people behind us across the street watching the incident. And that's when they started yelling that even louder, and louder, and louder and louder. And that's when I received the, the abuse. More abuse.

**FULCHER** Well, can you explain to me what.....

**CORDERO** Yeah.

**FULCHER** ....abuse you're talking about?

**CORDERO** So, as I'm layin there on the grass, um, I can recall my right face on, on the grass, my right side of my face is on the grass, my hands are in front of me by my waist line. I'm laying flat on my stomach, my feet are spread apart, officer's got his knee on my back and I can just remember him elbowing me in the back of the head and after that he punched me in the back of my head, right here on the side, right here. So there was elbow here to the dome on the back of the head, there was also a punch to left side of my face which medical documents and MRIs prove that he cracked my teeth and also caused me to have concussion and a contusion which I have my medical documents. Um, which he didn't specify in his report. After that I was unconscious for I don't know how long. I kinda fell asleep, that, that elbow to the head kinda, it made me pass out, it was hot outside, it was early morning, I was tired, I ju, I just yanno, get motivated for the day. So, I got my conscious back and when I realized what they had done to me, I told Officer David Colt Black and Worley that they were pussies for what they did to me. Because yanno, this was a traffic infraction. Um, you asked me to get back in my car at one point and then you gonna ask me to get back out only to abuse me. I told em, I said, you're wrong for what you did and I'm going to sue you. That, that was exactly my words to the police. Um, after that, I received more abuse. I, I really, um, I'm layin on my stomach and I can remember calling them a pussy. Both, well I said it more, more, my

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face was facing David Colt Black when I called them a pussy. But Worley, Officer Worley decided to be a hero after I called him, the other cop a pussy, spits in my face, and calls me a spic. And, and the N word. He used it all together in one phrase. I've never heard that in my life. I'm from New York. I'm, it must be a Florida terminology. But, he called me a spic-nigger. Spit in my face. And then he punched me in the head and kicked me in the rib, and um, you could hear people across the street yelling, I don't know who it was, but you could hear the people across the street yelling, why did you hit him when he's handcuffed? Why did you kick him? Why? You could hear kids, you could hear mothers. And I could tell they Hispanic. I, I, I, I kinda looked back and I can see a whole family leaning over the fence asking Worley why did you hurt this guy? Um, yanno, I was in flip flops, I didn't even have sneakers on, I, I lost, I lost balance when they did that to me. Yanno, my hands fell in front of me. I wasn't fighting them. It says no resisting without violence on the police report. I, I had no violent um, I had no violence in me, at all. Mentally or physically. I was just curious, I didn't understand the situation, that why was I being abused? If this is all a traffic stop?

FULCHER So, so, so the allegation that you're making is that you were punched and kicked....

CORDERO Correct.

FULCHER ....and spit on....

CORDERO Yes.

FULCHER ....and called a racial slur?

CORDERO Racial slurs. Yes.

FULCHER Now, how many times, from when you got out of the car, you said that, which officer sucker punched you?

CORDERO David Colt Black.

FULCHER And is that the one who originally pulled you over?

CORDERO That's the original one guy that pulled me over.

FULCHER Ok. And so, he had punched you one time while you were standing up on the side of the face....

CORDERO Uh, just to, to, to do the sweep, whatever they were gonna do to me.

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FULCHER Ok.

CORDERO And then I could also feel his hand around my rib. It was like a quick.

FULCHER And then you went to the ground?

CORDERO Yes.

FULCHER Were both officers there when you went to the ground?

CORDERO Yes, they were both there. Worley's on my right, David Colt Black's on, got his knee on my back.

FULCHER So once you got on the ground, you said that you were punched?

CORDERO Yeah, I'm laying like this on my stomach, with this uh, right cheek to the, like this with my fee spread out.

FULCHER So, how many times were you punched or hit in the head?

CORDERO To be honest to you I was punched and kicked more than I can remember. But what I specified to you is what I only remember. Um, when you're being brutalized and layin on the floor it happens (snapping fingers) very fast. It's not like you can remember how many counts of a punch they did or how many kicks. But I, I could remember kicking and punching.

FULCHER Did you get punched in the face?

CORDERO Yes, by, uh, Colt Black.

FULCHER Ok. And when you're on the ground, did you get punched in the face?

CORDERO Yes, for calling him a pussy. That's when he came back down and used his elbow.

FULCHER In the face or in the head.

CORDERO Right here, on the side of my face.

FULCHER Side of the face? Who did the elbow?

CORDERO Uh, Colt Black.

FULCHER Ok. And then you said that you got hit again?

CORDERO By Worley.

FULCHER And what kind of hits were those? I'm sorry.

CORDERO It was um, he punched me right here, like on this point of my head, right here. And spit in my face. I could, I could feel the spit going down my eyeball. It dripped into my mouth

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and everything. I, I could basically taste his spit as I'm laying there in cuffs.

FULCHER Ok.

CORDERO Yeah. He, he spit on me. Yeah.

FULCHER Other than getting punched in the face when you're standing up, did you get punched in the face while you're on the ground?

CORDERO Yes.

FULCHER And that was the side of the face by?

CORDERO Both officers.

FULCHER Punched you in the face?

CORDERO Yeah. Black, later, later on after I called him a pussy. And I wouldn't claim it was a punch, it was more like an elbow that slid off of my face having his, probably like the side of his hand or maybe his arm hit me. Like I said, I'm just laying there, I can't see from behind me, so I don't want this being used against me and someone saying, hey man, you're lying about this. But I could just feel the, the, and I got the medical records.

FULCHER Ok. And the medical records that you're referring to, is that when you went to the hospital....

CORDERO That's when they took me to the hospital.

FULCHER When they took you to the hospital?

CORDERO That same record, yeah.

FULCHER And it says you had a, have a concussion?

CORDERO Contusion, I could be mistaken, I don't, I don't know medical terminology, but it said something about a concussion or a contusion. I might be getting the words mixed up.

FULCHER I have the records from the hospital.

CORDERO I think it's a contusion. I don't even know what a contusion is. But, I believe when I was laying there, I did have a concussion. But according to medical records um, this is a contusion, which I don't know what that is.

ORR I'm not a doctor but....

CORDERO Yeah.

ORR ...as a bruise.

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CORDERO It was on the side of my face. And the officer never stated that in the report that he, that he punched me or what, um, and did all that. It wasn't a punch, it was more like a elbow that slid off of the hand or fist.

FULCHER Now, we go back to the traffic stop, whenever you stopped. Were you upset that he was following you?

CORDERO Yeah, I was. I was upset because I noticed that I did stop at the stop sign. Um, I wasn't upset at the moment he was following me cause I'm thinking that maybe, maybe, maybe my, yanno, maybe my tag is expired. But I was upset when he told me that um, that I didn't have a seat belt and I ate the stop sign. That's the only time I was upset. Because I knew it was a lie.

FULCHER But were you upset when you got out of the car to ask him why he was following you?

CORDERO Um, I was curious. But I wasn't upset. You can't be upset with the police. It's their job.

FULCHER Were you agitated that he was following you?

CORDERO I wasn't agitated. I just curious to, to verify like, why are you following me? It was very suspicious. But in my body and mind there was no anger.

FULCHER Ok.

CORDERO Yeah.

FULCHER Um, did you ever tell anybody that whenever, that you kinda regret getting out so upset of your car?

CORDERO Um, upset to me, just means like, yanno, I was curious to finding out why you're following me.

FULCHER Ok.

CORDERO I'm not really upset with the police officer. It's his job, like I said, it's his duty to, to do his job. I was more curious to why he was driving so close behind me without lights.

FULCHER Ok.

CORDERO Yeah.

FULCHER When you first got out of the car, did you start walking towards his car at all?

CORDERO No.

FULCHER Did you walk....

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CORDERO I just took about...

FULCHER ....towards the back of your car?

CORDERO I just took about three to four steps. Um, from my driver's door and I remained on the side of my car, took about three, four, maybe about three, three and a half feet. I didn't, I didn't, I didn't charge him like he said I did.

FULCHER So it, so what you're saying is you did, you did nothing to provoke anything, any of this?

CORDERO No, um, the, the only thing I did wrong that I realized that I should not have done was I should've sit in the driver's seat um, because when the police pull you over, it's the right thing to do. Um, like I said, I was just curious to why he was following me. I felt like I was being profiled. And he was driving very, very close behind me. Very close. It was almost like he just wanted to start some trouble.

ORR You mentioned something about your tag.

CORDERO Yeah, my tag, my tag was expired. Yeah. And I just went and renewed it recently.

ORR But at that time it was expired.

CORDERO Yeah. So he basically had a right to pull me over. I, that, that I do admit.

FULCHER Whenever he asked you for your license, you said, you said you didn't have no documentation....

CORDERO I told him I didn't have one.

FULCHER ....of your driver's license. Did he ask for your name?

CORDERO He didn't ask for my name.

FULCHER He didn't ask your name?

CORDERO No, he didn't ask me for my name.

FULCHER Ok.

CORDERO Yeah. I did tell him I had my registration in the glovebox. Um, he never even went to go check. They did that later on after I was in the back of the police cruiser.

FULCHER Did you ever um, tell him you're not gonna give him your name?

CORDERO No, I never told him that.

FULCHER That you was a famous YouTuber?

CORDERO I did tell them that at one point. He asked me what I was doing priorly about an hour

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ago, and I told him I was at the park working on a video on my laptop. That I owned a YouTube channel with 25,000 subscribers and it was UFO channel.

FULCHER Ok.

CORDERO I never said anything about aliens or none of that. They tried to write a reverse report and claim that I said something about UFOs. I just own a famous YouTube channel. I wasn't botherin nobody.

FULCHER And I guess you were interviewed by somebody at Lake Wales, is that correct?

CORDERO Correct.

FULCHER Ok. And during that interview, um, .....

CORDERO I cut it short.

FULCHER ....I think you, you left before it was over.

CORDERO Yeah. I cut it short, I told them that's it. But I didn't give them the whole story the same story that I gave you guys on the written report. I didn't give them the whole story cause I didn't feel comfortable. I felt like he was more interested in protecting his officers and interrogating me. And I did not want to be interrogated. Um, and he was manipulating words, saying things that I didn't say. So, I just wanted out of the room.

FULCHER Ok.

CORDERO And um, at one point he, he, uh, he didn't want to let me leave. He told me he was conducting an investigation. And I told him I was in fear of my life. His attitude from the beginning was bad

FULCHER You were in fear for your life in the .....

CORDERO Yeah, he had, he had a Glock 9 on, on, on, on the desk. And a bunch of guns all around the file cabinets. They were loose. I'm sure you've been in his office before and you've seen them yourself.

FULCHER And where were you sitting in his office?

CORDERO I was sitting in the chair when you first come in. Like this.

FULCHER So the door would be behind you?

CORDERO Yes, the door was locked and there was guns everywhere. I was scared.

FULCHER The door was locked?

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CORDERO Mhm (yes). Not locked with a lock, but it was closed. It was shut.

FULCHER Ok. So y'all were....

CORDERO I was scared.

FULCHER ....in a private setting?

CORDERO Yeah. I was scared. I was wondering why there's a black, long, black Glock, I don't know if it was a 40 cal or Glock, but it was, it was a hefty looking gun. And I was wondering like, why am I being interviewed with this gun on the table? And you can see weapons and, and casing, the clips and all. You can see all that around, I didn't feel comfortable in that room at all.

FULCHER Did the gun stay there the whole time you were there?

CORDERO He put it away eventually. But it was like, he, he, he, I felt like he left it there for a reason. It was a set up probably. Yanno. In my mind, after what happened to me with this officer.

FULCHER Did, did the person interviewing you, did they sit across from you at a desk?

CORDERO Right on the other side, like right here.

FULCHER Did they ever get up?

CORDERO Um, he didn't get up but he, uh, during the interview he takes the gun and he puts it in, in, in a drawer.

FULCHER Ok.

CORDERO Yeah. Later on. But when I come in the room he wasn't responsible. He didn't put his, his weapon away.

FULCHER Ok.

CORDERO And that, that, to me, can I be honest to you? That is a very awkward situation. I cut the interview short and I told him that's it. But the wasn't the whole story of what really happened. Um, guns on the table, I could see another AR um, on the dresser, I don't know if it was an AR, but it was a longer, like a rifle looking gun. And I'm, I'm just nervous, I didn't want to be in that room. But um, I see you guys got that interview. Because I'm sure he told you about it. But did he tell you the first time I met him? And what was said in the room?

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FULCHER No.

CORDERO Um, may I speak on that?

FULCHER Yeah.

CORDERO Alright, thank you. Um, so, I, I called him, I called the police station on a Friday. This was after the incident. The following Friday. And I called him and I, and I'm like, hey yanno, you guys dropped my charges would you be interested in helping me get my car out of re, um, repossession? Um, and he basically told me, no problem. Come here Tuesday, I'm off Monday, but I'll help you with that. Um, and um, that was the reason for me really going over there to do this so called interview. And um, before the interview and all that, he, he told, he was very polite, he started off, yanno, telling me he knew David Colt Black since he was in diapers and that his father's a good friend of his and that they've been working with him through his traumatic stress. Um, that he's been having um, PTSD issues and also mental health issues. He admitted this to me. He basically played like he was feeling bad for me. And I specifically asked him, I said, well if you have an officer that has PTSD and mental health issues and you've been working with him, those were his exact words, this is coming from uh, Detective Crosby. Um, I specifically ask him, why are you employing him? And he said, look we know him for awhile we're just working with him, this is the, this is the lieutenant's son. Um, and after that he tried to interrogate me. And when I wasn't giving him the answer that he tried to manipulate to have me say something that, that never happened, he became irate and started talking on top of me. Saying that I had a video of someone who recorded the incident and that I told him that I have a video of Worley hitting me. I never told him that. He was trying to manipulate me to say something that, that never happened. So I was really, my intention was to go there to get my car out of repossession. But there's a paper on the table and a recording device um, saying when you got on that chair right there, but his was silver. And I just remember, he wanted me to sign this paper and he wanted me to give him an interview, an investigation before he would help me with my vehicle. Now, I give him this interview. I give him a couple of answers he's lookin for. And at the end of the interview, I told him that I'm uncomfortable, cause he's talking on

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top of me, he's trying to make me say words that never happened, things that never happened. So I just wanted up and out. I was in fear of my life, there was guns on the table. So towards the end, we're walking down the hallway to leave. And he has to push this door open in order to let me out of the corridor, corridor not the, not the exiting door of the building. So, he opens the corridor and um, I ask him once again, I'm like, yanno, you made me come here today to get my car. Are you gonna pay for my car? And you could, you could hear him screaming at me, I'm not paying for nothing! And that was the end of that. That's how that ended.

FULCHER Did you, did you record that conversation?

CORDERO Yes, I did.

FULCHER Ok.

CORDERO I didn't record him. But I recorded the conversation, I had my phone in my pocket. It's just audio. No, face, nothing. But he does specify in the recording, um, I did ask him, I said, what's your name again? And he says, Detective Crosby.

FULCHER Ok. And when you first came in, you were recording and he told you to turn it off?

CORDERO Yeah, and, and, that's the recording that I wish I had. Because at one point I um, I told him that I don't want to do an interview. I would like to get with my attorney before I open my mouth and speak to him. And he told me, um, I don't have the right to an attorney. This is exactly what he told me. And he also told me that, you need to shut that phone off, you're not recording me. And then I proved to him, I hit the, the red button and then I deleted it right in front of him. So I proved to him that I was recording, but once I had the phone and I was putting it in my pocket, I went to the thing real quick and I started recording because I, I didn't want to get set up. I knew what he was doing, he was interrogating me to say things that I didn't want to say. Things that never happened.

FULCHER Ok. As far as that interaction with him, is that all that happened with him?

CORDERO Um, there was a time I met him priorly, before that. Uh, about a week ago, I sat in his office.

ORR A week before this? Or a week ago this from today?

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CORDERO A week from that interview where I felt intimidated.

FULCHER Ok.

CORDERO I can't remember dates right now.

ORR But it was a week before that, or a week after that?

CORDERO A week before that.

ORR Ok.

CORDERO Yeah, so a week before that I meet him for the very first time. And um, this is a sympathy visit. This is just me getting to know him.

FULCHER Like he came to you or you went to him?

CORDERO I went over there to see if I can get um, six months of complaints on each officer um, to see yanno, if they have any history doing what they did to me to other people. I spoke to a clerk um, she told me those documents wouldn't be ready for another maybe a couple of days. Give her some time to get em. Um, and then she addressed that one of the detectives wanted to talk to me. So I go and see Mr. Crosby again. We go to his office. And this is a sympathy visit. He's just feelin bad for me. Tellin me that um, they even called Black had mental, mental health issues. And that they been working with him. Um, due to a prior incident that he had where someone tried to scratch or bite or do something to him in a orange grove. So then I go home, look up the article and I see that he's not lying about that. Um, I did realize he specified that they said they're working with him. With his medical conditions. So that's when I knew the officer had mental problems.

FULCHER Ok. Now, we'll go back to the, to the traffic stop. Um, did you ever tell anybody that you, you got out of your car, slammed the door and you were upset?

CORDERO No. I never told nobody that.

FULCHER Ok. Well, I do have a recording of you saying that. And, and that's why I'm asking you. Cause you know, you might not remember everything you said.

CORDERO I mean, I remember the things I said. Upset, yeah.

FULCHER That's why I'm asking you, why you were upset because I think....

CORDERO Yeah.

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FULCHER ...I think that you were upset that he was following you....

CORDERO I think so.

FULCHER ....and you wanted to get out and say, why are you following me.

CORDERO Exactly. I wasn't angry. I was upset. Yeah, yeah.

FULCHER Now, and, and, and getting out and being upset could this officer perceive you as being upset?

CORDERO It's ok to be upset. Yes, yes.

FULCHER It's ok.

CORDERO Yes. I was just curious to why I was being um, he followed me though for a long time before he pulled me over.

FULCHER Ok.

CORDERO Um, this is, I don't even know the street that, I think it was the same street the police station is on.

FULCHER And sometime, and then sometimes to, to explain that, yanno, officers might get behind you and they might run your tag or they might look for a spot that they want to pull you over that's better for them.

CORDERO Correct.

FULCHER So they might be behind you for a little bit.

CORDERO I understand the law and I respect him for his job. He was doin his job and I got upset.

FULCHER And, and, and, yanno, I do have a copy of that video and I've watched it over and over again. Zoomed in, zoomed out and it looks like you stopped pretty quickly.

CORDERO I did.

FULCHER Cause you couldn't really see your vehicle kinda lunging forward as you stopped. Is that correct?

CORDERO No, I did. Yes, sir.

FULCHER Ok. So, that would've, that would've probably took him by surprise that you stopping so....

CORDERO Correct.

FULCHER .....quick, and, and then jumping out. And you were probably mad because....

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CORDERO I wasn't mad, I was just upset.

FULCHER You was upset.

CORDERO Yeah, I don't want to use the word mad, because I'm not that type of person.

FULCHER Ok. Um, yeah, so that's what you said.....

CORDERO Curious. I'm curious. Yeah.

FULCHER .....so I got upset and I got out of the car, I slammed the door.

CORDERO I did slam the door.

FULCHER Ok. So....

CORDERO Um, that door, it, the car was tilted, it just went, when I hit it with my fingers, it just, it slams.

FULCHER And whether you had your seatbelt on or not have your seatbelt on or ran a stop sign or not run a stop sign, you did have a tag that was expired.

CORDERO Yes, sir. Yes I did. I admit to that.

FULCHER And you have already said that he could've pulled you over for.....

CORDERO I had no, I had traffic infractions pending on me. And I respect him for pulling me over. Um, like I said, yanno, I should have never gotten out the car.

FULCHER And you, and you seen the video uh, and, and, and I'm, and the only reason I'm doing this, cause I'm doing an investigation.

CORDERO Yeah, yeah.

FULCHER I want the thing, I want whatever's right to be right.

CORDERO The truth, exactly.

FULCHER Ok. I, I, like I told you before. I don't know the officers. I'm not friends with them. I've never worked with them.

CORDERO I appreciate you, I really do.

FULCHER Ok? So, but, I want to be fair to both sides.

CORDERO I want to be fair.

FULCHER Ok. So I look at the video and when I look at the video it's not great. The video is not great. You understand?

CORDERO (Laughs) Yes.

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FULCHER I mean, it's probably from like, 40 yards away.

CORDERO Yes.

FULCHER You zoom in, things get blurry. Yanno, you can see....

CORDERO Mega pixels start getting lost, I know. (Laughs).

FULCHER So, there's, there's some, a lot of stuff that I can't see, but there is some stuff that I can.

CORDERO Exactly.

FULCHER One thing that I can see is that I can see the officer, Officer Black talking to you and he's probably, yanno, his car's here, he's standing out here beside his car, a little bit....

CORDERO We had a, we had quite a distance between us.

FULCHER Ok.

CORDERO A very big distance.

FULCHER And I think that in one of your statements is you were cursing him out. When you got out.

CORDERO No. No I didn't curse him out. He was cursing me out.

FULCHER Ok.

CORDERO He was cursing me out.

FULCHER Ok. Well, this same recording right here, you, you admit that you were cursing.

CORDERO Oh, I admit that I called him a effing pussy when I was laying on the floor.

FULCHER So, in, in that vid, even though that video's not great, you can tell that you're standing at the back of your car.

CORDERO Correct. Yeah.

FULCHER And you're facing him.

CORDERO Yes.

FULCHER And you can see your hands like, like you talk maybe with your hands.

CORDERO Just talking, I'm, yeah.

FULCHER So you're facing him.

CORDERO Yeah.

FULCHER Ok. I don't see any part on there where you have your hands on the trunk and you're facing away. Ok? And I've looked at it over and over and over. And I've had other people

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look at it. So I'm tryin to see this stuff. Because I want to put some credibility in whatever his...

CORDERO The hands on the trunk only lasted a couple of seconds, like I said, I kept turning back to talk to him, so my hands would come off the trunk.

FULCHER Ok. So the video...

CORDERO Yeah, yeah.

FULCHER ...what it shows is you're facing him and you're talking....

CORDERO Correct.

FULCHER ....and then he comes, he comes towards you....

CORDERO Yes.

FULCHER ....and then at something happens, and you go to the ground and that where it all can see.

CORDERO That's it. Yeah.

FULCHER But when he comes to you, comes towards you for the first time when this happens, you're facing him.

CORDERO No, I was, I was facing my vehicle and kinda facing him, but, facing more across the street.

FULCHER The video, I mean, it doesn't show a lot, but it does show that.

CORDERO I wasn't facing him in a way where I was a threat. I believe that I was turning my body around. I was, my, my, my legs were facing the car, but stomach twist to talk to him to ask him why is he doing this to me.

FULCHER And what I'm saying....

CORDERO Yeah I basically turned a round. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

FULCHER ....it looks like you're talking to him....

CORDERO That's it, yeah, yeah.

FULCHER ....you're not running at him...

CORDERO No, no, no.

FULCHER ....I, I, I understand that.

CORDERO Yeah, yeah.

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FULCHER And I know that he put in his report that you got out and charged him or something like that.

CORDERO You know what happened here? This is what I believe. I believe that the officer was intimidated by my actions. Um, because yanno, I'm a tall, yanno, I work out. I'm a, I'm a big guy. Second, second of all, yanno, yanno, I just felt like he was intimidated from the beginning. Had his tazer withdrawn at me and I'm standing by my car. Um, I notice he lied on the police report. I mean, why aren't we talking about, yanno, what he did to me, because, that's, that's more important to me.

FULCHER Well, well, that's...

CORDERO Yeah, yeah.

FULCHER I'm addressing all sides of this,

CORDERO Yeah, yeah.

FULCHER Ok. Now, cause I'm doing a criminal investigation. Ok? And part of my investigation is to determine....

CORDERO Ok.

FULCHER ...did this officer do anything wrong? Did he lie on his report? Did he do this? That's why I gotta talk to you.

CORDERO Ok. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

FULCHER Now, I gotta put, I gotta find some credibility in something.

CORDERO Correct.

FULCHER And that's why I talked to you. And that's why I asked you about these things. You know, did you say this, did you say that? Because I know a lot of stuff that you said that you maybe not know because uh....

CORDERO When you're angry....

FULCHER ....when you, when you, when you record people and they don't know, officers also do that as well. You understand what I'm saying?

CORDERO Yeah, yeah.

FULCHER Um....

CORDERO I mighta said a couple of things, but like I said, I don't recall even cursing him out when I

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got out the car. I recall cursing him out after being handcuffed on the floor after they did what they did to me. I called him a effing pussy. But that was only because I, I felt like he violated my civil rights.

ORR You said that you thought the officer may have felt intimidated.

CORDERO Yeah.

ORR When you got out of the car.

CORDERO Yeah.

ORR Do you think maybe your demeanor and your actions....

CORDERO No.

ORR ....might, might have caused him to perceive what inside you didn't feel....

CORDERO No, no.

ORR Then why would he feel intimidated?

CORDERO Intimidated, intimidated, when I say intimidated, it's not the way you see it.

ORR I just go with what the....

CORDERO Yeah, intimidation.

ORR ....dictionary definition.

CORDERO Intimidation to me means that I'm standing still by my car, I'm just talking to you, ok, I might be moving my hands a little bit. But intimidation from his perspective not from mine. I'm speaking about the officer. Why did he have to withdraw a gun if I'm standing by my car?

ORR Let me talk to you a little bit about...

CORDERO That's what made me believe he was intimidated.

ORR ....let me ask you a little bit about the traffic stops. Like ordinarily how do they happen?  
I'm not a police officer.

CORDERO Ordinarily.

ORR But I know that if I'm (inaudible) and I've been stopped before....

CORDERO I know.

ORR ....I don't get out of the car.

CORDERO Yes, ma'am. I and I, I admit to that. I shoulda stayed inside the car.

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ORR So that, from a police officer's perspective might that already make this stop not the normal? Is that possible?

CORDERO Well, can I tell you? Can I, can I explain something to you? As a, as a United States citizen, I do have, I do have the right to get out of my vehicle, cause I did look it up. Um, usually when a police officer stops you, you have to stay in it. But I remained by my car. I, I wasn't violating any civ, um, any of his rights.

ORR I didn't ask that question sir. I only asked you, does that maybe make it not the normal traffic stop for an officer?

CORDERO Um, I would say yes. Which I admitted that already.

ORR No, I know, and I, we were talking about perceptions. You had made the statement that he may have felt intimidated. And I was only asking you to expand on that.

CORDERO Yes, ma'am. And I'm sorry.

ORR That's ok. It's add up, to add on that.

CORDERO Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.

ORR Um, the fact that you stopped so quickly, and you got out so quickly um, and you do talk with your hands...

CORDERO Yeah, I was wrong, but I wasn't...

ORR ...um, sometimes with me talking with my hands, people think that I'm angry or whatever. So that coupled with he's trying to probably running your tag or trying to find a place where it might be a safe spot to pull over.

CORDERO He's just doing his job.

ORR And then you surprise him cause you stop so quickly and then jump out.

CORDERO Yeah.

ORR Could that have added to ....

CORDERO Um, just to let you guys know, because we're being recorded, um, when I stopped right away, it wasn't in a threatful manner. I was more upset that I seen him following me way beforehand. Um, but unfortunately my tag was expired like you said. I believe this man was doin his job, I don't believe that his intention was to hurt me, um, I believe that I shoulda not got out the vehicle. I agree with you.

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ORR It might've helped if you...

CORDERO Yeah, yeah. And I believe that, yanno, I was pretty much like he said, officer, um, I was, I was more upset about him following me with no lights on. Um, but my behavior um, wasn't aggress, aggressive. I wasn't trying to attack the officer. I wasn't, I didn't curse him out.

ORR It wasn't yours I understand that wasn't your intention.

CORDERO Yeah. I just made a mistake I shoulda stood in the car. And like I said, I'm, I'm a, all the laws are like relevant to me, cause I don't, I've never studied criminal law and justice. So please forgive me, if I got out the car. But my intentions which is to stand by that car. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

ORR And I understand that. But sometimes in even, in all of our relationships with people, our intentions and how people perceive us can be totally not on the same page.

CORDERO Correct. I know. I know ma'am. I know.

ORR And so that's why when I say that I'm not saying you meant to show that to him...

CORDERO Yeah, yeah, yeah.

ORR ....but might your actions have shown something that you weren't feeling.

CORDERO It, it might've scared him, it might've intimidated him.

RUSSELL That's how he perceived it. Yeah.

CORDERO He perceived it as an intimidation. And, and at the end of the day, I really just wanted to get back in my car and go to Publix. (Laughs). Yanno? Do I, do I admit I was wrong for stopping my car right away, yanno, and getting out? Um, yeah. But, yanno, the lies against me that I charged him, with my fists closed, come on, come on now, come on now, come on now. Seriously, seriously. That hurts me more than any of this. I mean, was I wrong? Yes. But why did he also had to add and lie? Um, high stress of the incident has nothing to do with the logic mind thing. If the logic mind remembers something, if he remembers the incident as is, why can't he remember what happened when I got out that driver's door? Yanno?

ORR And maybe it's similar to when you said when you were on the ground knowing exactly how many time you're hit. Like when you're in the heat of something....

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CORDERO	Correct. Yeah, yeah.
ORR	....it can affect perception.
CORDERO	And what bothers me more about this is that I wish my vehicle was a little bit more like a couple of feet so the camera could've caught all of this. Because I know there's no evidence as a video that saw what happened. I know the car was blocking cause I seen the video myself. And that's kinda, that's a heartbreaker right there. Because what I'm tellin you, you can't determine through an officer, even if he's got as witness with him. Yanno?
ORR	But sometimes we're able to make determinations on what happens based on other evidence.
CORDERO	Yeah.
ORR	I think uh, Detective Fulcher, may, this may be part of his um, interview of you just admitted. But sometimes there's independent witness.
CORDERO	Correct.
ORR	We can look at medical records like you talked about.
CORDERO	Yes, ma'am.
ORR	And sometimes those things either collaborate statements that people make, it makes them more inconclusive....
CORDERO	Correct.
ORR	....or sometimes it doesn't, it doesn't coincide and it doesn't collaborate.
CORDERO	Correct.
ORR	So, um, and just because there's not an injury, doesn't mean an incident didn't occur.
CORDERO	Exactly.
ORR	But there isn't any physical evidence to collaborate something that's not on video.
CORDERO	Yes, ma'am.
ORR	So that's what we look to in those instances.
CORDERO	Correct.
ORR	So, Detective Fulcher may some more questions then.
CORDERO	Yeah, yeah, yeah.

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FULCHER So, so looking at the video, the video clearly shows that there's a traffic stop.

CORDERO Correct.

FULCHER It shows you standing behind your vehicle and you're talking like I said. And you're, and you're facing him.

CORDERO Yes. I'm just turning around talking to him.

FULCHER The officer approaches...

CORDERO Yeah, yeah. Yeah, yeah.

FULCHER ...and then it shows something and then everybody's out of view.

CORDERO I just took (inaudible), yeah. Everything's out of view. That's what sucks.

FULCHER So the video itself shows that something happened, it just doesn't show how it happened....

CORDERO Exactly.

FULCHER .....because you can't see it clearly at all.

CORDERO I understand that.

FULCHER There's no way you can sit there and say this guy did this, or this guy did that. Yanno? If you said that you punched him in the face, and I watched the video...

CORDERO Whoa!

FULCHER ...and I watched the video and I can say I can't see that.

ORR He did not say that.

FULCHER He did not say that.

ORR No, he didn't say that.

CORDERO (Laughing).

ORR But he were saying if he did...

FULCHER If he did...

RUSSELL We wouldn't know.

CORDERO I gotta 3 month old, please don't scare me.

FULCHER Well what I'm sayin is, if, if for....

CORDERO No, I don't want to do the time for that.

FULCHER ...for an example....

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CORDERO	Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.
FULCHER	...for example if he said that you hit him in the face while you're standing there, I couldn't say that happened, cause I can't tell anything with that video....
CORDERO	You know it's, it's...
FULCHER	...so I go away, I go away from the video. Take the video out.
CORDERO	I'll just be honest to you guys, um, yanno, whatever happened, whatever we spoke about and whatever you told me what you saw, I agree to all of it. I agree what you see, yanno.
FULCHER	Let me, let me explain something to you. Ok? So...
CORDERO	I shoulda never got out the car.
FULCHER	If I take the video out of it, now I got, now I got somebody saying I was punched multiple times in the face....
CORDERO	(Laughing).
FULCHER	...kicked in the head, kicked in the ribs...
CORDERO	Yeah, yeah, yeah.
FULCHER	....spit on.
CORDERO	That's what I'm...
FULCHER	So now, now what am I gonna do now? I need to, I need to look, did we take pictures of this person? Of you. And what injuries did he have?
CORDERO	Correct, correct.
FULCHER	So I look at evidence like that.
CORDERO	Correct. Thank you.
FULCHER	And I look at pictures and I got several pictures of you that day that they took. And I didn't see any injuries. Ok? So now I want to get the medical records. Hey, did they do testing on his, his head? His jaw or face or whatever?
CORDERO	Yeah, yeah.
FULCHER	So I look at the records. And I look at the records and the doctor says he observed no injuries and he said that there, the medical records say there was a CT scan of your face and your head and it was normal. No injuries.

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CORDERO (Laughs).

FULCHER Ok? So now I look at that and I'm like, ok. Well I want to....

CORDERO No injuries.

FULCHER ...go talk to the doctor myself.

CORDERO Yeah, yeah, thank you.

FULCHER Because I want to do a thorough investigation.

CORDERO I appreciate you. Yeah, yeah.

FULCHER So I went to Lake Wales and I interviewed the Doctor who saw you that day. I sat in his office for awhile and talked to him.

CORDERO Yeah.

FULCHER And, and, and he gave me a, a statement uh, that whenever he saw you there was no injuries that he saw in his medical opinion. And I talked to him about a, a tooth. He said you had a chipped tooth, but that was older and did not occur that day. Ok? Now, I'm just telling you what the doctor told me.

CORDERO Yeah.

FULCHER And this is the stuff I gotta look at. Ok

CORDERO Yeah.

FULCHER I can say, you know what? He said this happened, this is absolutely the truth.

CORDERO Yeah.

FULCHER But I, I can't do that in cases. I can't....

CORDERO Let me, let me inform you guys, cause I don't want any problems, I want to be honest to you.

ORR Yeah.

CORDERO Um, I have a tooth in my mouth and um, it's a cavity, I've had for probably 3 months. There's a huge hole in the middle. And there's just tooth on the outer layer of it. It's ready to go. So when all this happened to me, when he got me on the side of the face, I could feel a piece of the tooth crack. I spit it out in the grass. That's all that happened, I never said he knocked out my tooth. There's a big difference between me claiming he did that to me, this is, this, it's, and it's on the medical documents.

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FULCHER So he didn't knock out your tooth?

CORDERO No. He cracked it.

FULCHER Ok.

CORDERO Yeah. But basically to me, when you uh, spit out a tooth, that's called, knock out a tooth, on, yanno, that's what people re, refer to it as. But I ne, I never really, I'm not claiming that he knocked out my tooth.

FULCHER And I know....

CORDERO Just a piece of it.

ORR You didn't have like a bloody mouth or anything?

CORDERO A little bit, I could taste the blood, but I can't see. Remember, I got cuffs on.

ORR No, I meant, but like...

CORDERO No mirror.

ORR ... when you went to the hospital and stuff. Like...

CORDERO No, no, no. When that happened, I taste it. I taste the blood. But it was just a piece of cracked tooth. What happened is maybe the tooth, when it cracked, the piece of the gum that that tooth was on, when it fell out, it shed a little blood. But, no one's claiming that he popped my tooth out of my mouth or anything like that. I'm just bein honest.

FULCHER So, some of the tooth still there? It's just chipped off?

CORDERO Um, I had a whole piece of tooth, right here.

FULCHER Mhm (yes).

CORDERO The piece that he chipped off came out and then later on I think maybe like 2-3 days later, the rest fell out. It was, it was already comin, the tooth, it, it was loose already.

FULCHER Ok.

CORDERO So I'm not accusing him of any of that.

FULCHER And, and when I talk about physical evidence, um, yanno, I look for everything. Yanno, video....

CORDERO Yeah, yeah, yeah.

FULCHER ...I went out to the neighborhood. I talked to everybody in the neighborhood there. Ok?  
Uh, I talked to uh, I got some names ah, that you gave uh, somebody that mighta saw

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what happened.

CORDERO Ok. Thank you.

FULCHER Family with the fence.

CORDERO Yes.

FULCHER I go out and talk to them.

CORDERO Yes, green house?

FULCHER A 16 year old boy out there. And his family.

CORDERO I think he was, a young kid. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

FULCHER Um, so I got that information from him.

CORDERO Correct.

FULCHER But he did not see uh, what you said happened. He didn't say it didn't happen, he just didn't see it. Ok? I'm not saying that he saying it didn't happen, he just didn't see it.

CORDERO He didn't see the whole incident. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

FULCHER Yes. Ok? So, and my thing is, did you see anybody hit anybody or anything? No. I was in the house, I looked out the window, then I came out....

CORDERO Well there's a second kid that says that he sees Officer Worley hit me as I'm cuffed. Did you interview him?

FULCHER I don't know....

CORDERO It's the brother.

FULCHER ...who that is.

CORDERO It's the brother.

FULCHER I talked to everybody at that house.

CORDERO Well, he has a little brother and we may have to include him into this.

ORR Do you know the little brother's name?

CORDERO No. I just remember there was two of them. One of them said he seen Officer hit me.

FULCHER Well, there's no doubt that, Officer Black uh, elbowed, elbowed you in the ear. He says that.

CORDERO Ok. Alright. Thank God he admits it. Yeah, yeah.

FULCHER He says that. And, and the reason why he, he, he puts that in his report.

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CORDERO Yeah, yeah.

FULCHER Ok? And what it is, is and what you were talking but your hands are under you. I mean, if you fall down, your hands probably might be under you.

CORDERO Correct, yeah, yeah.

FULCHER But it's a goal of law enforcement to get the hands out. And sometimes it's difficult to do.

CORDERO I understand.

FULCHER Maybe on the part of the person not wanting to or maybe just cause they're laying on him.

CORDERO Correct.

FULCHER But no matter what, they're trying to get their hands so they can secure them. Because you never know what person somebody's doing., Um, and during that time, he, uh, he had one of your arms. Is that correct? Officer Black?

CORDERO He had one of my arms during the time. But his knee was on my back and I couldn't get my other arm out of my waist line. They kept yelling he's got a gun.

FULCHER And he says that he did elbow you one time and it hit you in the ear when he tried to hit you a little bit lower than that...

CORDERO No, he hit me in the head.

FULCHER What...

CORDERO The first elbow was in the back of my head.

FULCHER Ok.

CORDERO It was back here.

FULCHER So it was more than one you're saying?

CORDERO Yeah.

FULCHER And I see the pictures of when you, of, and your ear is read. Yanno? This picture right here.

CORDERO Yeah.

FULCHER Which suggest that you ....

CORDERO My face is swollen.

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FULCHER ....probably got hit in the ear.

CORDERO Yeah, yeah.

FULCHER Right?

CORDERO Yeah.

FULCHER Um, this is the picture of you that day. I don't see anything that would suggest that somebody got punched in the face....

CORDERO There's so much flash on those uh, jail images. Good luck. It's gonna, it's gonna contract all that.

FULCHER I understand.

CORDERO Yeah, yeah.

FULCHER I'm just tellin you what I'm looking at, cause....

CORDERO Yeah, yeah.

FULCHER ...I wasn't there that day to see you. So I have to look at this stuff.

CORDERO Many times when someone hits you um, you, you don't see a bruise til the following day.

FULCHER Well, I've been, I've been....

CORDERO Yeah, yeah.

FULCHER ....doing this job for over 20 years, and I've seen people get hit in the face once, I've seen them get hit in the face 50 times on a murder. And typically in my experience, you're gonna see something.

CORDERO I play baseball, I've got hit with a ball in my face and I didn't even see a bruise.

FULCHER Ok. Well, the only, what I'm, what I'm just explaining to you is that, I'm just lookin at this. I can't, I wasn't there, I didn't watch it. If I'd a watched it, then I'd, I could make a better decision.

CORDERO At, at the end of the day, at the end of the day, and I know this, I want you guys to understand something about me. I'm not here to prosecute nobody. That's your job. I'm here to tell you the truth. I believe that I've given you guys all the information that I have. I believe that I didn't lie, I believe I told you exactly what happened. I also believe that the vehicle blocked most of the situation. So to determine who got hit and where

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and what. It happened so fast, I'm not disagreeing with you guys and I'm not disagreeing with myself. But I am saying that something did happen to me. I was injured during a traffic stop and um, most likely I was responsible. I shoulda stood in my car. Um, at the end of the day, I don't want to prosecute nobody. He was doin his job. Yanno? This, this is just something um, I'm just bein a fair person, yanno? I want to forgive them for what they did to me. Whether they were wrong or maybe, maybe they're not wrong, maybe they were doing they're job. But I want to forgive the police department and, and move forward with my life beyond this moment. Um, because I feel like this is all a mistake that snowballed out of control. Um, I have no reason to lie and invent. Because at this point, I understand that I also should've remained in that car. Which caused him to become concerned about me which cause him to be intimidated, like I told you from the very beginning of the recording. I believe that if I was a police officer I also would have took the same procedure he took. But at the end of the day, um, I was injured, um, officers are not coming forward about it.

ORR                   What do you mean they're not coming forward?

CORDERO           Well, as I read the police report, it only says he struck me one time on, on my head with a elbow.

ORR                   But he also says that he did take you to the ground.

CORDERO           Ok.

ORR                   So, I mean....

CORDERO           Yeah, yeah. So I want them to be honest too. Yanno? I made a mistake, they made a mistake. And at the end of the day, yanno, I just want to put it behind us.

ORR                   So the part about the reports that you don't think that were accurate about the altercation on the ground was that he only says he struck you one time....

CORDERO           Yeah there's way more to that.

ORR                   ...in the head?

CORDERO           I felt a lot of, a lot of hits to, to my head. Before and after cuffed. You understand? And what, what, what, what bothers me about this is like my car was there. You can't really see all this.

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ORR Well, they, I mean, correct.

CORDERO It's their word versus mine. And who's to determine whether they're right or I'm right? You understand? I mean, it's a, it's a hard, it's a hard situation. So, I'm to the point where I'm like, hey guys I don't want any problems, I just told you the truth. I was wrong for getting outta my car. Yanno? And I was, yanno, unfortunately I got a little hurt during the process, but maybe if I woulda sat in my car, I woulda never received these elbows to the head. Cause it traumatized me too. Yanno? When I take a shower, I get dizzy. When I'm cutting grass, I helped a friend cut grass the other day, I got dizzy. You understand? I don't know if I got medical problems now because of this. But I don't blame him, it was, he was doin his job.

ORR Have you received (inaudible) that night at the hospital, that we already talked about, did you go get any other ....

CORDERO Yeah, I got documents saying that I received a contusion and a cracked tooth.

ORR No, I'm saying, have you gone to any, are there any other medical treatment that you've received ....

CORDERO I would like to...

ORR ...about this incident....

CORDERO ...yeah, I would like to, but City Hall told me until the investigation is over with that they can't supply me with any type of insurance to, I would like to go see a neurologist. Cause my head, my head, I have problems with, with, I get dizzy and I forget stuff. So.

ORR But when you talk about medical records, at this point....

CORDERO No, there's only from that incident when they took me.

ORR ...they're only from that incident night. At that.

CORDERO Yeah, yeah, yeah.

ORR I just wanted to make sure there weren't....

CORDERO Yeah, and I'm just tryin to clarify what you just be upfront about all of this.

ORR Yeah. I just want to make sure there weren't other records that we were unaware of.

CORDERO I'm not tryin hide and play around, beat around the bush. I'm tellin you guys, I was wrong, he was wrong, I believe he was wrong as well.

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FULCHER So, all together, it was a stressful incident?

CORDERO It was just a stressful incident.

FULCHER From both parties probably?

CORDERO A traffic stop gone, um, outta control and uh, yanno, people were scared. They were intimidated uh, he was intimidated because when I stood by my vehicle he already had his gun out. So, I could understand why he did that though. Yanno? I should a remained in the car. It's the law.

RUSSELL His gun or his tazer?

CORDERO Tazer, tazer.

RUSSELL Ok.

CORDERO But tazer is, is, is in the form of a gun.

RUSSELL Ok, I just want to make sure....

CORDERO Sorry.

RUSSELL ...that....

FULCHER So whatever, just to clarify this...

CORDERO Yeah, his electrical gun.

FULCHER Whenever you got of your car, he was still in his car?

CORDERO (Laughing) Sorry, I got all, I said electrical gun. Ok, so....

FULCHER When you first got out of your car, he was still in his car? So you got out before he got out?

CORDERO You know what? The incident happened so fast, I could just picture him near his vehicle. And I'm by my car and moving my hands, we're talking, I take about 2-3 steps forward, not even 2-3 feet. I'm just, we're just communicating, he's trying to verify if I have an ID, I told him I didn't have one. He became upset and told me get back in the car. So when I went to go open that door, I'm thinkin man, I get to sit down and just explain to him and go home after this. But um, the part of the incident that I'm most curious about, is that I feel like my rights were violated.

FULCHER Ok.

CORDERO Can I explain? Can I?

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FULCHER      Yeah.

CORDERO      Yeah, yeah.

ORR            Sure.

CORDERO      So uh, you know, I'll be wrong to sit here and lie to you and tell you none of this uh, yanno, cause people do that, people do that. Cause they want to convict officers and get back at them. I don't want any revenge. Um, I leave that to God. But what I would like to specify is when I got out of the car, I was completely wrong for doing it, but I did not charge him. That's number one. Number two, if you ask me to go back in my car and you see me open the door and I'm, I'm about to go sit down inside, just, what would make you want to have me come further out of that car, put my hands on the trunk? This is a traffic stop. So I just feel, I just, I'm just trying to clarify this, for the record, for the record, that my rights were being violated at that moment. And I believe that this would've never occurred if the officer would've deescalated the situation by verbally communicating with me and allowing me to sit in my car because I have not yet commit a crime. I'm not under investigation. This is a simple traffic stop, so I notice at that moment after all of this happened to me, I noticed my rights were violated. I'm not complaining about the issue and the incident and, and the pounding over the head. Whatever happened, happened. But at the same time my rights were being violated.

ORR            In a traffic stop is an investigatory stop and law enforcement is at that point conducting an investigation. Even in a regular traffic stop. And they have the right to detain a driver during a traffic stop.

CORDERO      Ok. But what was I doing?

ORR            They have the right to instruct you to stay in a vehicle....

CORDERO      Yeah.

ORR            ....they have the right to instruct you should they feel necessary, to exit your vehicle.

CORDERO      Ok.

ORR            And I guess....

CORDERO      Ok.

ORR            ....he changed his mind. I don't know.

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CORDERO So, yeah, yeah, yeah. So, let me ask you a question.

ORR He might've thought it was best for you to get in, he may have changed his mind and thought it was best.

FULCHER Just so, just so you know I've been, I spent about 10 years on patrol. And there's been many times that I've stopped people in the past, and I, and I changed my mind on things because I feel a certain way or I think maybe, maybe I'll just talk to em back here. Hey get back in your car, oh, wait, wait, just come back here. This is a split ....

CORDERO My behavior, my behavior made him.

FULCHER ....split second, split second decisions....

CORDERO I get what you're saying. Yeah, yeah.

FULCHER There's no rule book that you have out there on the scene.

CORDERO Yeah, yeah.

FULCHER Yanno?

CORDERO As an experienced officer, what you're telling me is, according to my behavior and I, I wasn't irate, I wasn't angry, I was just curious to figure out why he was following me, with no police lights.

RUSSELL And you were upset.

CORDERO And I was upset. But according to my behavior, it allowed him to further take me back to that vehicle.

ORR No, an investigatory stop allows him to make you remain in your vehicle or instruct you to get out. He can change his mind. So if at one point.....

CORDERO Ok. So he's allowed to change his mind?

ORR ...get into the car. Yeah, yanno.

RUSSELL Cause he had a valid reason.

ORR He had a valid for the stop.

CORDERO Well guess what, guess what?

ORR He might've said get in the car, but then he's like, that's not what was as Detective Fulcher explained as an officer, he might've thought, alright, wait a second. I don't feel right about that. That may not be what's best for him.

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CORDERO Well if you're telling me it's the law, I ain't gonna sit here and fight against that. I'm ok with that. If he changed his mind.

ORR No, what I'm, what I'm telling you about the law....

CORDERO Maybe I was wrong.

ORR ....there's not a law about changing of minds. That's just....

CORDERO Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.

ORR ....more of a practical thing. But the law is, during a traffic stop, is it, it is stop and they are conducting an investigation....

CORDERO No, that's, that's understandable.

ORR No, no, but with that comes the ability to control the situation and instruct you to do certain things.

CORDERO So he can further control it? Ok. I get what you're saying.

RUSSELL Because he had a valid reason to stop you....

CORDERO Correct.

RUSSELL ....the traffic infractions, that's what...

CORDERO It gives him the authority to investigate after.

RUSSELL ...gives him the right. Correct, correct.

CORDERO Ok. And I didn't, yanno, I'm not aware about the laws. I'm sorry. Please forgive me.

ORR That's ok.

RUSSELL No, and that's ok.

CORDERO But if, I knew if the gentleman, I mean, if he wanted to further do that to me, it's ok with me. But at the end of the day, uh, I was wishing and hoping he would just let me sit there and talk to me. That's all. That's all. I, I have nothing more to say.

ORR And I'm sure when he started the traffic stop, he would've wished and hoped you would've just stayed in the car.

CORDERO I know. He told me that on the way to the, we, we, we were getting along towards the, um, towards the end of the trip. And he told me that. He said, man, I asked him, I said next time you see me, are we gonna get along? Can you just, yanno, give me a break? He said, I'll get, I'll, I'll work with you. He was real nice to me. Um, at the end of the day,

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yanno, it makes me want to cry because this guy swinging on you is old, and I felt like I cost his career because of an accident. This is all a mistake. You under, you understand? Like, I feel bad for him. When I found out someone did that to him in the orange groves, yanno like, it hurt me more than it hurt him. When they told me that he resigned, I cried. Because, this is just something, yanno, this is just something, I guess like he said, yanno? He had the right to do whatever he was doin, he was investigating me. But um, my tears ain't a sign of guilt. I actually have it in my heart to, to understand as a human being. I know you guy's interview people every day. But I come to the conclusion and realized that maybe I made a mistake. I shoulda complied more with him. I shoulda sat in the chair, I should've, I should've listened more, I should've yanno, expressed myself more kindly. Um, I wasn't cursing, I only cursed at him when, yanno, I felt I, I was being violated, I was hurt, I was injured, I felt pain during that moment. So, yanno, um, upon laying there in my cuffs I did state, call him a PUS, but that was wrong of me, you know? At the end of the day, I didn't mean to cause no one their job. And at the end of the day, in my heart, I was just really wishing he would let me go. I could sit back in that car, go to Publix and go home, that's it. This is all a mistake. I'm not trying to make up a lie about it. And whatever punches and elbows and all this stuff to the head that I received, it could've been them restraining me where their hands and their body. Yanno? Cause you can make contact with the victim easily if he's laying there on the floor, um, anything can feel like a punch.

ORR Mhm (yes).

CORDERO You know? You pull someone's arm behind em, the other guy's tryin to put his hand on your shoulder to hold you down, he might just slip off of that shoulder, hit you here. Anything can happen. But what happened to me was so fast that I could barely recollect myself. Cause I'm traumatized. Um, unfortunately you know, I learned my lesson. Sit your car next time. You know? And I'm not here to fight the officer, I'm not here to, to prosecute him. To go to the deep, deepest extent and say, he beat me up real bad. Cause they didn't beat me up that bad. Well, I believe what they were doing was to restrain me so they can get my arm because they believe I could hear them

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yelling, he's got a gun. And believe me, if I was a officer and I believed that someone had a gun, I would do anything it took, anything, in order to get those arms behind the guy. And I believe that's what they did.

RUSSELL So do you think, because.....

CORDERO I believe my injuries....

RUSSELL ....you're saying they're behind you. So do you think that when you, when you initially said, it was a punch or it was an elbow, now we do know there was one elbow....

CORDERO I'm laying on my stomach, you gotta remember, I can't really see.

RUSSELL ....so he does admit to one elbow. But the other things that you say you thought were punches or elbows, could they have been, cause there's two....

CORDERO They could've been slides.

RUSSELL ....there's two grown men on top of you....

CORDERO They could've been slides. Yeah there's two grown men.

RUSSELL ....trying to wrestle you to get your arms. Could it have been a shoulder, could it have been....

CORDERO Yeah because, the kick...

RUSSELL ...could it have been their equipment on their belt.

CORDERO It could have been anything.

RUSSELL Or could it have been something....

CORDERO Yeah.

RUSSELL ....and not be punches....

CORDERO Cause I did notice when Worley, when I said he kicked me, it wasn't really like a hard kick, maybe he was trying to put his foot on me and restrain me. I'm not accusing them of beating me up. I'm just saying, I, I had the right exactly what happened on that report. And I did specify at one point, that yanno, it was a very light, just put h is foot on me. Whether he was doin it intentionally, treating me, at that moment I felt like, yanno, I, I can't tell you that they beat the crap out of me. I believe, I believe that they were doing their job and they were doing anything they could do to, to get my hands behind my back.

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FULCHER Ok.

CORDERO Yeah, yeah.

FULCHER So, and, and you talked about yanno, he's going for his gun or waistband, or....

CORDERO Yeah, they were scared, they thought I had a gun.

FULCHER ...yanno, just to, just to give you a little insight on that. I worked a case recently.

CORDERO (Inaudible, laughs).

FULCHER Where they asked a guy to get out of the car, he stepped out of the car and immediately pulled a gun and started shooting at the officers.

CORDERO See? That's, yeah. That's.

FULCHER And so, that's the kind of stuff that, that these, that the officers....

CORDERO Perception.

FULCHER ....have to deal with so have to be on guard.

CORDERO No, I understand that.

FULCHER So, um, and is there anything else that, y'all have anything?

ORR I don't have anything.

CORDERO Yeah, I just, I'm, I'm sorry we're sittin here doin all this, wasting taxpayer dollars.

RUSSELL It's out, it's our job. I mean.

ORR No, it's our job. When people make allegations, we want to fully investigate them. It's not....

CORDERO My allegations....

ORR ....it's not a waste of our time and I hope it was not a waste of your time.

CORDERO And please forgive me if I said anything out the ordinary.

ORR You didn't.

CORDERO Uh, you do have to remember, um, I'm laying on my stomach with one cheek to the grass, spread flat out like a pancake. I, my visions not that good at that moment. I just received an elbow to the head. So anything they're doing to me could feel like a punch or kick. I could be wrong, I could be right. But at the end of the day, I'm not here to prosecute anybody or start any trouble. I'm just here to talk the truth.

ORR And we didn't call you down because we thought you were to cause any trouble ....

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CORDERO	Yeah, yeah, yeah.
ORR	....Detective Fulcher was instructed to do a thorough investigation. And that's why we had to have you come down.
CORDERO	I even, just so you know, I had an attorney, her name's Sarah Jones with the Lake Wales, um, she's from Lake Wales. And she was kinda upsetting me. Cause I told her something and she didn't agree with me. But I kinda told her, I was like, yanno, the only time I heard from you is when you called me to see if they settled with me. She was interested in me suing and getting a settlement. Yanno what I told her? I don't want the money.
ORR	It's not about that.
CORDERO	It's not about right now, it's about, it's about me beating this charge.
ORR	Right.
FULCHER	I think that uh....
CORDERO	Second of all, I fired her. Because this, I don't want nothing from you guys. What I really want is that officer to have peace in his life and I believe this was an accident.
FULCHER	I believe, yanno, Lake Wales is getting body cameras now.
CORDERO	Yeah.
FULCHER	You know, those....
CORDERO	I'm not in it to sue no one.
FULCHER	...those will make it a little bit more clear about what happened. You know?
CORDERO	And that, that would've been the ideal um, situation if we had those cameras. But, we can't get mad. I mean, you know how expensive it is to maintain those things on a iCloud per year? It's like \$15 to \$20 thousand. So I'm pretty aware about that.
ORR	No, it's way more than that!
CORDERO	Way more than that. Just the iCloud itself. Per camera.
ORR	Oh, oh the iCloud, not.
CORDERO	Not, the camera, just to store.
FULCHER	So, is ah, is everything you told today the truth to the best of your knowledge?
CORDERO	Yeah.

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FULCHER (Inaudible, Cordero talking over)

CORDERO May, may, may, may I read....

ORR That's not a, that's not a trick question. So you know.

FULCHER From what you remember.

CORDERO I just want to rephrase, I just want to rephrase. I just want to rephrase. Ok? Whatever might've been a punch or kick, could've been them doing their job, it coulda felt like it, like I said, my face was facing the grass like this, I was spread out like a pancake. I'm not accusing anybody of nothing. I would like to leave today and go enjoy the rest of my life. And um, yanno, I, I'm not here to lie and make up fibs.

FULCHER Ok.

CORDERO I'm jus, I'm, I'm glad we all getting along in here. Thank you.

FULCHER This gonna conclude this interview. Uh, the time now is 10:16 AM

TRANSCRIBED:

March 16, 2021  
Lisa Tomberlin, BCI  
4 Hours and 25 Minutes

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KATHY MACCHIONE LEGGETT, LMHC  
 MEDIATION & COUNSELING CONSULTANTS, INC.  
 FLORIDA SUPREME COURT CERTIFIED CIRCUIT CIVIL, FAMILY AND DEPENDENCY LAW MEDIATOR  
 FLORIDA QUALIFIED ARBITRATOR  
 PARENTING COORDINATOR – SOCIAL INVESTIGATOR

601 WEST CENTRAL AVENUE  
 WINTER HAVEN, FLORIDA 33880

OFFICE (863) 207-4402  
 KATHY@MCCMEDIATION.COM

March 18, 2021

Detective Fulcher  
 Polk County Sheriff Department  
 Via: [efulcher@polksheriff.org](mailto:efulcher@polksheriff.org)

RE: DAVID COLT BLACK – DOB: 4-8-1997

Dear Detective Fulcher:

Officer David Colt Black has been seen in my office on March 2, 2021 and March 16, 2021, for follow-up treatment after he received his initial treatment sessions with Brad Beatty, LCSW.

Officer Black presented for follow-up having had first seen Mr. Beatty for symptoms related to Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) (309.81) due to work related events that have exposed him to actual or threatened death and/or serious injury. The work-related event which injured Officer Black occurred on April 16, 2018, after he was attacked by civilian. His injuries included but were not limited to a concussion, bruises and multiple lacerations over his entire body, a bite mark on his wrist and a bite mark on his right leg. His injuries were severe enough to cause an overnight in hospital. He returned to work approximately one month later.

After sustaining these injuries, Officer Black reported he suffered from Post Traumatic Stress symptoms including but not limited to a change of appetite, an inability to sleep through the night, withdrawing from others, depressed mood, mood swings, nightmares, flashbacks, and a decline in his family and work relationships.

On February 5, 2020, he was involved in traffic stop that resulted in the civilian driver exiting his vehicle and approaching the patrol car. Officer Black reports he perceived the driver charging toward him and pulled his taser from its holster. The taser was never discharged. The civilian driver was aggressively resisting arrest and Officer Black struck him one time with his elbow to maintain compliance after his partner stated he saw the driver reaching for his waistband. Officer Black reports he and his partner were then able to handcuff the driver.

In his arrest report, Officer Black stated that the distance he perceived between him and the approaching driver of the vehicle to be approximately 5 feet. When he later watched the video of this arrest, the actual distance was between 15 and 20 feet. Upon realizing the error in his perception, Officer Black made the decision to seek professional treatment for his previous traumatic injuries.

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<p>The brain's number one function is our survival. When you see, hear, touch, or taste something, that sensory information first heads to the thalamus, which acts as your brain's relay station. The thalamus then relays that information to the neocortex (the "thinking brain"). From there, it is sent to the amygdala (the "emotional brain"-and the interpreter of threat) which produces the appropriate emotional response.</p> <p>However, when faced with a threatening situation, the thalamus sends sensory information to both the amygdala and the neocortex. If the amygdala senses danger, it makes a split-second decision to initiate the fight-or-flight response <u>before</u> the neocortex has time to overrule it.</p> <p>This cascade of events triggers the release of stress hormones, including the hormones epinephrine (also known as adrenaline) and cortisol. These hormones prepare you body to flee or flight by increasing your heart rate, elevating your blood pressure, and boosting your energy levels, among other things.</p> <p>People with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), for example, show greater amygdala activation and therefore, increased emotional responding including fear and anxiety responses. Even without a diagnosis of PTSD or anxiety disorder, chronic stress can lead to an overactive fear and anxiety circuit in your brain, which also reduces the functioning of other areas of the brain that help with inhibition of fear, such as the hippocampus and medial prefrontal cortex.</p> <p>In a recent preliminary study, David Shucard and Janet L. Shucard, "Electrophysiological and Neuroimaging Studies of Cognitive Control: Introduction to Special Issue," <i>International Journal of Psychophysiology</i> 87 (2013): 215-216, <a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ijpsycho.2013.03.009">http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ijpsycho.2013.03.009</a>, the measures of brain function were used to determine the effects of PTSD on police decision making. They recorded electroencephalography (EEG) while police officers were presented with a decision-making situation. Then compared the decision-making abilities of those officers having higher levels of PTSD with those that have low or no PTSD levels. Results suggested that officers who have higher levels of PTSD had greater brain activation in areas related to rapid decision making. This greater brain activation often resulted in disruptions in rapid decision making by an officer who has PTSD, affecting the brain system due to heightened arousal to threats, inability to screen out interfering information, or the inability to keep attention.</p> <p>The altered perception Officer Black experienced during this traffic stop in February 2021, where he was aggressively approached by the driver of the stopped vehicle, was in direct response to his brain's hyper-activated state. This hyper-activated state was his brain's direct response to the previous life-threatening incident in 2018 and was not in any way an act of negligence on his part.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p><i>Kathy Macchione Leggett</i> -virtually signed</p> <p>Kathy Macchione Leggett, LMHC</p> <p>/s</p>			
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