



Dayton Fraternal Order of Police

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On Thursday September 30, 2021, two Dayton Police Officers were conducting a narcotics investigation in the Dayton View Neighborhood. These officers are assigned to a specialized unit tasked with reducing violent crime and narcotics throughout West Dayton. At the intersection of West Grand Avenue and Ferguson Avenue, the officers made a lawful traffic stop on a vehicle operated by Mr. Clifford Owensby, who was observed, by narcotic detectives, leaving the residence where suspected narcotic transaction were being conducted.

Due to the crime trends in the area, coupled with Mr. Owensby's criminal history, which included arrest for possession of guns and narcotics, a police narcotic K-9 unit was called to the scene. The officers informed Mr. Owensby that he would need to exit the vehicle, in accordance with Dayton Police Department General Orders, during a K-9 sniff of the vehicle. Mr. Owensby was asked numerous times to comply with the officer's lawful orders to exit the vehicle. Mr. Owensby verbally resisted, stating that he was not getting out of the vehicle. Mr. Owensby advised the officers that he is a paraplegic and was unable to get out of the vehicle. The officers asked Mr. Owensby how he got into the vehicle and Mr. Owensby informed them he needed help. The officers informed Mr. Owensby they would assist him in exiting the vehicle. Mr. Owensby continued to be verbally noncompliant, and he clearly indicated that he was not going to cooperate with the officers. The officers plainly outlined to Mr. Owensby that if he did not comply with their lawful orders, he would be physically removed from the vehicle. The officers transitioned from asking Mr. Owensby to cooperate to telling him he needed to cooperate with the traffic stop. Even after these clear warnings were given, Mr. Owensby began to physically resist by slapping the officer's hand away from his seatbelt and gripping the steering wheel tightly. Based on Mr. Owensby actions and his failure to comply with lawful orders, he was forcibly removed from the vehicle. Once removed from the vehicle, Mr. Owensby was placed on the ground where he continued to be physically noncompliant. Mr. Owensby was placed in handcuffs before being removed to a patrol vehicle. The officers involved in the traffic stop used the least amount of force to remove Mr. Owensby from the vehicle.

The officers followed the law, their training, and departmental policies and procedures. Sometimes the arrest of noncompliant individuals is not pretty, but is a necessary part of law enforcement to maintain public safety, which is one of the fundamental ideologies of our society.

Respectfully,

Jerome A. Dix

President Dayton Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #44

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