

Questions for Preliminary Online Meeting

Scheduled for Friday, 26 January 2024
with Hannah Godwin, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney
Criminal Division, Violent Crimes Unit (Seattle)

Superior Court of the State of Washington for King County
State of Washington vs Deangelo Majed Arnett

Cause No.: 22-1-03537-1 SEA
Seattle Police Department No.: 2022-002037

1. **Revision of Intake Officer's Statement** - The crime took place on December 30, 2021. The report was conducted over the phone several days later. As the intake officer was not present at the scene, much of what he reported appears to have been of his own imagination. As a consequence, I wrote a revision of his statement and sent it to an email address provided me by the officer. The document is entitled "Victim's Rendering of Incident Written from the Point of View of an Intake Officer" (see attached). It was sent on January 12, 2022 shortly after the officer's report became available through a record's request. Have you scene it? I would like to discuss it briefly.
2. **Witnesses** - In addition to myself there are three potential witnesses to the crime and/or the defendant. To the best of my knowledge none of them were consulted during the formation of the proposed plea deal.
 - 2.1. **Alan Cruise** was the detective assigned to Case No. 2022-002037 and responsible for the report generated by the Seattle Police Department that led to the defendant's arrest, charge, and eventual arraignment. In his report Detective Cruise indicated that I may have pushed the defendant. Accordingly, I do not believe my being accused of pushing the defendant at the arraignment hearing was a coincidence. This said, I was not provided with the opportunity to address the matter, as the judge deemed the defendant attorney's statement out of order for the proceedings at hand. It would appear therefore that the detective's testimony would be most useful in order to clarify the matter. I was not the initiator of the ordeal, as was implied by the Defendant's attorney at the arraignment hearing.

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- 2.2. **Laurence Stusser** was provided as a witness in the aforementioned revision (see Item 1 above). Laurence Stusser was the owner of the shop at the time of the incident and present in the shop during the entirety of the incident. Several months ago I asked Mr. Stusser whether he had ever been consulted by either a prosecuting or defense attorney about the incident. He indicated that he had not. There is much to which Mr. Stusser can testify and he is a willing witness.
- 2.3. **Nick Goodsell** was upstairs in the building at the time of the incident and appeared at the scene before I left it. More importantly perhaps, it was through Nick Goodsell that we were able to identify my assailant already before Detective Cruise began his investigation. Although a reluctant witness, he has indicated some interest in testifying. Certainly he has taken an interest in the case.
3. **Previous Charge** - Are you aware that my defendant was previously charged with Assault in the 2nd Degree, but that he was never tried? Do you know the reason for this? I inquired, but was denied an explanation. (See attached Decline Notice for SPD General Offense Number: 21-092705)
4. **Additional Medical Complications** - Somewhat after the incident while I was still on crutches a fatty bulge appeared over my right groin. As it offered no pain I simply observed it. I thought it to be a harmless fat deposit of some sort. During a general medical check-up in August of 2022 my physician examined the bulge and recommended an ultrasound, whereupon it was discovered that I had developed a hernia. As the arraignment was in May of 2022, the discovery of the hernia and subsequent operation in October of 2022 were not included with the submitted medical evidence related to my injuries suffered from the incident. This said, the hernia repair and subsequent recovery were, at least, just as disruptive to my life as the bone fracture that was clearly a direct result from the attack on my person. Can the discovery and repair of the hernia be considered as evidence of further harm? If so, what must I do to provide the additional evidence? By the way, my left leg and ankle have still not fully recovered from the overall trauma of the December 30th incident. I have difficulty balancing on my left leg.
5. **Assault in the 2nd Degree** - What must be proven beyond a shadow of a doubt?
6. **Nature and Conduct of the Trial** - Through numerous requests for public records I have learned that: one, the defendant stands ready to lie in own defense no matter the trouble that it causes others; two, the defendant is a racist, and that is behavior toward me was likely racially motivated.
 - 6.1. What is the sequence of testimony.

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- 6.2. Will you go down the avenue of a hate crime that I requested at the outset of this judicial ordeal? If so, how will it proceed. If not, why not? (See attached table taken from a letter sent to the Prosecuting Attorney's Office dated June 8, 2022.)
- 6.3. **Bench or Jury Trial** - At whose discretion is it to decide?
7. **Sentencing** - If my assailant is found guilty of Assault in the 2nd Degree what punishment will you seek? Or, will the sentencing be handled by another attorney?
8. **Restitution** - Are you aware that I will be seeking restitution? At what point will the matter be brought to the attention of the presiding judge. Does it even matter in the establishment of a conviction.

Submitted by Rodney A. Stegemann
on Friday, January 26, 2024

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Records Section
Seattle Police Department
610 5th Avenue
PO Box 34986
Seattle, WA 98124-4986

Wednesday, January 12, 2022
Re: Victim Follow-Up

Victim's Rendering of Incident Written from the Point of View of an Intake Officer

Witness: Laurence Stusser
1024 Madison Street
Seattle, Washington 98104
Mobile: (206) 550-6591
Store: (206) 623-0849

First Provocation

On the listed date and time (see form), the victim stated to have been standing in a checkout line inside a small shop called Plaza Select Grocery Store off the corner of Boren Avenue and Madison Street, when an unidentified male of apparent West African racial origin entered the store and sought to pass the victim with physical insistence rather than verbal request. According to the victim there appeared to be sufficient room for his assailant to pass, but even if there were not, he felt that he was being pushed out of the way to make room for his assailant when a simple verbal request would have been sufficient to make additional room, if it were necessary. A brief oral exchange took place in which the assailant was told that he was "looking for trouble". Whereupon the assailant continued about his business and the victim remained in line waiting to be checked out.

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As the aisle in which the victim's assailant sought his item (it was later confirmed to be a can or bottle of beer by the store owner) was adjacent to the aisle in which the queue had formed, it was easy to overhear the victim's assailant ranting in vulgar language mixed with racial slurs including "nigger" and "white boy".

After obtaining his item, the victim's assailant stood behind the victim in silence. The victim remained calm and continued to look forward.

Second Provocation and Struggle

After many seconds, the item that the victim was carrying in his right hand was knocked to the floor from behind by the victim's assailant. When the victim turned around with good haste to address his assailant, this latter took two swings at the victim the last of which knocked the victim to the ground. As he was falling the victim struggled to maintain his consciousness, but when he tried to stand, found it difficult. Whereupon his assailant pushed the victim back to the ground while issuing racial epithets at him. Apparently satisfied that his victim was no longer a threat to him, the victim's assailant returned to the line.

As the victim tried to stand a second time, he realized that his foot had been badly injured such that he could not walk properly. He regained his position in line — this time behind and distant from his assailant. The owner-cashier of the shop served the victim's assailant, and this latter left the store looking over his shoulder as he departed. Whereupon the victim made his purchase and returned home where he discovered a badly bruised left cheek and an already very swollen and bruised left foot and ankle.

Nature of the Assault

The victim believes that the assault was that of a hate crime as there was no other apparent motivation for the two provocations and physical injury that resulted from the attack. The victim is unaware of having done anything to provoke his assailant's behavior other than protesting verbally for having been unnecessarily pushed during the first provocation, and turning around to address his assailant for having knocked the victim's item from his hand while both were standing in line facing the counter. The victim said or indicated nothing to provoke a racial exchange.

After his assailant left, the victim was able to obtain video and audio footage of the incident from the shop's surveillance system, as well as the customer receipt generated

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by the assailant's consummated purchase. According to the victim the shop owner is willing to testify on the victim's behalf.

Post-Incident Reporting

The victim was informed that he could send a copy of the store receipt and a photo of his assailant to spd8714@seattle.gov. The victim indicated that he was in contact with his physician and that a medical report would be forthcoming.

In addition, I would like to confirm my having sent a photographic image of my assailant as well as the aforementioned store receipt (debit card purchase) to the following email address

spd8714@seattle.gov

on January 3, 2022.

Sincerely,

Roddy A. Stegemann, A.B., M.A., M.A.
Founding Director
kiausau@me.com

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**SEATTLE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE - CRIMINAL DIVISION
PRIVILEGED INFORMATION – DO NOT DISCLOSE**

DECLINE NOTICE

Date: December 5, 2022

To: 8787 - JAKE L HOLMAN - B122B

cc: CrimeRecords@seattle.gov

From: Natalie Walton-Anderson, Assistant City Attorney
Ph. 206-684-7757, Fax 684-4648 / Natalie.Walton-Anderson@seattle.gov

Suspect: **RCW 10.97.080**

SPD General Offense Number: 21-092705

Decline

Office Policy

02A

Summary of Victims and Reported Parties by Sex and Race

Report No.	Date	Day	Time	Victim			Reported Party			Reporting Party or Witness			Nature of Reported Incident
				Sex	Race	Name	Sex	Race	Name	Sex	Race	Name	
2020-209271	July 9, 2020	Thursday	17:56				M	AI	M James	M	B	D M Arnett	Malicious Mischief
2020-223644	July 26, 2020	Monday	23:00	M	W	D Jahraus	M	A/NH	M Richard	M	B	D M Arnett	D M Arnett reports incident while employed as service attendant at gas station.
2020-296285	October 19, 2020	Monday	23:59	M	U	Owner of stolen vehicle	M	U	V West	M	B	D M Arnett	D M Arnett testifies as employee of gas station and witness to reported parties behavior – car theft.
2020-316712	November 10, 2020	Tuesday	17:57			Owner of gas station.	M	B	Unknown	M	B	D M Arnett	Reports a theft committed by a black male with light complexion.
2021-015094	January 18, 2021	Monday	22:48	M	W	Transient person	M	B	D M Arnett	M	U	A Grund	D M Arnett was reported assaulting a transient White male.
2021-053223	March 4, 2021	Thursday	0:04	M	W/NH	A. Robinson	M	B	D M Arnett			Victim	Noise. D M Arnett was accused of assault by a drunk.
2021-092705	April 17, 2021	Saturday	2:24	M	U/NH	O. Abur-Assaf	M	B	D M Arnett				Apparently D M Arnett used BB gun to physically assault the victims. One of the victims received a laceration to the face.
2021-142408	June 9, 2021	Wednesday	7:00				F	W/NH	S Smith	F	W/NH	S Miano	D M Arnett responds to noise by Smith with threat of brutality
2021-318383	December 2, 2021	Thursday	13:27	M	W/NH	J. Thompson	M	B	D M Arnett			Victim	Noise. D M Arnett threatened to kill dog. Though not a tenant D M Arnett accused of yelling at tenants by manager.
2022-002037	December 30, 2021	Thursday	16:30	M	W	R. Stegemann	M	B	D M Arnett			Victim	2nd Degree Assault
2022-028808	February 3, 2022	Thursday	15:37	M	A/NH	J Singh	M	B	D M Arnett			Victim and Supervisor	D M Arnett confronts victim, knock cell phone from victim's hand, and pushes him.
2022-098660	April 20, 2022	Wednesday	13:03	M	W/H	B M Zarco-Navarro	M	B	D M Arnett	F	W/H	Matias-Martinez	Arnett's vehicle does not belong to Arnett and has expired tabs. Arnett became frustrated, started yelling, flipped a chair, called a staff member a bitch. Later threatened violence. Arnett's vehicle registered in another's name.