



Marana Police Department

Detail Incident Report for 2508-0654

Incident: 2508-0654

Nature: ASSIST OA

Location: Sahuarita PD Beat 1

Offense Codes: 6001

Received By: Olivito,Tony

How Received: Telephone

Agency: MPD

Responding Officers: Kesterson,Debra Jenkins,Vincent Shafe,John Sewell,Ira Huerta,Renee Clifford,Bradle Banghart,Tiffin

Responsible Officers: Jenkins,Vincent

Disposition: Active & assigned 08/08/25

When Reported: 15:43:13 08/07/25

Occurred Between: 15:42:20 08/07/25 and 15:42:20 08/07/25

Assigned To:

Detail: MAR

Date Assigned: **/**/**

Status:

Status Date: **/**/**

Due Date: **/**/**

NOTICE:

PRIVATE OR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION, SUCH AS DATE OF BIRTH, SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER AND HOME ADDRESS, HAS BEEN REDACTED PURSUANT TO ARIZONA LAW.

NARRATIVE:

2***** Narrative #426

BWC- Yes

Field Notes Included

Connect-up Case: Sahuarita PD #S25080170, Sahuarita FD Run# 2516853

On 08/07/2025 at approximately 15:43, I responded to a call out to Sahuarita Police Department, located at ***** request. Marana Police Department had been contacted by Sahuarita PD requesting assistance to investigate a possible assault against their police chief, identified as John Noland (SPD Case# S25080170). Initial information provided by SPD advised of an altercation that occurred in the lobby of the police department between SPD command staff and a subject identified as James Springer. James was also known as "James Freeman" and was a self-employed journalist and first amendment auditor. SPD requested MPD respond to investigate the incident due to their agency command staff being involved.

Upon arrival at SPD, myself, the MPD CIU supervisors and other detectives were provided a field briefing on the incident from Lt. John Carlson. During the briefing, I obtained the following information. Earlier that morning at approximately 09:00, a closed door deposition was scheduled to take place within the SPD conference room. Present at the deposition was the town attorney, identified as James Jellison, the court reporter, identified as Malissa Gonsalves, the court videographer, identified as Mark Gonsalves, and the involved legal parties, identified as Mr. and Mrs. Aikens. The deposition was related to a current lawsuit between the Aikens and the Town of Sahuarita.

The deposition was closed to outside parties aside from those listed and was in the secured portion of the police conference room which has a secured (key card access) door to the lobby. In addition to the listed attendees to the deposition, the Aikens had also invited John Boring to be present in the lobby to video record their interactions with the Sahuarita staff. John Boring was also identified as a self-employed journalist and first amendment auditor. With John were additional auditors and associates. The group was not allowed to be in the conference room during the deposition but was permitted to remain on the premises and within the public lobby of the SPD during the proceedings. Per Lt. Carlson, there have been frequent interactions between SPD and the group of first amendment auditors which include Boring and Springer.

During the first half of the deposition proceedings, no issues were reported. During the afternoon the command staff was in a meeting when they were approached by one of their records specialists, identified as Julie Rosalez, who informed them that Mr. Jellison needed police help in the lobby. The command staff immediately went into the lobby from the main hall and found a dispute occurring at the entrance to the conference room door between Springer and the town attorney. It was reported the dispute was over Springer attempting to force his way into the conference room to record the deposition.

As the command staff members entered the lobby, Chief Noland and other staff physically engaged Springer. Springer was taken to the ground by Chief Noland and informed he was under arrest for assault. Springer was reported to be passively resistant but was taken into custody. Per Lt. Carlson, the incident was recorded on body worn camera (BWC), which was later provided for review.

During my review of the provided BWC which was identified as coming from Lt. Mike Falquez, I observed officers enter the lobby and Springer is observed being taken to the ground by Chief Noland with another officer, later identified as Cmdr. Renee Carlson (no relation to Lt. Carlson), assisting in detaining him. Due to the cluster of people and initial start of the BWC video, I was unable to observe the actions that lead to Springer being taken to the ground by Chief

Noland. Lt. Falquez also comes up to assist with detaining Springer and places his right hand into a handcuff. Springer is up against the wall and is moved into a prone position on the floor. Once on the floor Cmdr. Carlson and Lt. Falquez place Springer into handcuffs, while Chief Noland restrains Springer's legs.

During the initial take down, I was able to hear Chief Noland inform Springer he was under arrest with directions being given to stop resisting. Springer and the other auditors within the lobby continue to yell at the officers as they take him into custody, but do not interfere with the arrest. Springer complains about the officers pulling him around, but complies and is taken into custody with minimal resistance. Springer is stood up and his handcuffs are re-adjusted before he is removed from the lobby.

Chief Noland and the other officers begin to return to their duties while Springer is escorted to the elevator and moved to the lower level holding cells. Per Lt. Carlson, he was later advised by the Chief that the arrest was for ARS 13-1203 Assault. Communication between Springer and the escorting officers is generally observed as calm, with Springer complying with directions, while also making various legal requests. The BWC ends once Springer is placed into holding.

Following my review of the BWC, I next reviewed CCTV video from the lobby security camera. Due to the location of the camera, the hallway in which the incident occurred is not fully visible. The video confirmed the movement of staff in and out into the lobby and the people within the lobby reacting to the incident. However, the video itself did not record the incident as the conference room was outside of the visible recording frame. I was later provided with the full days recording from the lobby for reference to the general activity which took place before, during and after the incident. No other relevant information was observed.

Following the field briefing, I next assigned MPD detectives to conduct various interviews with the involved persons. During the subsequent interviews, I first interviewed James Springer. Prior to my interview with Springer he was being medically evaluated by Sahuarita FD paramedics due to a reported injury to his right wrist from the incident. Field photos were taken by SPD CSU during this time. Following the medical evaluation paramedics advised Springer would be transported to the Sahuarita Northwest Hospital (Room# 15) for further examination. Prior to the transport, I was able to interview Springer. From our initial interview, I obtained the following information.

- Springer was advised of his Miranda Rights and stated he wanted to have his

attorney present for any questions about his involvement in the incident.

- Springer identified his attorney as Blair Dunn.
- Springer stated he still wanted to speak to me in order to report an assault on him by Chief Noland.

It should be noted due to Springer stating he wished to speak to me about his assault report and not his involvement in the altercation, he was advised that any follow-up questions I had regarding his statement would be pre-referenced to his invocation of rights to confirm he was willing to provide that specific information with the knowledge of his right to not answer, or wait for his attorney to be present. The interview was also video and audio recorded for reference. After confirming these specifics with Springer, he confirmed he was willing to provide me with the following information regarding the incident as it pertained to his assault report.

- Springer confirmed he goes by James Freeman.
- Springer advised he is a pacifist and has been of that belief and practice for 2-3 years.
- Springer confirmed he is a journalist and does stories with a focus on government officials.
- During a job he was working today at Sahuarita PD, the police chief, who he identified as Chief John Noland, came in and suddenly attacked him.
- Springer advised he never harmed anyone or made any physical threats towards any persons during his time at the facility.
- When he was attacked by Chief Noland he could see Noland had hate in his eyes and was acting out of anger.
- Springer felt the attack was a physical retaliation against him for the stories and reports he had done against the chief's abuse of his authority.
- Springer stated he believed Chief Noland had malicious intent and engaged him physically because he was looking for an excuse to retaliate against him.
- Springer advised Chief Noland needed to be arrested or removed from office because of his actions.

Review interview recording for further details.

Following my conversation with Springer I advised him of the pending investigative process and informed him I would meet with him again once his medical evaluation was completed. It should be noted Officer Daniels #S350 with SPD was assigned as Springer's escorting detention officer pending the outcome of the investigation.

Following my interview with Springer, I again met with detective and supervisors from the MPD CIU unit. I first spoke with Det. Clifford who interviewed the records specialist, Julie Rosalez. From her interview, the following information

was obtained. Julie was working in the office when she received a call about a report of a trespass call on the property. Believing it was someone using the outside lobby intercom to contact police, she went out to the front door to verify if someone needed an officer.

During that process, Julie was contacted by attorney Jellison who requested help because Springer was at the entrance to the conference room and would not let the attorney close the door. Julie reported Springer had his foot in the door and despite being told the room was a secure area, he would not remove it. Julie then went to the chief's conference room and asked the command staff for help. After getting help, she returned to the records department. Review Detective Clifford's supplement for further details.

After speaking with Det. Clifford, I next spoke with Det. Sgt. Sewell who interviewed the court videographer, Mark Gonsalves. From his interview the following information was obtained. Mark confirmed working in the conference room for the deposition period in the morning. After breaking for lunch they returned to the room just before 2pm to resume the deposition. While working on the computer he heard a male outside telling the attorney to move aside to let him in. Mark could not see who was trying to get past the attorney, but the male subject was told he could not come in.

Mark continued to work on his computer while they waited. Attorney Jellison later requested security be called for assistance. Mark later heard a commotion outside the door but did not see what was happening as the door was closed. The attorney later came back into the room and the deposition continued. Mark advised the video recording for the courtroom was not active during their break and did not have any data from the incident. Review Det. Sgt. Sewell's supplement for further details.

After speaking with Det. Sgt. Sewell, I next spoke with Det. Sgt. Huerta who interviewed the court reporter, identified as Malissa Gonsalves. From her interview the following information was obtained. Malissa confirmed the events of the deposition and breaking for lunch around 1:30pm. After returning to the conference room, she also observed the attorney engaged in a verbal altercation with Springer who was saying he had a right to enter the room. The attorney later asked her to call 911 for assistance (trespass call previously mentioned) as Springer continued to argue with the attorney. Malissa confirmed hearing a commotion in the hallway outside afterwards but also could not see what happened as the conference room door was closed. Following the commotion, the attorney and other legal parties entered the room and the deposition continued. Review Det. Sgt. Huerta's supplement for further details.

After speaking with Det. Sgt. Huerta, I next spoke with Det. Banghart who interviewed Cmdr. Renee Carlson. From her interview the following information was obtained. Renee was attending the staff meeting with the other commanders when Julie came in and told them Jellison needed assistance. Renee saw Julie appeared distressed over what was happening. When she got to the conference room, Renee saw Jellison was engaged in a verbal dispute with Springer. Renee pushed the attorney back so she could get between him and Springer. Renee also observed Chief Nolan came out to help.

During this process, Renee observed Chief Nolan suddenly taking Springer into custody. While Nolan was trying to get him detained, she observed one of Springers hands reaching for the Chief's belt. She could see him grabbing at something and thought Springer may have been grabbing at the Chief's firearm. Renee confirmed she did not actually see Springer grab the gun but felt it was possible which was why she quickly engaged with physically taking Springer into custody. Renee grabbed Springer's arm as he was resisting and helped prone him out onto the ground. Renee confirmed hearing the Chief tell Springer he was under arrest.

Once Springer was proned on the ground, she grabbed his hand to help get him into handcuffs. Springer yelled he was not resisting and complained about his shoulder hurting. Springer later complied with her commands and was taken into custody without further incident. Once Springer was in custody, she noticed Lt. Heath was also present and she directed him to return to the conference room since he was involved in the current deposition and did not want him to be involved in the incident. Renee did not report observing any physical fighting by Springer against the Chief or other involved officers, to include herself. Review Det. Banghart's supplement for further details.

After speaking with Det. Banghart, I next spoke with Det. Shafe who interviewed Lt. Eric Heath. From his interview the following information was obtained. Eric confirmed he was also attending the staff meeting when Julie reported Jellison needed help. Eric went to the left access door (leads into the back) to the conference room and could see the attorney and court reporter in the room when he entered. Eric then observed Springer and the Chief go to the ground, while Mr. Aiken was filming. Eric directed Mr. Aiken to move back while he came out to assist Lt. Falquez place Springer into handcuffs.

Eric also confirmed hearing the Chief tell Springer he was under arrest while they were trying to get him into handcuffs. Springer kept stating he was not resisting. Eric reported the Chief was restraining Springer's legs and Springer was yelling at him to get off of his legs. Once Springer was in handcuffs, he assisted in helping him stand up off the floor. Eric said he was then directed

by Carlson to go leave and separate from the incident. Eric did not report observing any physical fighting by Springer against the Chief or other involved officers, to include herself. Review Det. Shafe's supplement for further details.

After speaking with Det. Shafe, I next spoke with Det. Kesterson who interviewed Town Attorney James Jellison. From his interview, the following information was obtained. Jellison confirmed the details of the deposition and those authorized to attend. Following their lunch break and as they were preparing to resume at approximately 2:30pm, Springer came to the door and was trying to come in. Jellison told Springer multiple times he was not allowed to come into the conference room.

Despite being told this, Jellison stated Springer continued to encroach into the doors threshold and would not back away. During this time, Julie comes out into the lobby and Jellison asks for her to get help from officers. A short time later the Chief along with other staff members come out to address Springer. During their intervention, Jellison hears the Chief give commands to Springer, but cannot recall exactly what was said. Jellison advises he was directed back into the conference room and did not witness anything further. They later continued with the deposition following the incident. The court staff in the conference room were directed to not speak about the incident due to possible follow-up statement interviews. Review Det. Kesterson's supplement for further details.

After speaking with Det. Kesterson, I again met with Det. Clifford who conducted another interview during my briefing with the other detectives. Det. Clifford's second interview was with Lt. Mike Falquez, who also provided the BWC data previously documented. From his interview, the following information was obtained. Mike confirmed his response to the lobby from the staff meeting after Julie informed them Jellison was asking for help. As he came out into the lobby, he observed the Chief was attempting to restrain Springer.

Mike stated he came up to Springer and assisted in proneing him out onto the ground. Mike advised Springer was being passively resistant, but was not physically fighting them. Mike confirmed hearing the chief say Springer was under arrest. Mike was able to assist with getting Springer into handcuffs and then sitting him up. Mike confirmed he later escorted Springer into the holding cells downstairs. Mike did not observe what occurred prior to his entry into the lobby or if there was a physical altercation between the Chief and Springer. Mike did not report observing any physical fighting by Springer against the Chief or other involved officers, to include himself during his involvement. Review Det. Clifford's supplement for further details.

After speaking with Detective Clifford, I again met with Det. Kesterson who interviewed Chief John Noland while I was being briefed by the other detectives. From her interview with Chief Noland, the following information was obtained. Noland stated he was aware Springer and the other auditors were possibly going to be at the building throughout the day during the deposition. Noland also advised he informed Jellison about this. Noland confirmed during the staff meeting, Julie came in and advised them Jellison was asking for help.

When Noland entered the lobby he stated he observed Springer blocking the doorway to the conference room. Noland stated Springer was using one hand against the door and the other in front of him to prevent the door from being closed by Jellison. Noland stated he approached Springer who would not move and was resisting. Noland then took him to the ground using a collar tie move (cupped the back of Springers neck to pull his body away from the door in a downward movement).

Noland stated he took Springer to the ground because he was resisting arrest. Noland confirmed telling Springer he was under arrest, and stated the charge was for assault against him. Noland did not advise of any other charges. Once Springer was prone on the ground, Noland moved to put weight on his legs while he was placed into handcuffs. While taking Springer to the ground Noland advised Springer contacted his gun holster and he was concerned he was possibly reaching for his weapon. Noland confirmed he did not see Springer actually reach for his weapon and never had to take any action regarding that concern.

While restraining his legs, Noland advised his testicles were hit by Springers feet which he was moving up and down. Noland stated he was not injured from the incident. Once Springer was removed from the lobby, Noland advised he later advised the town manager of the incident and later reviewed the previously mentioned BWC video prior to his interview. Noland confirmed he did not report any physical fighting by Springer against himself or the other involved officers during the incident aside from resisting. See Det. Kesterson's Supplement for further details.

Following my review of the statements provided during the interviews as well as the video evidence of the incident, I was unable to develop probable cause for assault charges against a peace officer. This was based on no direct observations by any of the witnesses of an intentional assault by Springer against any of the involved officers or Chief Noland. None of the involved parties reported any action by Springer showing he intentionally or knowingly caused injury to them during the encounter. Additionally, no actions were reported to have been observed from Springer which would be interpreted as a

direct provocation to to assault or place a reasonable person in apprehension of an imminent physical assault. A review of all available CCTV and BWC data from the incident and subsequent detention of Springer also did not provide supporting evidence of the same.

With regards to the actions of Springer and his associates attempting to enter the secure conference room which lead up to the request for police assistance, it was later determined that part of the incident and investigation was the responsibility of the Sahuarita Police Department and did not fall within the purview of the requested aggravated assault investigation.

Following the conclusion of the listed interviews, I next met with Chief Noland and briefed him of my findings. I informed him of the details obtained from the investigation, and the lack of supporting evidence to establish probable cause for the reported offense. I also advised him of the related findings to their initial response for requested assistance by Attorney Jellison, and informed him any enforcement action regarding that incident would need to be addressed by their assigned case officer.

During our conversation, Chief Noland explained he disagreed with the assault findings and discussed his determination related to the investigation. However, he confirmed the investigation was the responsibility of the MPD CIU. Prior to ending our conversation, I advised Chief Noland I would also be reviewing the case with the county attorneys office as part of the investigative process. I later provided Chief Noland with the case number and my contact information. I advised Chief Noland he could contact me with any future questions, and I would inform him of the review process as it progressed.

Following my meeting with Chief Noland, I again met with James Springer. It should be noted James had completed his medical examination at Sahuarita Hospital and had returned to the station. Medical examination later confirmed no fracture to his right wrist. Prior to conducting my follow-up conversation with James, I again confirmed his invocation of his rights and addressed any follow-up questions specifically to obtaining details of any witnesses he wished to provide as well as any medical findings.

During our conversation, I briefed James on my investigation findings and informed him I would not be charging him for any offense related to the peace officer assault investigation. I did inform James that any charges related to the investigation of his actions with attorney Jellison and trying to enter the secured conference room would fall to the responsibility of the SPD case officer. It should be noted James had several questions regarding the jurisdictional process which were explained.

I next advised James of my intent to follow-up on obtaining his injury report from the hospital and trying to speak with witnesses from his auditing group as it related to his assault report. James thanked me for the information and advised he intended to first speak with his attorney before providing any co-workers names, or signing any medical release for me to obtain the medical examination records. James stated he desired for change by removing Chief Noland from his position where he abuses his authority, but did not immediately desire criminal prosecution.

I later provided James with the case number and my contact information. I requested he recontact me once he spoke to his attorney or if a meeting was desired so I could continue my follow-up investigation. James was also advised of the intended case review with the county attorneys office as part of the investigation. Following my conversation with James, I cleared the location.

A few minutes after completing the initial investigation, I was advised that the video recorded by the auditor group had been posted online. I was able to locate and review the video which began recording prior to the reported assault incident and included the beginning of the verbal confrontation between Jellison and Springer at the conference room entrance. The video was being recorded by another auditor, believed to be John Boring, from within the previously mentioned hallway facing toward the conference room entrance.

During my review of the video, I observed Springer at the entrance to the conference room with him holding the door open using his foot and body, but remaining outside of the threshold. Springer is arguing with Jellison who is within the doors threshold informing Springer he is not allowed into the room as it is in use for the deposition and is part of the secured facility. The verbal argument between the two is calm, with Springer insisting entrance and Jellison telling him he needs to stay out.

At one point as Mrs. Aikens is being brought in to the room by Mr. Aikens, Springer attempts to follow past the threshold to enter the room. However, he is prevented by Jellison who again tells him he is not allowed in. Insults and various commentaries are made by the auditor group but the dispute remains only verbal. Despite the additional explanations from Jellison, Springer continues to insist on entry to set up a camera though he is informed of the court video arrangements already in place. Julie is later observed entering the lobby and walking towards the front door when she is hailed by Jellison asking her to get help.

Julie goes down the hallway and informs Springer he needs to step away as the

conference room is part of the secured facility. Julie attempts to shut the door but is prevented by Springer who stays in his position against the door preventing it from being closed. Springer and the other auditors begin making comments and yelling at Julie. At the request of Jellison, Julie returns back into the facility through another door to get officer assistance.

Comments are jokingly made about getting multiple officers by the auditors as they continue their verbal interaction with Jellison. Within a few seconds, Cmdr. Carlson is observed with some other command staff approaching the conference room door from within the room behind Jellison. Cmdr. Carlson is in the process of having Jellison step back into the conference room while she places herself in the door threshold to address Springer. From down the hallway, Chief Noland is observed walking up to the open door in front of Springer.

Chief Noland grabs the door and attempts to close it. Springer continues to stand in the way and Noland then uses his right hand to collar tie Springer to aid in pushing him aside. Springer again does not move at which point Chief Noland immediately grabs Springers right arm with his left hand and uses both the collar tie hand and a wrist lock to take Springer to the ground. During this part of the incident, Springer and the other auditors begin yelling at Chief Noland regarding his physical actions with statements of assault and abuse.

The other officers immediately come to assist as Chief Noland is attempting to sweep Springer to the ground. Springer is prone out on the floor and placed into handcuffs with Chief Noland straddling his legs. The remainder of the video continues up to the point where Springer has been escorted out of the lobby and is consistent with the observations previously documented from the BWC footage. During my review of the video, I was unable to observe any physical actions by Springer aside from his passive resistance during the attempt to remove him from the doorway in order to allow the door to close. As well as his subsequent detention into handcuffs.

Additionally, I did not observe any physical fighting against any of the involved officers or reckless actions during the incident by Springer which were identified as being an assault. Following my review of the video, I did not obtain any evidence to support probable cause for charges of assault against a peace officer. Copies of the previously documented CCTV data, BWC video, online video and all interview recordings were later submitted into evidence. Further follow-up will be documented accordingly. NFI

Entered by: Jenkins #426

Radiolog:

Unit: D10M	Enroute:	Arrived: 16:38:05 08/07/25
	Completed:	

Unit: D11M	Enroute: 15:43:22 08/07/25	Arrived: 16:37:08 08/07/25
	Completed:	

Unit: D12M	Enroute:	Arrived: 16:38:05 08/07/25
	Completed:	

Unit: D14M	Enroute: 15:51:27 08/07/25	Arrived: 16:35:40 08/07/25
	Completed: 21:24:39 08/07/25	

Unit: D15M	Enroute:	Arrived: 16:38:05 08/07/25
	Completed:	

Unit: D18M	Enroute: 16:21:27 08/07/25	Arrived: 16:35:37 08/07/25
	Completed:	

Unit: D20M	Enroute:	Arrived: 16:38:05 08/07/25
	Completed:	

INVESTIGATIVE LEAD:

Name: SPRINGER, JAMES A. JR

Name: NOLAND, JOHN D.

SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE:

**** SUPPLEMENT TAKEN IN ERROR ****

SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE:

2***** Supplement #441

On 8/7/24, I was advised of this call via C.I.U Sgt Huerta #437. The information provided was Sahuarita Police Department advised Chief Nolan of Sahuarita Police Department had been assaulted by a first amendment auditor James Alan Springer, (also known by his social media name James Freeman). I was advised there were approximately 9 people involved, and no one had been transported via medics.

Upon arriving at the Sahuarita Police Department main station

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Center Way), the other detectives and myself were provided a briefing by Lt.

Carlson. We were told that there was a disposition taking place in reference to a use of force involving Mr. Aiken and Mrs. Aiken and officers from Sahuarita Police Department were involved in. The attorney for the town James Jellison, was present for the disposition. I was advised James Springer (Also known as James Freeman) had shown up with a camera, and was going to record on behalf of the Mrs. Aiken and Mr. Aiken.

Mr. Jellison told Mr. Springer he could not record. At some point the Records Specialist Julie Rosalez went to commanders who were in a meeting nearby and advised them that Mr. Jellison needed help.

We were provided the names of all involved. I was advised I would be interviewing Commander Renee Carlson #SP328. I met With Comander Carlson in her office (room# 277). I introduced myself as a detective with the Marana Police Department.

I was advised Commander Carlson had been in a meeting in the Chief's conference room at the above listed station. She advised me the meeting had started at approximately 1400 hours. She knew sometime after 1426 hours, the incident took place. From her position in the confrence room, she could see out the glass door, into the hall. Commander Carlson could hear someone walking rapidly with heavy foot steps. She advised she knew this to be Julie Rosales #Sp305 (the Records Supervisor/ Specialist) because this was how Julie often walked. She stated that her foot steps sounded more rapid then normal. She advised when she looked up, she saw Julie through the glass door, and she looked, "freaked out". She stated that Julie seemed to be having trouble getting the words to come out, but stated something along the lines of Jellison (the attorney) needs help. Commander Carlson stated that she did not get any further information, but she knew where she needed to go, so she began jogging down the hallway. Commander Carlson advised that she was the first one that got into the room where Mr. Jellison was. She stated that she had gone through the secured door into the

conference room. She explained that the conference room where the disposition was being held could be accessed through the lobby, or through the secure door.

She advised she went through the secure door because she believed it was something that was taking place inside the room. She advised when she opened the door, she did not initially see what was happening. She stated that she saw a female and a male subject who she believed to be part of the court staff. She advised me she then saw Mr. Jellison in the doorway of the conference room. She explained this was the other (non secured) door, not the door she had come in from. Commander Carlson stated that she could not really hear what Mr. Jellison was saying. She stated she could hear something to the effect of, "No, you're not going to come in here".

She stated that it appeared Mr. Jellison was trying to get someone to back up so that he could close the door. She stated she observed he was talking to the person standing next to him. She said initially she did not know who the other person was. She described the person as a white male, glasses, with a bald head, She observed Mr. Springer holding a camera. She stated that she had since learned that it was James Springer also known as James Freeman.

Commander Carlson advised me that she put her hand on Mr. Jellison to nudge him to step back so she could get between the two men. She advised she then got between Mr. Jellison and Mr. Springer. She stated at that point, she did not know all the details of what had transpired, but she could gather that Mr. Jellison was trying to not allow Mr. Springer into the room. She advised they were not yelling, but she could tell it was not a pleasant exchange. She stated that she believed she nudged Mr. Jellison approximately 2-3 times to move him back. She observed Mr. Springer holding a camera.

She advised that someone came and pushed passed her. She told me she then realized it was Sahuarita Chief of Police John Nolan. She advised that Chief Nolan had said something to Freeman along the lines of he needed to back up from the door (she advised this was not a direct quote). She stated that Mr. Springer did not move right away. She then observed Chief Nolan reach out, she observed his hands on Mr. Springer.

Commander Carlson stated, "timing gets all weird when you're in the moment". She said that she did not know what they were saying but she looked at Mr. Springer's hands and she did not see the camera. She stated she did not know if someone took the camera, or where it went. She advised she believed that Chief Nolan attempted to push Springer out. She stated that she was right next to Chief Nolan. She stated that Chief Nolan didn't take him down, but it was like

he was going to, like he was possibly positioning his hands to potentially take Mr. Springer down. She stated she, "saw Freeman's hands come back, and he reaching and like holding on to something on Chief's belt". She stated that was the point when she went hands on.

She stated that she yelled, possibly a couple times, "let him go", or "let go him". She stated that at the moment, she did not process which side of Chief Nolan it was, so she did not know if it was the Chief's gun or his magazines that were being grabbed, she just knew he wrapped his fingers around something black on his belt.

She stated that she thought, "Oh shit that might be his gun". When asked what she was thinking, she described that she thought that it may have escalated more. That was when she began to step in. She said that they went down towards the floor. She explained that she was focused on trying to get a hold of Springer's hands, so she did not know where everyone else came from. She looked up and people were there. She stated that she was trying to get Mr. Springer's hand, but due to the way he had come down towards the ground, he was up against the wall (with his back towards the wall). She stated that Mr. Springer's feet were bent, she described they were at 90 degree angles in front of him. She stated that there was a banner in the corner next to him.

She said that when the door to the conference room was opened, it would open outward, into the banner. She believed that she was trying to grab Springer's left hand. She stated that was the hand she had initially grabbed, and was trying to control. She told me that someone was on the other side of Mr. Springer. She stated that the people around her were saying things, but she was not focused on his hand, and could not recall what was said. She started rolling Mr. Springer onto his stomach. She stated that at this point there were other officers on the other side of his body, so she called out to them to get Mr. Springer's hand. She advised no one did. She said climbed over him, and reached and got control of his hand and place it back behind him.

She told me that Lt. Fauquez #sp115 grabbed Mr. Springer's right hand. Commander Carlson maintained control of Mr. Springer's hands while Lt. Fauquez got handcuffs and double locked them.

Commander Carlson advised that Chief Nolan ended up on Springer's feet. She stated that she was unaware of how that took place because she was focused on the top part of his body. She stated that Lt. Fauquez was struggling with the cuffs due to the positioning. She advised at one point she looked up, and saw an officer, as well as the other people (who she believed were with Mr. Springer) were very close to her. She stated that she told the officer to back

the people up because she felt it was an officer safety issue.

She recalled that Mr. Springer was saying things like, "you're pulling me different directions" and other things. She stated that was inaccurate. She informed me that she was holding his hands while Lt. Fauquez was attempting to get the handcuffs on, they weren't pulling. She recalled that Fauquez was trying to explain this to Mr. Springer. She recalled Lt. Fauquez stating that he was attempting to double-lock the handcuffs so that they did not tighten up. She recalled at one point Mr. Springer stated that the circulation to his feet was being cut off, and asked whoever was on his feet to get off. She stated that she heard Chief Nolan respond, "No". She stated that at some point Chief Nolan transitioned with someone who took over. She told me that she believed it was Lt. Eric Heath. She stated that at that point Chief Nolan went somewhere, but she was not sure where. She stated that once they got the handcuffs secured, the other people were stating things like, "he can't breathe, he's on his stomach". She further advised that the incident was being live streamed.

Commander Carlson stated that at that point she grabbed Mr. Springer and on to Mr. Springer's belt loop, and advised him she was going to roll him over to his side. She stated once on his side, she allowed him to tuck his leg under him. She said that she told him they were going to sit him up. She recalled him stating that his shoulder was weak so he was going to tense up so that there was support for them to lift him. Commander Carlson stated that she advised Mr. Springer that they were not going to pull him by the shoulder. She believed he may have been saying that for appearance, due to how it looks. She advised she told him that was fine. She advised they then sat him up. She stated they then got Mr. Springer to his feet. She believed someone, possibly Lt. Fauquez or her were going to adjust his handcuffs. She stated that she believed Mr. Springer stated that the right one was a little tight. She advised that he was cooperative for this.

Commander Carlson advised that she recalled Mr. Springer stating something about the disposition. She said that she could not remember exactly what was said, but Springer was, referencing it in a negative way. However, Lt. Heath was apart of the case the disposition was about. She stated that she told Mr. Springer that he needed to calm down. She stated that when she realized that Lt. Heath was apart of the disposition case, she told Lt. Heath to leave.

She said that she walked Mr. Springer to the elevator to go to their Temporary Detention Facility. She stated that Mr. Springer had stated something (she could not recall what). She advised she told him that they were going to deal with what just took place, but they were not going to deal with it in the lobby. She stated that he was compliant. She told me that once in the elevator, Mr.

Springer stated something to the effect of, "He attacked me". She stated that he was calling the Chief by his last name. She stated that she told Mr. Springer she heard him, and his concern and they would address it in a different area. She said that Mr. Springer thanked her for being calm. She stated that Mr. Springer was searched. Once Mr. Springer was secured, she went to find out what took place.

She advised me that she was dressed as she was currently when the incident took place. I could clearly identify her as a police officer. I noted that she was in a duty uniform. She had a police patch on each shoulder. She also had a soft badge on her shirt, as well as an actual badge on her pants. She also had a duty weapon.

I asked her if she knew who the other civilian people who were in the lobby when this occurred. She stated that she was aware that John Boring was there. She said that John was someone that she had dealt with before reference first amendment auditing behavior. She told me that she had also known him to be associated with Mr. Springer. She advised that she believed that Mr. Boring ended up with the camera that Mr. Springer initially had. She stated that she had also observed Mr. Aiken. She stated that she believed Mr. Aiken was the one who was there for the disposition. She believed Mr. Akins had his phone up as if recording.

She advised me that the camera which Mr. Boring had a telephoto lens. She was not sure if it was on a phone or an actual camera. She recalled someone (possibly Mr. Boring) stating, "we are live streaming every-buddy is watching this right now. Do you see them" She stated he commented on the number of police and said to look at what they were doing.

I asked if she recalled what the phone Mr. Aiken had looked like. She stated that she believed it may have been a light blue or a gray color case.

She advised me when she initially walked into the room after being notified by Julie she stated she did not believe Mr. Aiken and Mrs. Aiken were in the room. She stated that she saw two court staff members. She did not know who the court staff were.

I asked Commander Carlson if any of the staff that were involved in the disposition were apart of the incident that occurred other than Lt. Heath. She was unaware of anyone else.

Commander Carlson advised me that Mr. Springer had not injured her, but she had small scratches on her hands from possibly brushing against something during the

incident. I requested Sahuarita Crime Scene Technicians photograph this. I asked her if she had a chance to see if she had any injury. She advised me she had not, but she did not believe she had any injuries other than possibly on her knees from being on the ground. She was clear that Mr. Springer never swung at her, or hit her. She said worst he had done to her, was pull his hand away when he turned away.

I asked Commander Carlson to describe everyone's body position when they were at the door. She told me initially Mr. Springer and Mr. Jellison were approximately 1-2 feet apart until she stepped in. She stated the door was opened, she demonstrated that the door opened to the outside of the conference room, not inwards. She stated that Freeman had the camera initially in his hands, with his back to the door. She stated that Chief Nolan approached him on Mr. Springer's left side. She stated that she and Chief Nolan were in the doorway, but Chief Nolan was slightly in front of her (closer to Mr. Springer). She said she then heard Chief Nolan say something similar to, "you need to back up, or not stay in the door way". She believed she heard Mr. Springer say, "I'm standing in a public place" or something to that effect. She said that she then saw Chief Nolan reach for him. She advised she could not recall where Chief Nolan grabbed on Mr. Springer. She recalled he grabbed Mr. Springer, and took a step forward. She stated that she recalled Mr. Springer's hand come back and it was on his belt. She could not recall which side, but she recalled thinking, "Shit is that his gun". She stated that was when she stated, "get your hands off him". She recalled Mr. Springer's fingers being back towards her. I asked if Mr. Springer did this with 1 hand or both hands. She stated that she was just focused on one hand, and did not know where the other hand was. She did not know if he was reaching around or back. She recalled seeing his fingers curl around something on Chief Nolan's belt.

I asked her if she knew why Chief Nolan placed Mr. Springer under arrest. She advised she was not sure, he did not advise why. I asked if she was placing him in handcuffs to detain Mr. Springer, or if she was acting in good faith based on Chief Nolan's statement. She stated she was trying to get Mr. Springer under control.

I asked if there was discussion after the incident to figure out what took place. She stated that she did not talk with anyone to figure that part out. She took Mr. Springer to get him secured since she had a rapport with him. She had gotten with Chief Nolan to figure out if they needed a call number. She denied talking to anyone. She stated that she recalled Chief Nolan speaking with Jim Jellison, when she approached, they stopped talking. She stated that she spoke with a sergeant that was in the area and told him that she would need the criminal investigations bureau to take the interviews. She was then advised that

there was already a call. She was told that someone named Alisa had already made a report. She advised that she returned to the conference room and asked if anyone there was named Alisa, and she confirmed someone in the conference room had called.

She stated that she spoke with Mr. Jellison and he was deciding if he would finish the deposition. She then got her body camera and advised Mr. Aiken and Mrs Aiken they could return to the conference room. She was advise by Mr. Jellison they were not going to continue the deposition. She stated that Mr. Aiken and Mrs. Aiken wanted to finish the deposition. She stated to her knowledge they ended up continuing the deposition. She was never told what took place in the room prior to the altercation taking place.

I confirmed with her that Chief Nolan was not in uniform. She advised he was not, but he was in a polo with a soft badge on it with the rank on the collar, and BDU pants. She was not sure if he had an actual badge on his pants.

I confirmed with her that the area where this occurred did not have cameras. She advised me it did not. She further explained stated that the cameras they had did not cover this area.

She advised me that she had seen Mr. Springer additionally just before our interview. She stated that this was because he had requested medics. She observed him getting evaluated by medics. She further stated he was holding up his wrist, and it was red. She heard medics state that they could see swelling.

I confirmed with her when she took him to the holding area initially, he was in handcuffs. She advised he was. She explained to me that there was a place to attach the handcuffs to. She stated that was where she had departed from Mr. Springer. She stated she knew at some point he was moved to use the restroom. She knew there were two officers with him. She advised me they did have cameras in this area. I asked if she had noticed redness when she was putting him on the bench. She stated that she did not notice, but she was not paying attention. She advised he made no mention to her of having injuries at that point.

I asked if she had known who Mr. Springer was before hand. She stated that she knew of him, but she had not personally interacted with him. I asked her if she knew if Chief Nolan and Mr. Springer had previous interactions. She advised me she thought they had been face to face on a few occasions.

I asked her if she recalled Chief Nolan saying anything or did anything at that point when Mr. Springer reached for his belt. She stated that at that point Chief Nolan was already hands on with him, so he may have done something, but

nothing that stood out that she could recall. She did not recall if he said anything She recalled him stating Mr. Springer was under arrest but she did not think it was in conjunction with that, but it was during that same time period before they got him into handcuffs.

I asked if the area that Mr. Springer was in was a public area. She advised the area he was standing in was a public area. However, the door required a mag card for entry. She stated that Mr. Springer had not cross the threshold, but he was preventing the door from being closed.

I asked Commander Carlson if she had anything to add, she stated that Mr. Springer had thanked her for trying to deescalate the situation. He further stated, "He wanted to hurt me". She stated he did not elaborate, and she did not ask further.

I then Briefed Detective Jenkins on my findings.

This concludes my involvement in this case.

N.F.I

Entered by: T. Banghart #441

SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE:

2***** Supplement #426

BWC- No

Field Notes Included

On 08/13/2025, I re-contacted James Springer by phone in reference to follow-up questions related to the listed assault investigation. During my contact with James, he advised he had been able to speak with his attorney and wanted to provide me with video and photos his group had recorded from the incident. Per James the video's included the one recorded by Boring as well as Mr. Aikens.

With regards to my request to speak to his colleagues to obtain witness statements, James advised he was still waiting to hear back from them, but would follow-up. James advised he had spoken specifically to Boring and would follow-up with him to make sure he contacted me.

James also stated he had discussed the medical release disclosure and was okay with signing it so I could obtain the Sahuarita hospital records. After discussing the listed information, James agreed to meet with me in the afternoon on 08/19/2025 at the police department to provide the data. Further follow-up will be documented at a later date. NFI

Entered by: Jenkins #426

SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE:

2***** SUPPLEMENT #436

AXON AUDIO: UPLOADED

On 08-07-2025 at approximately 1545 hours, while assigned to CIU, I responded to a call-out to the Sahuarita Police Department at ***** an "Assist Agency" request. Detectives were advised by CIU Sgt Sewell that SPD asked that Marana PD Detectives, investigate a report of an assault, involving their Chief of Police. Sgt Sewell advised the incident took place in the SPD lobby, involving a "First Amendment Auditor", identified as James Springer, but known on You Tube as "James Freeman".

Upon arriving at the SPD, CIU was given a walk through of where the incident occurred in the lobby and we were briefed on the incident by SPD's Lt John Carlson. We were told there had been a Deposition happening throughout the day, reference a "Use of Force" that happened back in 2022 involving SPD's Lt Eric Heath. Lt John Carlson said that the town's attorney, Mr. Gelison was preceding the Deposition in a secure room adjacent to the lobby and after lunch break, James Freeman arrived with camera equipment, demanding to set it up inside the secure conference room. Freeman said it was his right to record, but he was denied entry at the security door by Mr. Gelison. (Note: Security door required key card access). Freeman was told he could not enter, or record from inside the room multiple times. As Freeman continued to demand entry, an SPD Records Clerk, alerted the command staff in a meeting with Chief Nolan that Mr. Gelison needed help. Lt. Carlson advised that SPD Commanders/Lieutenants, to include Chief Nolan responded to the lobby and Freeman was detained, and taken to the ground by Chief Nolan.

Lt John Carlson said there was no SPD video surveillance available in the small hallway, where the incident took place as there are no cameras there, but one of the Lieutenants, Mike Falquez had turned his BWC on shortly after going hands on with the suspect. Lt John Carlson showed the Lieutenants, BWC video to MPD detectives which showed Chief Nolan over Freeman as Ofc Falquez took control of Freeman's wrist prior to detaining him in handcuffs. (Note: Handcuffing took more time than normal, likely due to positioning). Lt. John Carlson stated that Freeman was currently detained in holding cell area in SPD and EMS was enroute to medically check on Freeman. There was discussion on whether or not SPD or MPD's crime scene would respond to process (photograph) Freeman. It was determined that SPD's crime scene would respond and process Freeman/scene but I was tasked by MPD Sgt Sewell to go downstairs to the holding cell and make sure photographs were obtained prior to Freeman being transferred. Lt. John Freeman escorted me to the holding cell area where Freeman was located. I found that

EMS was already on scene, as well as SPD's Crime Scene, who was photographing Freeman while he was seated and not-handcuffed. Freeman advised EMS staff that the handcuff on his right wrist had been too tight prior to it being removed. I noted a slight red discoloration on Freeman's right wrist, approximately where a handcuff would be. As SPD's Crime Scene was in the process of photographing Freeman, I did not take photographs of Freeman but responded back to the briefing room.

After being advised of all the SPD Law Enforcement and Staff that witnessed or participated in the incident, I was tasked by MPD's case officer, Det. Jenkins #426 to interview SPD Lt Eric Heath. I met with Lt. Heath in his office and took the following statement from him.

STATEMENT TAKEN FROM RECORDED INT. WITH LT. HEATH, SPD:

Lt Eric Heath stated the following: While in a Command Staff meeting, he heard rapid footsteps coming down the hallway. He heard the door to the Chief's office open and the Records Supervisor, Julie say that Mr. Gelison needed help, or needs assistance (He could not remember which). He said Mr. Gelison is the Attorney for a lawsuit that they are currently in the process of dealing with. Mr. Gelison is representing the Town of Sahuarita. Lt Heath said the conference room is a short distance, approximately 5 office doors away, taking him only a few seconds to get to Mr. Gelison. After hearing that Mr. Gelison needed assistance, he immediately got up from the Chief's Conference Room and took 1 of 2 routes to get to the conference room. He said he chose to go through the conference room from the back, which did not require his "access card". He said as he entered the conference room he saw a court reporter, and another unknown male. Lt Heath said the room was basically empty but the door to the north leading to the lobby was open and he could hear a commotion coming from that direction. He said the 2 people in the conference room looked to be OK but the female appeared upset. Lt Heath said as got to the open door, partially blocked by Mr. Gelison and he saw Chief Nolan on the outside with another male he did not recognize, kinda intertwined prior to/as Chief Nolan was taking the male to the ground.

Lt. Heath said he then stepped out into the hallway and he saw a Mr. Aiken with a phone in his hand, with Mrs. Aiken behind him, and Boring. They were all recording and yelling, to include saying "Seriously". Lt. Heath said he heard his Chief say "you are under arrest, I believe he said it twice". "I then saw Commander Renee Carlson and Lt. Mike Falquez assisting Chief Nolan in detaining the suspect". "Lt. Falquez was attempting to apply handcuffs on the male subject and Cmd. Carlson assisted". "My back was turned for most of the incident". Lt Heath said he then stepped further away from Chief Nolan to try

and provide security, asking the Aiken's to move back. He said Mr. Boring was also yelling.

Lt. Heath said he then looked down and he heard the male subject say "I'm not resisting and whoever is on my legs, please get off". He said he looked down and saw Chief Nolan was the individuals legs and it was at this time that he recognized the subject as James Freeman. The Aiken's backed up a little bit after picking up Freeman's camera and handing it to Mr. Boring. He said he heard Lt. Falquez say, "I'm just trying to handcuff you, please don't tense up".

Lt. Heath said Chief Nolan then motioned for Lt. Heath to come relieve him from holding Freeman's legs. He said he undid the "Figure 4" position Freeman's legs were in and very lightly held his legs in case Freeman tried anything. "I did not apply an pressure points, or squeeze, just put my hands over his calves. I did not even hold them as he was not resisting at this point". Lt Heath said he heard Mr. Boring say he (Freeman), can't breath and Lt. Heath said "We need to get him cuffed first, appropriately". Then someone said "Roll him to his side" which we did and Lt. Heath explained to Freeman how they could safely sit him up to his buttocks and then to his feet. Lt. Heath said he was not yanking or pulling while sitting Freeman up so he would not hurt Freeman's shoulders. Lt. Heath said he did not hear Freeman complain of pain.

Lt. Heath said the Aiken's and Mr. Boring began yelling his name as they'd recognized him, so Cmd Carlson said "Lt. Heath it's time you leave". Lt. Heath explained that he was part of the lawsuit the Aiken's were ere here being deposed for. Lt. Heath said, "I just turned and walked away".

Lt. Heath said during the incident he heard Freeman say "your pulling me in different directions", but when he looked back he did not see that. I asked if Freeman was resisting at all, and Lt Heath said it did take a second as Lt. Falquez had to pull his hands behind him after he heard Chief say "Your under arrest". Lt Heath said Freeman was chest down on the ground when Lt. Falquez was handcuffing Freeman. Lt. Heath said he wanted the Aiken's to move back to provide a safe space for the Chief to work in but they only moved back a couple steps. Lt. Heath said he'd known the Deposition was going on with the Aiken's today but he'd had no previous contact with the Aiken's, Boring or Freeman earlier in the day. Lt. Heath confirmed he'd been in uniform but without his outer carrier or BWC. Lt. Heath confirmed that Chief Nolan had his badge, gun and stars identifying him as Chief. He also heard Freeman saying "Hey Nolan, come on", as Chief Nolan took him to the ground. Lt. Heath said his involvement was very minimal and that is all he can provide of the incident. NFI

ENTERED BY: J. SHAFE #436

SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE:

2***** Supplement #471

****BWC Audio Recording****

Sahuarita Police Department Connect- up Case #S25080170

On August 7, 2025, while on duty as the Criminal Investigations Unit Sergeant for the Marana Police Department (MPD), I was contacted by my supervisor, Lieutenant Strahle (#397). Lt. Strahle advised that the Sahuarita Police Department (SPD) was requesting investigative assistance regarding a reported assault on SPD Chief, John Noland.

Lt. Strahle provided me with Chief Noland's contact information. At approximately 1530 hours, Detective Sergeant Huerta (#437) and I contacted Chief Noland via telephone. Chief Noland advised that a male subject, identified as James Springer (also known as James Freeman), was currently detained in an SPD holding cell in connection with the incident. Chief Noland stated that multiple sworn officers and civilian witnesses were present during the incident, which occurred inside the SPD lobby at ***** following list of witnesses requiring interviews:

- Lieutenant Eric Heath
- Commander Renee Carlson
- Lieutenant Falquez
- Records Specialist, Julie Rosalez
- Attorney Jim Jellison

Chief Noland advised that Lieutenant John Carlson would serve as our point of contact upon arrival. This concluded our initial call. I contacted the following MPD personnel to respond and assist with the investigation:

- Detective Sergeant Huerta (#437)
- Detective Jenkins (#426) Lead Investigator
- Detective Kesterson (#275)
- Detective Clifford (#343)
- Detective Banghart (#441)
- Investigator Shafe (#436)

After briefing the assigned detectives, we responded to the Sahuarita Police Department, arriving at approximately 1638 hours.

Upon arrival, Lt. John Carlson provided a field briefing outlining the

following:

-On August 7, 2025, at approximately 0900 hours, a closed-door deposition was scheduled in the SPD conference room, which is accessible from the main lobby.

-The deposition was being conducted by Attorney James Jellison on behalf of the Town of Sahuarita.

The deposition attendees were:

- Attorney James Jellison
- Court Reporter Malissa Gonsalves
- Court Videographer Mark Gonsalves
- Mr. and Mrs. Aikens (involved legal parties)

No other individuals were authorized to attend, and no law enforcement personnel were present inside the conference room during the deposition. The conference room is secured by a key-card access door. Prior to the start of the deposition, a male identified as John Boring arrived in the SPD lobby. He requested to attend the deposition to record on behalf of the Aikens. Boring was informed that he could not be present and was prohibited from setting up recording equipment. Boring was identified as a self-employed journalist and First Amendment auditor. The deposition proceeded with only the authorized parties present. At approximately 1350 hours, the deposition was paused for a break.

After the break, The Aikens returned to the Sahuarita PD Lobby and a male later Identified as James Springer, also known as, James Freeman came into the lobby and was attempting to talk his way into the room where the deposition was taking place. Mr. Jellison objected and requested assistance from Records Specialist Julie Rosalez and asked her to get assistance. Mr. Rosalez walked back to the secure police area and advised Mr. Jellison needed assistance.

As command staff entered the lobby, Chief Noland took Mr. Springer to the ground and advised him that he was under arrest. Mr. Springer was described as passively resistant but was ultimately handcuffed and taken into custody. Lt. Carlson provided us with BWC footage from Lt. Falquez Camera. The footage showed Chief Noland in the process of taking Mr. Springer to the ground and placed in the prone position and handcuffed to the rear. Please see Detective Jenkins report for further details.

After the briefing, I conducted an in-person interview with Mark Gonsalves regarding his observations during a reported disturbance in the lobby of the Sahuarita Police Department (SPD).

Mr. Gonsalves stated that he arrived at SPD at approximately 0845 hours on 8/7/2025 to perform contracted videography services for a deposition requested by Attorney Jim Jellison, legal counsel for the Town of Sahuarita. The deposition was scheduled to begin at 1000 hours and started at approximately 1006 hours.

People present prior to the start of the deposition:

- Attorney Jim Jellison
- Court Reporter Melissa Gonsalves
- Videographer Mark Gonsalves
- Mr. and Mrs. Akin (litigants in the case)
- An unidentified male with a beard, described as a friend of the Akins, (believed to be John Boring based on video evidence and other interviews) who assisted them with setting up their cell phone to record video prior to the deposition. This male departed the room before testimony began.

The deposition took place in a keycard secured conference room connected to the SPD main lobby.

At approximately 1350 hours, the deposition recessed. Because the conference room was in a secured area, the attendees who had left were required to be let back inside. Mr. Gonsalves was in the room, working on an email in the back, and faced away from the entry door. He stated that the deposition was off the record during the break, and he began composing an email to a client, focusing his attention on that task rather than activities outside the room.

While seated, Mr. Gonsalves heard moderate-level conversation in the hallway, including discussion about letting another videographer into the room. He became aware of a male standing in the doorway holding a camera mounted on a tripod. This individual never entered the room, and Mr. Gonsalves could not provide a description due to his seating position and the doorframe obstructing his view.

According to Mr. Gonsalves, at the time of the doorway interaction, Attorney Jellison was positioned in the hallway just outside the conference room but stepped back inside as the discussion occurred. Mr. Gonsalves recalled that a person was standing directly in front of Jellison at the doorway when the issue arose, holding the tripod-mounted camera and appearing prepared to enter.

Mr. Gonsalves reported that before the door was closed, Jellison directed either him or Court Reporter Melissa Gonsalves to contact security. Two uniformed officers entered the room through the opposite door the same door later used by me to access the room which connects to the police office hallway near a break

room. The officers then exited into the hallway leading toward the lobby. Shortly afterward, Jellison re-entered the conference room and the door was closed.

Mr. Gonsalves stated that at approximately 1415 hours, he heard and partially observed several individuals gathered in the hallway outside the main conference room door. This included the male with the tripod, who appeared to be attempting to enter. He believed this male might have been associated with the earlier bearded male who assisted the Akins, but he could not confirm this.

When asked to describe the male with the tripod, Mr. Gonsalves reiterated that he could not provide physical descriptors due to his position in the room and lack of direct visual contact.

Mr. Gonsalves further clarified that the earlier bearded male, who assisted Mr. Akin with setting up a phone to record, was present only prior to the start of the deposition and left the secured area before testimony began.

After my interview with Mark Gonsalves, I contacted Detective Jenkins and provided him the details of my interview. I stood by on scene while detectives continued the investigation. I noted that Detective Sergeant Huerta was unable to exit the conference room into the hallway leading to the police offices without a key card, and I was likewise unable to enter the conference room from the internal police hallway without key card access.

After the interviews were completed, the Detectives and Investigators discussed the evidence and statements provided in the interviews. All the investigators and detectives agreed we did not establish probable cause to arrest Mr. Springer for the alleged assault.

Lead Detective Jenkins and I met with Chief Noland and advise him that no arrests were being made for Mr. Springer and probable cause was not established. Chief Noland explained he disagreed with our findings. I advised Chief Noland the case would likely be reviewed by the county attorney's office as part of the investigative process.

After speaking with Chief Noland, I was advised that a video on YouTube was posted of the events leading up to the incident. The video was viewed by the detectives. Please see Detective Jenkins report for details.

After the video was reviewed, that concluded my involvement. NFI

Entered by Sewell #471

SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE:

2***** Supplement #343

On August 7, 2025, I was asked to respond to the Sahuarita Police Department (SPD) ***** assaulted. We were requested to assist SPD with the investigations. I arrived at SPD with the other Marana Police Detectives.

We were brought into a room inside the SPD main station by Lt John Carlson. We were told there had been a Deposition happening throughout the day in reference to a (Use of Force) incident that took place in 2022 involving SPD. Lt. Carlson said that the towns attorney, Mr. Gelison was conducting the Depositions in a secure room adjacent to the lobby.

We were told that after the lunch break a Mr. James Freeman arrived with camera equipment and was demanding to set it up inside the secure conference room. Mr. Freeman said it was his right to record the deposition, but he was denied entry into the room Mr. Gelison.

Mr. Freeman was told he could not enter the room and record from inside the room multiple times. An SPD Records supervisor had come out into the lobby and attempted close the door to the secure room, but Mr. Freeman was holding it open with his body.

The records supervisor then went and alerted the command staff who was in a meeting Just down the hall from the incident with Mr. Freeman. She told them that Mr. Gelison needed help.

Lt. Carlson told us that the SPD command staff, including Chief Nolan responded to the lobby and Mr. Freeman was detained, and taken to the ground by Chief Nolan. Lt. Carlson said there was no SPD video surveillance available in the small hallway, where the incident took place, however Lt. Falquez did have his BWC on shortly after going hands on with Mr. Freeman.

Lt. Carlson showed Lt. Falquezs BWC video to us which showed Chief Nolan over Mr. Freeman as Lt. Falquez took control of Mr.Freema's wrist prior to detaining him in handcuffs. Lt. Carlson said that Mr. Freeman was currently detained in holding cell area in SPD and EMS was enroute to medically check on Freeman.

Records Supervisor Julie Rosales SP305

Once the briefing was over, I was tasked to interview the SPD Records Supervisor Julie Rosales (SP305) in the following: the following is a synopsis of that

interview. She told me that she had been in her current position since 2017 and with the department since 2009.

I noted that the reception area in the lobby is connected to the records room and just behind where I was sitting in her office there were the lobby cameras.

I noted that I had seen the lobby video of the individuals involved coming into the lobby.

I then asked her how she got involved with the incident. She told me that there was a deposition going on in the SPD conference room involving Mr. Steven Akin and Town attorney Mr. Gelison, a person doing video and a person doing audio and Mr. Akins wife.

The Deposition has been scheduled for some time, and she has access to the calendar for the room. I asked if it was an open community room and she told me that it was, but the room is secured when the door is closed (a key card is needed to open). She said that the deposition started at about 0800 hours for setup.

I asked if she noticed the people showing up for the deposition and she said she did. She then told me that John Oliver Boring showed up to the lobby. I asked her how she knew his name and she told me that he had come into the SPD lobby as a 1st amendment auditor. She noted she knows him by face.

She said that she did not know that it was Mr. Boaring sitting in the lobby until the incident happened. I noted that as the deposition was going it became later in the afternoon and asked what brought her attention to lobby area. She said that at about 1430 hours, records received a call from Sgt. Seybold. She called and asked a clerk if they were ok. The clerk was asked what the call was about, and Julie was told that Sgt Seybold was checking on them because she got a call about a trespass.

She said that got her interest because there is a button to call for police service outside the lobby. She said that it had an out of order sign on it and she thought someone may have pushed the button. She said that she went to go check on it and when she walked into the short hallway, she noticed people standing to her left in front of the door.

She said as she walked out a person called out to her. She said she turned and saw Mr. Gelison, she said he looked distraught. Then she recognized Mr. Springer (AKA Mr. Freeman), who had his camera, and his foot was holding the door open. She said that it looked like something was going on. She said that Mr. Akin was just inside the room.

She then noticed Mr. Boring to her right. She said that she went to the door and grabbed the handle. She said that it was a secure room sir and the door needed to be closed. She said she started to pull the door, and Mr. Freeman pushed the door back with his foot. She said she repeated that it was a secure room and the door needed to be closed. She said that Mr. Freeman yelled obscenities at her.

She said her nerves were going and she began to turn around as Mr. Gelison asked her to get an Officer this man (Mr. Freeman is being aggressive). She said that Mr. Akin was yelling and Mr. Boring had his camera in her face. She said that she went into records and told the clerk to call Sgt Seybold. Julie then went to the command staff meeting down the hall, went in and told them (Gelison help).

I then reviewed what she told me. I confirmed the placement of the people involved. Mr. Freeman holding the door, Mr. Gelison in the doorway, Mr. Boring to her right. She then told me Mr. Akin was yelling that you cant close the door, his wife is in the lobby.

I then asked what happened after the command went out the door, she said that she went back into the records room. She said that she could hear loud talking in the hallway. I then asked how she knew Mr. Springer (Freeman). She said that he had come into the PD before and that he has recorded her in the past. I confirmed that Mr. Freeman is a frequent visitor.

I then asked about the obscenities Mr. Freeman was saying to her, she said that he was saying (You cant close this fucking door, get the fuck out of here). She said that he noted his foot btu she did not see anyithg wrong. She then noted that Mr. Boring had his phone up in her face.

I asked if either Freeman or Boring were trespassed and she said that they were not. I then confirmed that Mr. Gelison is connected with Town Attorneys office. I then concluded the interview at 1847 hours (this time is incorrect, the recoarding concluded at 1747 hours)

Lieutenant Mike Falquez SP115

Once the interview was concluded I was then tasked with conducting an interview with Lt. Falquez. The following is a synopsis of that interview. After the introductions I confirmed his name and noted that he had been with SPD for 10 years. He is currently assigned as a Patrol Lt. He told me that he has over 19 years as a Law Enforcement Officer.

I then asked how he got involved with the incident. He told me that he was in a command staff meeting, when the records supervisor Rosales came in and she that Gelison needed help. He said that they all got out and he was one of the last ones out. He said that he stopped by his office because he did not have his body armor on. He said he grabbed it and he thought there might be a medical incident going on and his BWC is also on his body armor.

He said he started to go out into the lobby hallway and Lt. Carlson was in front of him. He said that Lt. Carlson opened the door, and he heard a thud sound. He said that he had just activated his BWS and as he gets into the hallway, he sees the Chief of Police wrestling with a white male subject. He said they went to the ground, and he heard that Chief of Police say (You are under arrest) twice. He did not know what fore.

He said that his boss Commander Carlson was engaged with the male subject. He said she knelt down and pulled out his hands cuffs because the Chief said he was under arrest. He said that he applied a handcuff to his right arm and brought it around. He said that it took a little bit to get the subject into handcuffs.

He said he did recognize the make subject as a first amendment auditor who goes by James Freeman. He said she had not personally delt with him but recognize him from his YouTube Chanell. He said that once the handcuffs were in him, he checked them for tightness. He said that they escorted him to the temporary detention facility.

I confirmed that the detention facility was there at the SPD main station. He said that they walked him to the elevator and down to the detention facility. I asked if Mr. Freeman was cooperative and he said that he was. He said that he confirmed with Mr. Freeman that the handcuffs were not too tight.

I asked him if he had an opportunity to review his BWC and he said that he had only seen the first few seconds of it and then he stopped watching it. He said that once it was over he immediately docked his camera and listed it with the trespassing call # S25080170. I then asked when he turned it off and he said that he turned it off after he left eh detention facility.

I then began to review what he had told me. I then asked if Mr. Freeman was compliant and he said that when Mr. Freeman was on the ground his arm did not come back easily. I asked to further explain. He said that his arms were forward, and he said Mr. Freeman was passive resistance.

He noted that he let Commander Carlson do the talking with Mr. Freeman and she

seemed to have a report with him. I asked Mr. Freeman made any statements and he said Mr. Freeman said that the Chief attacked him. He described the procedures of the Temporary Detention Facility (TDF). He told me that he did not use much force to detain Mr. Freeman, he did not use strikes or pain compliance on him. I then concluded the interview at 1820 hours.

Once the interviews were concluded I stood by until I was no longer needed. The recorded interviews were placed into property and evidence. This concludes my involvement in this case. -NFI-

Entered By: B. Clifford #343

SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE:

2***** Supplement #437

***Audio recording available

On August 7, 2025, I was a Sergeant assigned to the Criminal Investigations Unit (CIU) with the Marana Police Department. Sgt. Sewell #471, also with CIU, and I were contacted by Lt. Strahle #397 reference an incident involving the Sahuarita Police Chief John Noland. We were informed a First Amendment Auditor, identified as James "Freeman" Springer (41yo) was involved in an altercation with Chief J. Noland, which resulted in the Chief being a potential victim of Aggravated Assault on a Peace Officer. Sahuarita PD was requesting our assistance with investigating the incident.

At approximately 4:30pm, Sgt. Sewell and I, along with Detectives Kesterson #275, Jenkins #426, Clifford #343, Banghart #441, and Shafe #436 responded to the Sahuarita Police Department *****

Upon our arrival we were informed by Lt. John Carlson #355 that Mr. Springer was under arrest and being held in the detention cell on the lower level. Lt. Carlson provided us with a short briefing on who was present during the incident, which included approximately nine (9) individuals. Lt. Carlson explained the incident took place just off of the main lobby; there were no cameras that captured the incident. He advised one of the Lieutenants was wearing their body worn camera (BWC) which recorded a portion of it, however it was towards the end of the contact. Lt. Carlson advised there was a conference room at the end of the hallway, accessible by key card only, where a deposition was taking place. He explained there was a married couple, the Aiken's, involved in a lawsuit with the Town of Sahuarita, and the female was there to give a statement. Somehow, Mr. Springer was affiliated with the Aiken's and wanted inside the conference room to film the deposition. The Town of Sahuarita Attorney, James Jellison, was present and attempted to keep Mr. Springer from entering the room advising him he did not have permission to enter. Mr. Jellison was able to notify Sahuarita PD staff who then informed the command staff to include Chief Noland, all of whom had been in a meeting in the Police Department side of the building. Commander Carlson #328, Lt. Eric Heath #320, and Chief Noland responded and this was when the physical altercation with Mr. Springer took place.

I was asked to interview Melissa Gonsalves (61yo), the court reporter who was present during the deposition. I met with Melissa in the aforementioned conference room at 5:17pm, and she advised me of the following:

Melissa was there assisting the parties with a deposition of the wife, Deborah Aiken, in the case of "Aiken vs. Town of Sahuarita." Melissa's role was as the court reporter. It was her first time assisting with this case. Melissa arrived at 8:45am, the deposition was scheduled for 10:00am, they like to arrive an hour early. It should be noted Melissa was with her husband, Mark Gonsalves, he was the videographer for the deposition. They usually show up early to set up their equipment. I asked who else was present? Melissa advised Stephen Aiken, Deborah Aiken, and another male by the name of John Boring, along with Mr. Jim Jellison the Town Attorney. The deposition began at 10:07am. They went for a little while, took a break for the restroom, then at 1:30pm they stopped for lunch. Deborah wanted to eat so they went off the record and were scheduled to come back at 2:30pm.

The Aiken's came back around 2:25pm. I asked if all three returned and Melissa said well this was the part where Jim got up to answer the door and there was discussion about a camera and another crew coming in and setting it up. Melissa said there had been some discussion about that earlier that morning.

When the conference room door was opened by Mr. Jellison Melissa was surprised to see a camera. From her vantage point, seated in the conference room, she could see Mr. Jellison standing in the doorway, and there was some commotion about how people were going to get out or set up, it sounded like "disturbing loud talking" about how this was going to happen or not. Mr. Aiken had made it back into the room just inside the door after putting his bag down by the door. He was behind Mr. Jellison while this was going on. I asked if Mr. Boring was in the room up until lunch and Melissa said no. Mr. Boring was dismissed before the deposition was started. Melissa provided some back story on what had taken place earlier with Mr. Boring, which explained why he was asked to leave the room and not allowed to record. He was brought to assist with the camera recording using Mr. Aiken's cell phone; this ended up not being allowed. The second camera that Melissa saw when they returned for lunch was a bigger camera. Melissa advised she never left the room for lunch, she continued to work on other things, same with her husband. Melissa has worked for Mr. Jellison before, this was her first time at the PD, normally they use a room at Town Hall, however that room was occupied.

Melissa could see Mr. Jellison was speaking with the camera person at the door. She was not sure if Mr. Boring was there, she did not see him. Melissa stated Mr. Jellison's back was to her, she scooped over and saw the camera, she heard "loud talk." Melissa knew they were back at 2:25pm, she was wondering if they (Aiken's) were coming back and then she heard them knock on the door. Melissa advised Mr. Jellison asked her to call 911; she could not recall what time this was. She could hear a lot of back and forth, "I'm going to record, we have the

right to record," and Mr. Jellison saying "you're not coming in here you're not setting up." I asked if they were trying to come into the room? Melissa said yes it looked that way to her. The camera looked like it was in Mr. Jellison's face, this was just her perception, she did not get a clear view. Melissa then wondered if she should call 911 using her cellphone or the wall phone and opted for the wall phone. She tried to describe the disturbance to the dispatcher, Melissa said "there were no fisticuffs, nobody hitting anybody, it was just loud verbal," and she was surprised nobody heard what was going on. I asked what were Mr. Jellison's exact words to her? She said he leaned inside the doorway, never leaving it, and said would you mind calling 911, or would you mind calling the police. Melissa stated he seemed focused on what was happening. What did you say to the dispatcher? She said "they need assistance, this was going to sound strange but I'm in the police department, in the conference room, and I don't know how to tell you what I'm witnessing." Melissa stated she had been asked to call regarding a verbal disturbance. Melissa said they were trying to get a description of what was happening but it was hard for her to say it was a guy trying to set up a camera that was not supposed to, in hindsight this was what she thought she should have said. I asked how the phone call ended? She hung up the phone because her understanding was the police would be coming. It felt like a long time before the police showed up. I asked if she ever stepped out into the hall and she said no. Melissa heard some falling and crashing, it sounded like equipment. She stated the police came in through the other door in the conference room, which led back into the police department. A door that could only be accessed using a key card as it led to the police department side of the building. Melissa advised two police officers came in through that door, a female and a male, later identified as Commander Carlson and Lt. Heath. They "tried to read the room a little bit," the lady stood back a little bit, and then interacted. They didn't run through the door and just get involved they hung back a little bit. I asked where Mrs. Aiken was at this time and Melissa believed she was out in the hallway from what she heard. Melissa thought Mr. Boring was there but could not swear to it. I asked what made her think that. She said because of his involvement earlier that morning. I asked if she could describe the male with the camera. Melissa said he was a "tall, white guy, wearing glasses." He was behind his camera, that was the best she could do. I asked about hair color and she said it was "light brown or red, and maybe a beard."

How did the situation get resolved? Melissa said the door was closed at some point. They were just sitting in there, she and her husband. Eventually Mr. Jellison came back in along with the Aiken's and the deposition continued. Did anyone mention the incident or talk about it. She said they did not have time they were too busy with the deposition. Melissa remembered Mr. Jellison did not

come right back in the room, she thought he went and had a conversation with the Police Chief. She confirmed they were back on the record at 3:07pm and ended at 4:24pm, per her transcripts. The Aiken's left after the deposition was over. I asked when it was just the three of them was there any talk about what took place? Melissa said no, and Mr. Jellison even told them please don't talk about what you witnessed because you will be asked to give a statement.

I asked Melissa about the camera and she said it was large, larger than the cellphone but not as big as the camera her husband was using. I asked if there was anything else she wanted to add and she said Mr. Jellison remained calm throughout the entire incident. She felt the Aiken's left for lunch but their plan was to come back with a camera, this was her opinion. I also confirmed Melissa had never met the Aiken's before and she said no.

I provided Melissa with my contact information and asked her to call me if she thought of anything else that might be pertinent.

After I completed my interview I had to call Lt. Carlson and ask to be let out of the conference room and back to the PD side of the building due to the room being key card access only. He did not answer so I contacted Sgt. Sewell who located someone who was able to let me through the locked door.

I then met with the other Detectives and we discussed the statements provided by the witnesses. It was determined there was no probable cause to arrest Mr. Springer for Aggravated Assault on a Peace Officer. Sgt. Sewell and Detective Jenkins then met with Chief Noland to advise him of our findings.

Please see additional supplemental reports for further details regarding this case. This concluded my involvement in this matter.

Entered By: Sgt. Renee Huerta #437

SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE:

2***** Supplement #426

BWC- No

Field Notes Included

On 08/19/2025 at approximately 13:45, I met with James Springer at the Marana Police Department in reference to follow-up information he wanted to provide related to the listed assault investigation. Also present with me for this interview was Det. Kesterson. During our meeting, James provided me with a copy of the video recording from the incident taken by Boring. James confirmed it was the same video that had been posted with just a few extra seconds of recording on both ends.

I later reviewed the video and confirmed it provided the same details as previously documented. No new information was obtained from the review which was related to the incident aside from better audio quality. James also advised he would follow-up with the Aikens to see if he could get a copy of their video as he did not have it with him at today's meeting.

In addition to the video, James also provided four still photos he took of his wrist the day after the incident. During my later review of the photos, I observed minor bruising along the right wrist. James confirmed the injury was identified as a sprain when he was treated, but no other injury was reported. James later signed off on the previously noted medical release form so I could obtain copies of the medical records associated to his treatment at Northwest Sahuarita Hospital the day of the incident.

I next conducted a follow-up interview with James about the incident and obtained the following information. It should be noted James had met with his legal counsel since his prior interview and advised he was willing to speak with me in detail about the incident and answer any questions I had.

- James advised he went to the police department that day to set up a camera on behalf of the Aikens for the deposition.
- James stated the Aikens had already communicated their intent to record the proceedings as was their right.
- James later showed me copies of the email communications between the Aikens and Jellison from the month before confirming that.
- Initially Mr. Aiken's was recording the video himself in the morning. However the proceedings were taking a while and he was concerned the camera he brought would run out of memory and battery life.

- The Aikens contacted him and asked if he could assist by setting up a better camera for the second half of the deposition.
- When he arrived, Jellison would not let him into the room to set up the camera.
- James had camera equipment in both hands while waiting outside of the doorway to the conference room which was open.
- James offered to set up the camera and leave or have Mr. Aiken take it into the room, but Jellison was not cooperative.
- James reported no prior personal interaction with Jellison before the incident.
- Jellison did not give an exact reason why he could not set up the camera.
- James confirmed he was out in the hallway at the door of the conference room, but never entered the room.
- Because Jellison was being unreasonable, James admitted he began bantering with Jellison.

- Jellison then asked the front desk to call police.
- James stated he jokingly told them to send at least 6 cops as he felt the attorney was being ridiculous.
- James said it was also a joke in reference to the deposition going on.
- He later recalled an officer walking through the lobby calmly and entering the building without concern over the situation.

- While still in the hallway, James saw an officer come from his right.
- He did not see who it was at first, but then saw it was Chief Noland from the embroidery on his shirt.
- Noland told him to "move" to which James replied "or what?".
- After which Noland immediately used physical force to take him to the ground.
- He was never given any other commands or warnings by Noland.
- James could not recall how he was taken to the ground aside from the chief grabbing him.

- In the course of being pulled to the ground, James said he dropped his \$6,000 camera.
- James did not report any damage to the device aside from the memory card popping out and some minor surface scuffs.
- The video he was recording was corrupted due to the card being ejected, but he was able to recover part of it which he was willing to send over later.

- While Noland was forcing him to the ground he was not trying to resist though he was being forced against the wall by Noland.
- Noland never told him he was under arrest or being detained to this point.

- He recalled a female officer saying "let him go" but did not know if she was talking to the chief or him.
 - James was not holding anyone as his hands initially had stuff in them, and then were being restrained by police.
 - Once prone on the ground, James felt pressure on his legs which was hurting a lot.
 - James felt as if someone was using pressure points on him.
 - He yelled out to draw verbal attention to the issue.
 - James did not know it was Noland and initially thought it was another officer because that was who he saw back there when he first got up.
 - James stated he never kicked or tried to move his legs against Noland.
 - He only verbally yelled to bring attention to the fact that he was being hurt.
 - Following the incident, he was never told why he was under arrest by Noland.
 - After they moved him into the elevator he recalled expressing his anger and frustration to the officers.
 - James asked why he was being taken into custody and later being told by Commander Carlson that "we have to figure this out now".
 - His wrist started to hurt later while he was in holding along with his shoulder.
 - He was checked out by medical staff later and advised of a sprained wrist but no other injuries.
 - James advised his prior history with Chief Noland was focused around a video he published involving median trespassing ordinances which were discussed in a town council meeting.
 - James advised he used comedy in one of his videos to mock Noland's conduct at the meeting and his abuse of power.
 - James confirmed he had never received threats from Noland and had never had any other direct encounters with him prior to the incident.
 - James concluded with confirming his belief that Noland's use of physical force in this incident was wrong and showed he was abusive of his authority.
- Review audio recording for further details.

During the closing portion of our interview, I answered several questions James had about the case. Once he was provided with the associated case updates, our interview was concluded. I later submitted copies of the provided photos, video and associated interview recording into evidence. I also later submitted the medical release form to Northwest Hospital to obtain the related medical records.NFI

Entered by: Jenkins #426

SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE:

2***** -supplement #275

S25080170

On 08/07/25 at approximately 1540 hours Sgt. Huerta requested that we respond to the Sahuarita Police Department located at ***** possible aggravated assault involving Chief Noland.

We arrived at the Sahuarita police department at approximately 1635 hours. We entered the main lobby and were met by Lt. Carlson. Lt. Carlson first showed us a hallway on the south side of the lobby that led to a secure door which was identified as a conference room. Lt. Carlson stated that an altercation had occurred in the hallway by the conference room door between Chief Noland and James Springer. We then entered through a secure door that led to the offices of the police department. Once inside we were escorted to an office that had a conference table and were provided with the following briefing.

Today, a court deposition was being conducted with Mr. and Mrs. Aikens with reference to a lawsuit against the Sahuarita police department and staff. The deposition was conducted by the attorney for the town of Sahuarita, James Jellison. Originally J. Jellison was going to conduct the interviews at the Sahuarita town hall but had been rescheduled to be conducted at the Police Department. J. Jellison had utilized the conference room directly off the police department lobby which required a proxy card to access the room. When the deposition began a man named John Boring had arrived with the Aikens to video the deposition but was not allowed to enter the deposition due to civil rules of the proceedings. The group took a lunch break at 1330 around 1430 hours returned to continue the interviews. When the Aikens returned, they also had James Springer with them. James was trying to access the conference room to set up a camera and J. Jellison was preventing him from entering by standing in the doorway. At one point J. Jellison asked a records supervisor to let officers know that he needed help because James Springer was not leaving as requested. The records supervisor then went to the chief's conference room where there was a staff meeting occurring. She told them that J. Jellison needed help, so they all went toward the lobby. Chief Noland exited out the hallway door that led to the lobby. He observed James standing in the hallway preventing the secured door to the conference room from shutting. He approached James and then during the interaction was able to take control of James and a scuffle ensued. Chief Noland was able to get James to the ground and other officers placed handcuffs on James. At that time James was placed under arrest.

After being briefed, I was assigned to interview James Jellison and Chief

Noland. I first interviewed James Jellison. The following is a synopsis of the interview.

J. Jellison was a private attorney hired by AZ municipal trust to represent the Town of Sahuarita in an ongoing lawsuit involving the Police Department and the Aikens. J. Jellison stated that originally the deposition for Mrs. Aikens was to occur at the Town Hall but had been changed due to already being occupied. On 8/7/25 Deborah Aikens deposition was scheduled to begin at 1000. Prior to the start of the deposition the Aikens had brought a friend, John Boring, with them to video the proceedings. J. Jellison contested J. Boring being allowed into the proceedings, stating that he had not been given notice of Boring being at the meeting, did not know who he was and was concerned about letting strangers into a secure area. Boring had been advised he could not be there and stepped out of the room. J. Jellison stated that he had a conversation with the Aikens prior to the deposition day about filming and had stated he would provide a court videographer to film. J. Jellison thought that the issue had been resolved at that point, so he was surprised when Mr. Boring showed up. After Mr. Boring left, they began the deposition which continued until approximately 1330 hours when they took a lunch break. They agreed to return at 1430 hours. At approximately 1430 hours J. Jellison heard someone knock on the conference door, so he opened it and was confronted by an individual he referred to as the tall man. The male was holding camera equipment and insisting on setting the equipment up in the conference room. The tall man stood in front of the door, preventing it from closing. J. Jellison attempting to inform the tall man that he was not allowed in the conference room, but the tall man continued to try to move around him as well as telling Jellison to move. The tall man's actions and verbal banter made J. Jellison feel uncomfortable and concerned that he might be assaulted. The tall man continued to not listen to what Jellison was telling him, so Jellison asked a civilian to get some help for him. The female civilian spoke with the tall man who made some verbal comment to her. She went inside the secure door and then J. Jellison saw Chief Noland exit out the door by the lobby window. A female commander showed up behind Jellison who was still standing in the doorway of the conference room. As the chief arrived the tall man's attention was diverted to him. The chief gave the tall man a command, but Jellison did not know what it was. The tall man responded back to Chief Noland but again did not know what it was. At that point, J. Jellison receded back into the conference room and the door shut. He stated that he heard people talking outside the door but could not make out what exactly was being said. Jellison believed that the tall man was not being cooperative and ignoring commands based the dialog but did not know exactly what was being said.

After the incident, Chief Noland had informed J. Jellison that an investigation would be taking place and asked for him to stay to be interviewed. J. Jellison

stated that the chief made a vague statement about the basis of having to use force but did not go into detail to avoid tainting J. Jellison's statement. J. Jellison stated that he did not know the tall man's name until after the incident and he had never seen him before. He stated again that the felt threatened by the tall man and that the camera equipment he was holding could have been used as a weapon, but it was never stated or implied that it would be used in that manner. J. Jellison did not see any of the events that occurred between Chief Noland and the tall man due to being back in the conference room.

Review audio for the complete interview

I then conducted a recorded interview with Chief Noland at 1855 hours in the chief's conference room. The following is a synopsis of the interview.

Chief Noland stated that on today's date, he was aware that J. Jellison was conducting deposition interviews with the Aikens in the conference room off the lobby. The deposition was reference to a lawsuit. He had also been informed from Jellison's office that a "crew" of first amendment auditors might be coming with the Aikens to include James Freeman (Springer). Chief Noland informed J. Jellison that J. Freeman would not be allowed into the secure conference room for the deposition due to the accessibility he would have to the rest of the police department. The deposition started in the morning, and the Chief stated he did not hear about any issues with the auditors. At approximately 1400 hours Chief Noland had a commander's meeting in the chief conference room. Around 1430 hours, the records supervisor came into the meeting stating that Jim(Jellison) needed help right know. That prompted an immediate response for the command staff who all went up the hallway toward the lobby area. The chief stated that he thought that it might have been a medical emergency, so he used the door that opened in the lobby while other staff members used the hallway that led to the conference room Jellison was in. When Chief opened the door, he stated that he was startled to find out that he was instantly "right here, right know," meaning that he was immediately exposed to the situation in the lobby hallway. Chief stated that he saw J. Jellison standing in the doorway of the secure conference room with the door open and a male that he recognized as John Freeman blocking the door open. He stated that Freeman had his left arm up against the door and his foot in the door blocking the door from closing. Freeman also had a camera in his right hand. Chief stated he had concerns that Freeman was attempting to get into the secure room as well as the safety of the people in the room. He positioned himself between Jellison and Freeman and told Freeman twice, to step away from the door, do it know, right know I mean immediately. That was the best recollection of what he said but was certain that he used the word immediately and right now. Freeman did not move so Chief Noland grabbed Freemans upper body to move him which Freeman resisted. At that

point Chief Noland put his right hand behind Freeman's neck (collar tie) and guided him to the ground. He was moving Freeman away from the door area. Chief Noland stated that he remembered thinking three things about the situation. First, the situation was not good. Second, the interaction with Jellison and Freeman was not peaceful and third, you cannot hold a secure door open. Chief Noland again stated that he gave Freeman strict commands to step away from the door, do it now and I mean immediately. When Freeman did not move Chief Noland stated it was his call to move Freeman immediately. He had given him time to move in a reasonable time, his tone had been in a command presence, and the Chief was not going to debate it any further. At that time, he stepped in grabbed the left hand to pull it away from the door. The door shut as Chief Noland placed his hand on the back of Freeman's neck to move him to the floor. Chief stated that he might have caught Freeman's feet not as a sweep but more of a trip to assist in moving him to the ground. Once on ground in a seated position, Chief Noland told Freeman he was under arrest. Chief Noland expressed that he touched Freeman to move him from the doorway, Freeman resisted and continued to resist while Command staff took him into custody. At one point Chief Noland felt Freeman's wrist or forearm brush against his handgun holster. That concerned the Chief due to past experiences and he was not sure that Commander Carlson had control of the arm. Once on the ground Chief then moved back and secured Freeman legs. He had Freeman's legs between his own legs and Freeman was moving his legs up and down striking Chief in the testicle. The chief stated he did not sustain any injury, but it did cause him pain. Chief stated that he had told Freeman he was under arrest stating that Freeman had assaulted him. Chief Noland stated that when he was trying to direct Freeman away from the door he started fighting back. He stated it wasn't a struggle to take Freeman to the ground, but he did not want things to get worse, reference to the rub against his handgun holster. After being on the ground, Chief Noland did not see anybody pinch, twist or use in unappropriated force on J. Freeman. Chief stated that reference the statute for assault, ARS 13-1203, by resisting his attempt to unblock the door for the secure conference room he had been provoked by Freeman as the statute stated in the A3 portion. He also felt that the up and down movement of Freeman's legs while he was controlling them, striking him in the testicle also constituted an assault. Refer to the audio for the complete interview

I completed the interview and briefed Sgt. Huerta, Sgt. Swell and Det. Jenkins on the interviews. Lt. Carlson then shared a U Tube video posted by J. Freeman of the event. I provided the link to Det. Jenkins and Sgt. Sewell.

I placed the audio interviews and the photograph I took of Chief Noland demonstrating his perception of J. Freeman's position at the secure door, into

evidence.com

This concluded my involvement in this case.

Entered by:D.Kesterson #275

SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE:

----- (lwmain07521508222025)

2***** Supplement #426

BWC- No

Field Notes Included

On 08/21/2025, I presented this case to the Pima County Attorney's Office for review. Following their review, it was confirmed no probable cause was found for any criminal offenses against Springer. PCAO advised the case would remain under review by their office pending issuance of any additional charges as deemed appropriate by their follow-up. The involved parties were later notified accordingly. NFI

Entered by: Jenkins #426

~----- (lwmain07521508222025)~~
