



Glynn County Police Department

157 Public Safety Boulevard
Brunswick, Georgia 31525
www.police.glynncounty-ga.org

Dispatch (912) 554-3645
Administration (912) 554-7800
Fax (912) 554-7885

Matthew J. Doering
Chief of Police

Scott A. Trautz
Assistant Chief

Press Release

September 24, 2009

RE: The Police investigation involving the incident at 1137 Ocean Blvd, St. Simons Island on September 10, 2009.

The following are facts regarding the incident:

- Glynn County Code Enforcement officers were conducting routine sign ordinance enforcement on St. Simons Island. Code Enforcement had stopped at four businesses to inform them of a violation of the County's sign ordinance. The businesses were provided a copy of the sign ordinance for informational purposes and the officers requested voluntary compliance.
- Following the four business visits, Code Enforcement saw a portable business advertising sign on the public right-of-way fronting 1137 Ocean Blvd. The officers stopped at this residence on the right-of-way. The resident was unknown to them at the time. Their purpose was to ask the resident for his/her voluntary compliance with the sign ordinance.
- Code Enforcement officers never entered upon the property at 1137 Ocean Blvd. They parked and stood on the public sidewalk in front of the residence.
- Before Code Enforcement officers had an opportunity to ask for voluntary compliance of the sign ordinance, Mr. Reagin (who was later identified as the resident) approached the officers yelling at them. Mr. Reagin was using profane and vulgar words telling them to get off his property. They were not on his property.

- Mr. Reagin picked up his household garbage cart and threw it in the direction of the Code Enforcement officers; he struck the side of the Code Enforcement truck with his hands while continuing to yell at the officers, and picked up his business advertising sign and threw it in the direction of the truck. The sign landed on the public sidewalk where officers picked it up and put it in the truck after the whole incident was over.
- This aggressive behavior continued toward Code Enforcement officers when Mr. Reagin advanced to close proximity of one of the officers. The officer backed away from him, as he feared being assaulted.
- Fearing for their safety during Mr. Reagin's confrontation, one of the Code Enforcement officers called 911 for police assistance within about a minute of stopping at the residence. During the conversation with 911, all of the comments made by the Code Enforcement officer were directed at 911, except when he told Mr. Reagin that he was not on his property. With the exception of this comment directed to Mr. Reagin, it is unlikely that Mr. Reagin heard any other comments because of the distance from the Code Enforcement officers and his continued shouting.
- At no time during this incident did Code Enforcement officers enter upon the private property of Mr. Reagin and never removed any sign from his property. No citation was issued. Code Enforcement removed the sign from the sidewalk and placed it in their truck when the incident was over.

Matthew J. Doering, Chief
Glynn County Police

9.24.09 1712