

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Friday, January 5, 2018, at approximately 2:15 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the GBI Region 9 Field Office, 396 S. Pinetree Blvd., Thomasville, Thomas County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation.

SA SEACRIST spoke via phone with Alapaha Judicial Circuit ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY PATRICK WARREN regarding this case. ADA WARREN advised that one of the VICTIMS, WALTER ELLER, had died in state prison, possibly as a result of being stabbed. ADA WARREN was still negotiating pleas with the defendants, but was going to send letters to the defendants to inquire as to their willingness to accept the plea agreement and, if not, provide them with the Grand Jury date that the case would be presented.

This action concluded at approximately 2:20 p.m.

ID DATA:

WARREN, PATRICK (Previously Submitted)

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 1/5/2018
js: 1/5/2018

JS

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**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Tuesday, October 3, 2017, at approximately 8:00 a.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located in Brooks County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation.

SA SEACRIST spoke via phone with Alapaha Judicial Circuit ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY PATRICK WARREN, who had been assigned this case due to a conflict of interest within the Southern Judicial Circuit DA's office. ADA WARREN stated that the case would not be presented to the Grand Jury as previously scheduled on October 4, 2017. This was decided due to a verbal agreement with the defendant's attorney's that they would accept a plea agreement previously offered by ADA WARREN.

This action concluded at approximately 9:00 a.m.

ID DATA:

WARREN, PATRICK (ASSISTANT DA)
SEX/RACE: MALE/WHITE
COUNTRY: UNITED STATES
OCCUPATION: DISTRICT ATTORNEY, ASSISTANT
EMPLOYER:
ALAPAHA JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/3/2017
js: 10/3/2017

JS MS

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

DISPOSITION

On Monday, October 15, 2018, at approximately 2:10 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located in Lowndes County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation.

SA SEACRIST communicated with Alapaha Judicial Circuit ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY (ADA) PATRICK WARREN regarding the status of the remaining defendants in this case. ADA WARREN advised he had dismissed the warrant against RINA GRIFFIN, who had agreed to cooperate in any judicial proceedings. For the remaining defendants, ADA WARREN still needed to schedule them to accept their pleas.

This action concluded at approximately 2:15 p.m.

ID DATA:

WARREN, PATRICK (Previously Submitted)

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/15/2018
js: 10/15/2018

JS

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**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Monday, July 23, 2018, at approximately 6:05 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located in Lowndes County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation.

ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY PATRICK WARREN advised SA SEACRIST via text message that the remaining defendants in this case, with the exception of one (1), had agreed orally to negotiated pleas in regards to their charges. ADA WARREN hoped to be able to finalize the pleas in August 2018.

This action concluded at approximately 6:10 p.m.

ID DATA:

WARREN, PATRICK (Previously Submitted)

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 7/25/2018

js: 7/25/2018



**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Tuesday, January 29, 2019, about 10:10 a.m., SAC JAMY STEINBERG reassigned this case to SA STEVEN TUCKER due to the transfer of the previous case agent. This action concluded about 10:12 a.m.

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE JAMY M STEINBERG: 1/29/2019

jw: 1/31/2019



**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

FINAL DISPOSITION

On Wednesday, October 30, 2019, at approximately 10:30 a.m., GBI SA STEVEN TUCKER was located at the GBI Region 9 Field Office, 396 South Pinetree Boulevard, Thomasville, Georgia in reference to receiving a case update from ADA ANNIKA REGISTER of the Alapaha Judicial Circuit in regards to the current investigation.

SA TUCKER made contact with ADA REGISTER, who had inherited this investigation from ADA PATRICK WARREN, and requested an update on the status of the case. ADA REGISTER advised that SCOTT BOUTWELL had been sentenced under first offender status. BOUTWELL'S disposition was documented in summary 650852. The remaining charges for the other offenders were dismissed. The case had since been closed by the Alapaha District Attorney's Office and no further judicial process would be pursued. ADA REGISTER agreed that the GBI could also close their investigation into this matter.

Given the investigation being completed and the cessation of further prosecution, SA TUCKER respectfully requests this case be closed. SA TUCKER noted that any evidence associated with this investigation would be turned over to the requesting agency, Brooks County Sheriff's Office.

This disposition update concluded at approximately 10:45 a.m.

ID DATA:

REGISTER, ANNIKA (ASSISTANT DA)

SEX/RACE: FEMALE/UNKNOWN

COUNTRY: UNITED STATES

OCCUPATION: DISTRICT ATTORNEY, ASSISTANT

EMPLOYER:

ALAPAHA DA'S OFFICE

SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN TUCKER: 10/30/2019

st: 10/30/2019

ST *AM*

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

DISPOSITION

On Tuesday, April 10, 2018, at approximately 12:35 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located in Lowndes County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation.

SA SEACRIST spoke via phone with Alapaha Judicial Circuit ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY PATRICK WARREN regarding the status of this case. ADA WARREN advised that SCOTT BOUTWELL had pled guilty to charges in this case. ADA WARREN provided a copy of the disposition (see attached). SA SEACRIST noted that SCOTT had pled guilty to three (3) counts of Misdemeanor Battery on March 8, 2018. SCOTT was sentenced by SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE RICHARD COWART to twelve (12) months probation for each charge, to be served consecutively. SCOTT was also to surrender his Georgia P.O.S.T. certification.

ADA WARREN advised that negotiations for pleas were ongoing with the remaining defendants.

This action concluded at approximately 12:50 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

DISPOSITION

[\(Attachments\)](#)

ID DATA:

WARREN, PATRICK (Previously Submitted)

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 4/10/2018
js: 4/10/2018

ST

JS

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Thursday, April 6, 2017, at approximately 8:00 a.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Brooks County Courthouse, 100 E. Screven Street, Quitman, Brooks County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation.

Southern Judicial Circuit DISTRICT ATTORNEY BRAD SHEALY advised that, due to conflicts within the District Attorney's Office related to SCOTT BOUTWELL'S work in law enforcement in Brooks County for multiple years, Alapaha Circuit DISTRICT ATTORNEY DICK PERRYMAN would be handling the case. DA PERRYMAN had recently been provided a copy of the case file and DA SHEALY expected it to be presented to the Brooks County Grand Jury in October 2017.

This action concluded at approximately 9:00 a.m.

ID DATA:

SHEALEY, BRAD (Previously Submitted)

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 4/6/2017

js: 4/6/2017

JS

JS

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Wednesday, September 14, 2016, at approximately 12:10 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the GBI Region Nine Field Office, 396 South Pinetree Blvd, Thomasville, Thomas County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation.

GBI SAC JAMY STEINBERG advised SA SEACRIST that the Brooks County Sheriff's Office had requested the GBI conduct an investigation regarding an alleged excessive use of force by Brooks County Jail CAPTAIN SCOTT BOUTWELL. Brooks County SHERIFF MIKE DEWEY had contacted SAC STEINBERG and indicated that CAPTAIN BOUTWELL had used excessive force on INMATE STEPHEN STYLES. SHERIFF DEWEY had also stated the incident was captured on the jail video surveillance cameras. INMATE STYLES was still in custody at the Brooks County Jail and CAPTAIN BOUTWELL had been suspended pending an investigation. Several witness statements had also already been obtained. The contact person at Brooks County Sheriff's Office would be INVESTIGATOR EUGENE OWEN.

This action concluded at approximately 12:20 p.m.

ID DATA:

STEINBERG, JAMY (SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE)

SEX/RACE: MALE/WHITE

COUNTRY: UNITED STATES

OCCUPATION: AGENT

EMPLOYER:

GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (SPECIAL AGENT IN

396 S. PINETREE BLVD

THOMASVILLE, GA

BUSINESS:(229)225-4090

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 9/16/2016

Is: 9/19/2016

ST

J

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Wednesday, September 14, 2016, at approximately 12:15 p.m., Brooks County SHERIFF MIKE DEWEY requested the GBI to investigate an alleged excessive use of force incident involving Brooks County Jail CAPTAIN SCOTT BOUTWELL. The incident occurred on Thursday, September 8, 2016 at approximately 9:15 a.m. GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was assigned the case.

SA SEACRIST reviewed video surveillance footage of the incident which showed CAPTAIN BOUTWELL appearing to knee INMATE STEPHEN STYLES, who was laying on the floor with his hands handcuffed behind his back and at least two (2) other jail officers holding INMATE STYLES down. During the course of the investigation, two incidents involving CAPTAIN BOUTWELL ordering inmates to be strapped into a restraint chair and being placed in a shower with the water turned on were reported. A separate incident was reported where CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was not present, but the jail officers believed they were doing what CAPTAIN BOUTWELL had trained them to do by putting an inmate in the restraint chair, placing them in the shower and turning the water on. These reports were also investigated.

As of Thursday, September 20, 2016, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and all of the jail officers allegedly involved in the shower treatment incidents had been suspended pending the current investigation.

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 9/20/2016
Is: 9/21/2016

ST MS

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Wednesday, September 14, 2016, at approximately 1:30 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Brooks County Sheriff's Office CID Annex, 1004 Holloway Drive, Quitman, Brooks County, Georgia, for the purpose of meeting with Brooks County Sheriff's Office INVESTIGATOR EUGENE OWEN.

INVESTIGATOR OWEN advised SA SEACRIST that the video of the incident had already been burned to a disk for SA SEACRIST (see attached). SA SEACRIST noted that the video could not be digitally attached to this summary. The disc will be maintained in the back of the case file. INVESTIGATOR OWEN also had obtained the reports completed by the jail staff regarding the incident. A hand written statement from one of the jail staff was also received. INVESTIGATOR OWEN had also completed a memo of the initial investigative actions that he had taken (see attached). SA SEACRIST requested the inmate data sheet for SUBJECT INMATE STEPHEN STYLES, which INVESTIGATOR OWEN provided (see attached).

INVESTIGATOR OWEN stated that the incident occurred on Thursday, September 8, 2016 at approximately 9:08 a.m. SA SEACRIST and INVESTIGATOR OWEN then reviewed the video from the incident. SA SEACRIST noted that it appeared INMATE STYLES was being moved from one area of the jail to another. INMATE STYLES appeared to be displeased with the move and confronted CAPTAIN SCOTT BOUTWELL. Initially, INMATE STYLES appeared to be aggressive towards CAPTAIN BOUTWELL. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL, Brooks County Jail LT. COURTNEY GIDDENS, and Brooks County Jail OFFICER JIM PYLE restrained INMATE STYLES by handcuffing him behind the back. INMATE STYLES appeared

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to continue to resist, at which time the three jail staff took INMATE STYLES to the ground. While INMATE STYLES was on the ground, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was observed using his knee multiple times to strike INMATE STYLES while on the ground. SA SEACRIST noted that several of the knee strikes appeared to occur after INMATE STYLES was no longer struggling against the jail staff. INMATE STYLES was then picked up by LT. GIDDENS and OFFICER PYLE and escorted to another area in the jail. At that point, the video ended.

SA SEACRIST was advised that INMATE STYLES' mother had been contacted by the Sheriff. The Sheriff arranged with INMATE STYLES' mother to visit at 4:00 p.m. on this same date.

This action concluded at approximately 2:10 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

- INCIDENT REPORT JAIL INCIDENT REPORTS [\(Attachments\)](#)
- OTHER INMATE DATA SHEET [\(Attachments\)](#)
- VIDEO COULD NOT BE DIGITALLY ATTACHED. SEE DISC IN BACK OF CASE FILE.
- STATEMENTS HAND WRITTEN STATEMENT [\(Attachments\)](#)
- INCIDENT REPORT INV OWEN CASE MEMO [\(Attachments\)](#)

ID DATA:

OWEN, EUGENE (INVESTIGATOR)

SEX/RACE: MALE/BLACK

COUNTRY: UNITED STATES

OCCUPATION: INVESTIGATOR

EMPLOYER:

BROOKS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

QUITMAN, GA

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 9/16/2016

Is: 9/19/2016

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**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Wednesday, September 14, 2016, at approximately 2:15 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Brooks County Sheriff's Office CID Annex, 1004 Holloway Drive, Quitman, Brooks County, Georgia, for the purpose of interviewing INMATE STEPHEN STYLES in regards to the present investigation.

It should be noted this is a general synopsis of the interview with INMATE STYLES. For a detailed account of the interview in its entirety, refer to the recording associated with this summary (see attached). INMATE STYLES essentially stated the following:

SA SEACRIST asked INMATE STYLES if he was aware of why he was being interviewed. INMATE STYLES stated it was probably because of the incident that occurred with CAPTAIN BOUTWELL the prior week on Thursday, September 8, 2016. SA SEACRIST asked if INMATE STYLES had any medical issues from the incident in the present investigation. INMATE STYLES indicated he had some back issues and that he was taking three Ibuprofen per day. INMATE STYLES also indicated that back issues were not major and were getting better. INMATE STYLES stated there were no other medical issues related to the incident. INMATE STYLES did indicate that he suffered from paranoid schizophrenia, but that he was taking his medication now.

On September 6, 2016, INMATE STYLES had been to the doctor for congestion. The doctor gave INMATE STYLES three days off from his work detail to recuperate. On Thursday, September 8, 2016, at approximately 9:30 a.m., INMATE STYLES

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was laying on his bunk when CAPTAIN BOUTWELL slapped his feet and said "get your ass up, we don't lay down around here". INMATE STYLES responded "mother fucker, doc gave me an excuse". CAPTAIN BOUTWELL then ordered to "get him out of here". LT. COURTNEY GIDDENS was in the cell when this occurred. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL left INMATE STYLES' cell and LT. GIDDENS helped get INMATE STYLES' belongings together to take to the new cell. While LT. GIDDENS was helping, LT. GIDDENS called for another officer to assist, which ended up being OFFICER JIM PYLE.

As they entered the cell, LT. GIDDENS said that he was going into cell C5. OFFICER PYLE then stated that CAPTAIN BOUTWELL said to put INMATE STYLES in A block. INMATE STYLES explained that C block were normal cells with privileges and that A block was lock down cells with no privileges. LT. GIDDENS then confirmed with CAPTAIN BOUTWELL that INMATE STYLES was supposed to go to A block. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL then came into INMATE STYLES' view, and INMATE STYLES walked towards CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and asked to talk about the move. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL said he was done with INMATE STYLES. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL then ordered LT. GIDDENS and OFFICER PYLE to handcuff INMATE STYLES. INMATE STYLES then looked "cross" at CAPTAIN BOUTWELL. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL then started to take down INMATE STYLES, grabbing him around the eyes and the head and pulling him to the ground. Once INMATE STYLES was on the ground, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL began kneeling INMATE STYLES in the area of his right rib cage and kidneys. INMATE STYLES believed CAPTAIN BOUTWELL kned him approximately six to ten times.

INMATE STYLES admitted that he was angry during the incident because CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was sending him to A block for what he believed was no reason.

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INMATE STYLES also noted that his paranoid schizophrenia can affect him in these situations, but added that he would not have touched CAPTAIN BOUTWELL. INMATE STYLES recalled being told to calm down while being restrained. INMATE STYLES admitted he was very mad, but also that CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was "talking a lot of trash". LT. GIDDENS and OFFICER PYLE were not saying a lot because CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was doing most of the talking.

INMATE STYLES did not know why CAPTAIN BOUTWELL, LT. GIDDENS and OFFICER PYLE were trying to take him down to the ground. INMATE STYLES also did not remember LT. GIDDENS and OFFICE PYLE putting their hands on him. When asked why he did not go down to the ground when asked, INMATE STYLES stated he did not go flat on the ground because he did not want to get hurt when he landed on the concrete with his hands behind his back.

Once on the ground, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was "mashing" INMATE STYLES, which INMATE STYLES explained to SA SEACRIST that he was putting pressure on INMATE STYLES' head. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was saying "stop resisting" and INMATE STYLES was saying "what you want me to do". After Jail OFFICER TITANIA PROCTER arrived, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL told INMATE STYLES to lay flat. INMATE STYLES believed he could not lay flat at that time due to his position.

After the incident, INMATE STYLES was taken to the lock down cell in A dorm. INMATE STYLES remained handcuffed and was not given his mattress and blanket. Several hours after the incident, OFFICER PROCTER removed the handcuffs on INMATE STYLES. INMATE STYLES stated that the handcuffs were very tight and his hands were going numb. INMATE STYLES' mattress and blanket were not brought to him until the next day.

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SA SEACRIST played the jail surveillance video with INMATE STYLES. After reviewing the video, INMATE STYLES noted that he was more aggressive in the beginning of the situation than he remembered. INMATE STYLES noted that the remainder of the video was consistent with his memory.

This action concluded at approximately 2:55 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

AUDIO

[\(Attachments\)](#)

ID DATA:

STYLES, STEPHEN (MR)

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 9/16/2016

Is: 9/19/2016

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**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Wednesday, September 14, 2016, at approximately 3:55 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Brooks County Sheriff's Office CID Annex, 1004 Holloway Drive, Quitman, Brooks County, Georgia, for the purpose of interviewing Brooks County Jail LT. COURTNEY GIDDENS in regards to the present investigation.

It should be noted this is a general synopsis of the interview with LT. GIDDENS. For a detailed account of the interview in its entirety, refer to the recording associated with this summary (see attached).

Prior to the interview, SA SEACRIST advised LT. GIDDENS that the investigation was not an administrative or disciplinary inquiry, but rather a criminal investigation. SA SEACRIST also advised LT. GIDDENS that his cooperation in the investigation was voluntary. LT. GIDDENS confirmed that he had not been instructed that he was required to speak with SA SEACRIST as a condition of his employment. LT. GIDDENS essentially stated the following:

LT. GIDDENS had been employed at the Brooks County Jail since approximately February 2012. For the nine months prior to that, LT. GIDDENS worked at Valdosta State Prison.

September 8, 2016, Brooks County Jail CAPTAIN SCOTT BOUTWELL and LT. GIDDENS were conducting daily inspections. When they came to INMATE STEPHEN STYLES, he was laying in bed under the covers. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL

09-0037-34-17

tapped INMATE STYLES' leg and told him to get up. INMATE STYLES said "what the fuck you want". CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and INMATE STYLES continued with a verbal confrontation. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL then told INMATE STYLES "you're going to orange". LT. GIDDENS explained that this meant INMATE STYLES was being taken off of work detail, which wore a black and white striped jumpsuit. Those not on work detail wore an orange jumpsuit.

CAPTAIN BOUTWELL walked off and LT. GIDDENS began getting INMATE STYLES' orange jumpsuit. LT. GIDDENS also called OFFICER JIM PYLE for back up because INMATE STYLES was known for giving verbal and physical resistance. INMATE STYLES asked why he was being taken off work detail and LT. GIDDENS responded that it was probably because of his attitude.

LT. GIDDENS, OFFICER PYLE, and INMATE STYLES were standing in the hallway when CAPTAIN BOUTWELL walked by going into another dorm. INMATE STYLES then "lunged" towards CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and LT. GIDDENS pushed INMATE STYLES back towards the cart in the hallway which now had INMATE STYLES' cell belongings. OFFICER PYLE then handcuffed INMATE STYLES behind the back. LT. GIDDENS noted they then tried to reduce the amount of force being used with INMATE STYLES, but INMATE STYLES puffed out his chest and made a movement to his left. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was behind LT. GIDDENS and LT. GIDDENS believed this was an attempt to possibly spit or try to head-butt. LT. GIDDENS and OFFICER PYLE grabbed a hold of INMATE STYLES. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL reached over LT. GIDDENS' right shoulder and grabbed INMATE STYLES. LT. GIDDENS, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL, and OFFICER PYLE then began to take INMATE STYLES down to the ground.

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As INMATE STYLES went down to the ground, LT. GIDDENS ended up underneath INMATE STYLES. As LT. GIDDENS was getting out from under INMATE STYLES, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL had downward pressure on STYLES' left arm. OFFICER PYLE was putting downward pressure in the area of INMATE STYLES' back. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL told INMATE STYLES to stop resisting because INMATE STYLES was trying to roll over. After CAPTAIN BOUTWELL said this three or four times, INMATE STYLES stopped resisting. INMATE STYLES told them "yall fucked up".

After the incident was done and INMATE STYLES was brought back to his feet, INMATE STYLES told CAPTAIN BOUTWELL "you're the one that put me in prison". Initially, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL did not seem to remember what INMATE STYLES was talking about. Later, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL told LT. GIDDENS that he did recall what INMATE STYLES was referring to, which was an incident in a courtroom where INMATE STYLES became unruly and CAPTAIN BOUTWELL had to physically restrain INMATE STYLES. LT. GIDDENS and OFFICER PYLE then walked INMATE STYLES into the lock down unit at A dorm.

LT. GIDDENS noted that he had already reviewed the video of the incident. LT. GIDDENS had watched the video with CAPTAIN BOUTWELL a few hours after the incident occurred. When LT. GIDDENS was watching the video, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL appeared to become uncomfortable when the part of the video showing CAPTAIN BOUTWELL kneeling INMATE STYLES was playing. LT. GIDDENS described CAPTAIN BOUTWELL being uncomfortable as he was adjusting himself in his seat and moving around a little bit. LT. GIDDENS and CAPTAIN BOUTWELL did not have a conversation regarding the use of force by CAPTAIN BOUTWELL on INMATE STYLES.

SA SEACRIST had LT. GIDDENS review his written report, which LT. GIDDENS confirmed was his (see attached). SA SEACRIST noted that the report was written after 1:00 p.m., which LT. GIDDENS confirmed was likely after LT. GIDDENS had reviewed the video with CAPTAIN BOUTWELL. SA SEACRIST asked why LT. GIDDENS had not included the use of force by CAPTAIN BOUTWELL in the report. LT. GIDDENS noted that during the incident he did not know that CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was kneeling INMATE STYLES. LT. GIDDENS wrote the report based only on what he witnessed during the incident and not from his review of the video. LT. GIDDENS stated he did not know that he could include such items in a report.

SA SEACRIST reviewed the video of the incident with LT. GIDDENS. Prior to INMATE STYLES being brought down to the ground, LT. GIDDENS noted it appeared CAPTAIN BOUTWELL reached around LT. GIDDENS and put his hands around INMATE STYLES' neck. LT. GIDDENS did not recall that occurring during the incident and noticed that for the first time while reviewing the video with SA SEACRIST. LT. GIDDENS also noted that the knees used by CAPTAIN BOUTWELL appeared to be excessive. LT. GIDDENS stated that the first knee by CAPTAIN BOUTWELL may have been justified, but not the rest of the knee strikes. LT. GIDDENS believed the first knee strike may have been justifiable because INMATE STYLES was still non compliant when first taken down to the ground.

LT. GIDDENS was promoted from SGT. to LT. approximately six months prior by CAPTAIN BOUTWELL. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL had interviewed LT. GIDDENS by himself prior to the promotion. LT. GIDDENS took the promotion because of the weekday/day shift hours of 8:00 to 5:00. Prior to the promotion, LT. GIDDENS worked twelve hour shifts from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. which rotated to 7:00 p.m. to

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7:00 a.m. every three months. The change in hours was the main driver of LT. GIDDENS accepting the position because he had sole custody of his children. LT. GIDDENS noted that the pay increase was minimal at approximately \$1.00 per hour. LT. GIDDENS had not even received the full pay increase yet because his probation period had just ended.

Prior to CAPTAIN BOUTWELL taking over the jail at the end of 2015, LT. GIDDENS had never worked with CAPTAIN BOUTWELL before. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL had once interviewed LT. GIDDENS regarding other jail incidents while CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was assigned to the investigative division.

LT. GIDDENS had no relationship outside of work with CAPTAIN BOUTWELL. LT. GIDDENS had picked up junk from CAPTAIN BOUTWELL'S house for the purpose of recycling in the past. The last time this occurred was approximately two to three months ago.

LT. GIDDENS had no relationship or conflicts with INMATE STYLES outside of the jail. INMATE STYLES did have a problem with his attitude and his "mouth". LT. GIDDENS believed that he had put INMATE STYLES in lockdown one other time and had done a report on the incident.

This action concluded at approximately 4:40 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

AUDIO

[\(Attachments\)](#)

INCIDENT REPORT

[\(Attachments\)](#)

ID DATA:

GIDDENS, COURTNEY (LIEUTENANT)

DOB: [REDACTED] 1986

SEX/RACE: MALE/UNKNOWN

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

MORVEN, GA

COUNTRY: UNITED STATES

OCCUPATION: LIEUTENANT

EMPLOYER:

BROOKS COUNTY JAIL

CELLULAR: [REDACTED]

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 9/22/2016

Is: 9/22/2016

JS MS

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Wednesday, September 14, 2016, at approximately 4:40 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Brooks County Sheriff's Office CID Annex, 1004 Holloway Drive, Quitman, Brooks County, Georgia, for the purpose of interviewing Brooks County Jail OFFICER TITANIA PROCTOR in regards to the present investigation.

It should be noted this is a general synopsis of the interview with OFFICER PROCTOR. For a detailed account of the interview in its entirety, refer to the recording associated with this summary (see attached).

SA SEACRIST advised OFFICER PROCTOR that the interview was related to a criminal investigation and that her cooperation was voluntary. OFFICER PROCTOR confirmed that no one had instructed her that she was required to speak with SA SEACRIST. OFFICER PROCTOR stated that she was willing to provide a voluntary statement. OFFICER PROCTOR essentially stated the following:

OFFICER PROCTOR had been a JAILER at the Brooks County Jail for approximately three years. Prior to that, she had been a JAILER at the Lowndes County Jail for approximately six and a half years. In between those two jobs, OFFICER PROCTOR had taken a one year break.

On Thursday, September 8, 2016, OFFICER PROCTOR was in the main control room when Brooks County Jail OFFICER ANITA HILL mentioned that Brooks County Jail CAPTAIN SCOTT BOUTWELL and LT. COURTNEY GIDDENS were

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moving INMATE STEPHEN STYLES. OFFICER PROCTOR heard LT. GIDDENS call for Brooks County Jail OFFICER JIM PYLE. OFFICER PROCTOR then left main control to take care of another task and when she returned to main control, OFFICER HILL advised that OFFICER PROCTOR should assist CAPTAIN BOUTWELL, LT. GIDDENS, and OFFICER PYLE.

When OFFICER PROCTOR arrived, she saw CAPTAIN BOUTWELL, LT. GIDDENS, OFFICER PYLE and INMATE STYLES on the ground. INMATE STYLES was handcuffed behind his back and was almost laid flat on the ground. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was saying "stop resisting" and INMATE STYLES was saying "I'm not resisting". OFFICER PROCTOR went towards the area where INMATE STYLES' feet were. OFFICER PROCTOR then saw CAPTAIN BOUTWELL knee INMATE STYLES two times. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL then said that INMATE STYLES had tried to spit on him. OFFICER PROCTOR asked CAPTAIN BOUTWELL what he wanted her to do, to which CAPTAIN BOUTWELL said to lay INMATE STYLES flat. OFFICER PROCTOR then moved one of INMATE STYLES' legs, which flattened INMATE STYLES out on the ground. OFFICER PROCTOR noted that it took almost no effort to move INMATE STYLES' leg as he was offering no resistance.

OFFICER PROCTOR then assisted in moving INMATE STYLES to lockdown in A dorm. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL told LT. GIDDENS to write a report regarding the incident. After LT. GIDDENS left the jail, he called back and told the other officers involved that they also needed to write a report. OFFICER PROCTOR knew that her report would be reviewed by CAPTAIN BOUTWELL, so she left the part out about CAPTAIN BOUTWELL kneeling INMATE STYLES. OFFICER PROCTOR was fearful for her job because she was a single parent with three kids. OFFICER

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PROCTOR confirmed that the report in SA SEACRIST'S possession was the report she completed regarding the incident (see attached).

OFFICER PROCTOR felt like CAPTAIN BOUTWELL kneeing INMATE STYLES was unnecessary. OFFICER PROCTOR could not tell where CAPTAIN BOUTWELL'S knee strikes were hitting INMATE STYLES. OFFICER PROCTOR could not see any active resistance by INMATE STYLES. LT. GIDDENS and OFFICER PYLE did not appear to be struggling with INMATE STYLES during the incident. OFFICER PROCTOR also noted though that she came at the very end of the incident and was not sure what had led up to it.

While OFFICER PROCTOR was assisting escorting INMATE STYLES to the lockdown cell, INMATE STYLES mentioned to look at his wrist, referring to the handcuffs. INMATE STYLES wanted the handcuffs off and told them that "y'all bout to lose your jobs". Approximately twenty minutes after the incident, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL told OFFICER PROCTOR to go take the handcuffs off INMATE STYLES. In OFFICER PROCTOR'S experience, it is normal for the nurse to be sent to check on the inmate after a use of force incident. OFFICER PROCTOR did not believe that the nurse was sent to examine INMATE STYLES following this incident.

INMATE STYLES did not get his mattress, blanket and other belongings back that same day. OFFICER PROCTOR was off the next three days, which were Friday, Saturday and Sunday. When OFFICER PROCTOR returned, INMATE STYLES had his mattress, blanket and other belongings. When asked if it was normal for an inmate not to have his mattress and blanket when moved to a lockdown cell, OFFICER PROCTOR stated it depended on the issue with the inmate.

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OFFICER PROCTOR had no relationship with CAPTAIN BOUTWELL other than as an employee at the jail. OFFICER PROCTOR knew that CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was assigned to the Criminal Investigation Division of the Brooks County Sheriff's Office before coming to work in the jail, but she had no association with CAPTAIN BOUTWELL.

OFFICER PROCTOR had no relationship with INMATE STYLES or his family outside of the jail. OFFICER PROCTOR had seen INMATE STYLES around town, but did not associate with him. OFFICER PROCTOR noted that she had no issues with INMATE STYLES while he had been in jail.

The only time OFFICER PROCTOR had to use force against an inmate was approximately one month before today's date. During this incident, OFFICER PROCTOR had to use pepper spray on INMATE JOHNATHAN VICKS because he had flooded the dorm with the toilet. OFFICER PROCTOR stated that INMATE VICKS was in the process of flooding the dorm with the toilet and was not responding to commands.

OFFICER PROCTOR noted that she had not observed CAPTAIN BOUTWELL with inmates very often. Because of this, she knew of no other incidents of concern between CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and other inmates.

This action concluded at approximately 5:22 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

AUDIO

[\(Attachments\)](#)

STATEMENTS

[\(Attachments\)](#)

ID DATA:

PROCTOR, TITANIA (MS)

DOB: [REDACTED]/1972

SEX/RACE: FEMALE/BLACK

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

QUITMAN, GA

COUNTRY: UNITED STATES

OCCUPATION: UNKNOWN

EMPLOYER:

UNKNOWN

[REDACTED]

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 9/19/2016

Is: 10/28/2016

JS MS

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Wednesday, September 14, 2016, at approximately 5:40 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Brooks County Sheriff's Office CID Annex, 1004 Holloway Drive, Quitman, Brooks County, Georgia, for the purpose of interviewing Brooks County Jail OFFICER ANITA HILL in regards to the present investigation.

It should be noted this is a general synopsis of the interview with OFFICER HILL. For a detailed account of the interview in its entirety, refer to the recording associated with this summary (see attached).

Prior to the interview, SA SEACRIST advised OFFICER HILL that a criminal investigation was being conducted and that OFFICER HILL'S cooperation was completely voluntary. OFFICER HILL confirmed that she had not been instructed that her cooperation in the investigation was required as a condition of employment. OFFICER HILL essentially stated the following:

OFFICER HILL had worked at the Brooks County Jail for approximately seven months as a detention officer. OFFICER HILL was not yet certified as a detention officer.

On Thursday, September 8, 2016, OFFICER HILL was working the main control room, which included monitoring the video surveillance cameras. OFFICER HILL saw Brooks County JAIL CAPTAIN SCOTT BOUTWELL, LT. COURTNEY GIDDENS, and OFFICER JIM PYLE bring INMATE STEPHEN STYLES out of his dorm. INMATE STYLES' belongings were put in a cart and door 16 was opened.

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OFFICER HILL observed CAPTAIN BOUTWELL walk by door 16 and INMATE STYLES followed him. LT. GIDDENS pushed INMATE STYLES and then OFFICER PYLE handcuffed INMATE STYLES behind his back. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL then came out and there appeared to be words exchanged between CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and INMATE STYLES. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL moved towards INMATE STYLES as if he was going to choke him, but LT. GIDDENS got in between the two of them.

All three jail staff, along with INMATE STYLES, eventually went to the ground. During the struggle, while INMATE STYLES was laying on the ground with his hands cuffed behind the back, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL kicked INMATE STYLES at least three times. OFFICER HILL believed it was CAPTAIN BOUTWELL'S foot that was kicking INMATE STYLES. OFFICER HILL recalled that just before she observed CAPTAIN BOUTWELL kicking INMATE STYLES, she had told Brooks County Jail OFFICER TITANIA PROCTOR to go help. Towards the end of the incident, OFFICER PROCTOR had arrived and straightened out INMATE STYLES' leg. INMATE STYLES was then moved to the lock down unit, which was A dorm. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL then ordered a 24 hour lockdown with no phone privileges for all inmates in the lockdown unit. Afterwards, INMATE STYLES was not given his mattress and blanket back. OFFICER HILL noted that she had never before observed someone sent to the lock down unit without their mattress and blanket. OFFICER HILL believed that INMATE STYLES received his mattress and blanket sometime over the weekend.

OFFICER HILL had no issues with INMATE STYLES in the past. OFFICER HILL recalled that INMATE STYLES was mostly quiet. Following the incident, OFFICER HILL was not aware of any medical assistance that was given to INMATE STYLES.

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OFFICER HILL is unaware if INMATE STYLES asked for any medical assistance.

OFFICER HILL had no relationship with CAPTAIN BOUTWELL or his family outside of her work. OFFICER HILL graduated high school with INMATE STYLES' sister, but OFFICER HILL had no relationship with INMATE STYLES or any member of his family outside of work.

OFFICER HILL had no prior use of force incidents while working at the Brooks County Jail.

SA SEACRIST produced the statement by OFFICER HILL which had been provided to him by Brooks County Sheriff's Office INVESTIGATOR EUGENE OWEN (see attached). OFFICER HILL confirmed that it was her written statement and that she had given it to her sister, JACQUELINE JOHNS, who gave it to Brooks County Sheriff's Office CAPTAIN JERRY MILLER. OFFICER HILL noted that she originally wrote that statement on Thursday, September 8, 2016, which was the date of the incident. JACQUELINE had asked OFFICER HILL to give her a copy, so OFFICER HILL rewrote the statement and gave it to JACQUELINE. SA SEACRIST noted that the date on the statement was Sunday, September 11, 2016.

OFFICER HILL noted that there was another incident that she felt should be reported. In either April or May of 2016, OFFICER HILL witnessed CAPTAIN BOUTWELL place INMATE WALTER ELLER in the restraint chair while he was assisted by LT. GIDDENS. Once INMATE ELLER was in the restraint chair, he was pulled into the shower area, which was located in the jail intake area. INMATE ELLER was then placed under the shower head and LT. GIDDENS continuously pushed the button which turned the water on while INMATE ELLER was underneath the shower.

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head. OFFICER HILL believed that INMATE ELLER may currently be an inmate in the Lowndes County Jail.

This action concluded at approximately 6:10 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

AUDIO

[\(Attachments\)](#)

STATEMENTS

[\(Attachments\)](#)

ID DATA:

HILL, ANITA (MS)

DOB: [REDACTED]/1977

SEX/RACE: FEMALE/BLACK

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

QUITMAN, BROOKS COUNTY, GA

COUNTRY: UNITED STATES

OCCUPATION: UNKNOWN

EMPLOYER:

UNKNOWN

CELLULAR: [REDACTED]

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 9/16/2016

Is: 9/20/2016

ST MS

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Thursday, September 15, 2016, at approximately 12:40 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Brooks County Sheriff's Office CID Annex, 1004 Holloway Drive, Quitman, Brooks County, Georgia, for the purpose of interviewing Brooks County Jail OFFICER JIM PYLE in regards to the present investigation.

It should be noted this is a general synopsis of the interview with OFFICER PYLE. For a detailed account of the interview in its entirety, refer to the recording attached to this summary (see attached).

SA SEACRIST advised OFFICER PYLE that a criminal investigation was being conducted and that OFFICER PYLE'S cooperation was completely voluntary. OFFICER PYLE confirmed that he had not been instructed that his cooperation in the investigation was required as a condition of employment. OFFICER PYLE essentially stated the following:

OFFICER PYLE has been a JAILER at the Brooks County Jail for approximately three and a half years. Prior to that, OFFICER PYLE had been a correctional officer at the Georgia State Prison in Reidsville for approximately six and a half years. OFFICER PYLE also worked as a jailer in the State of Florida at two different facilities and was retired from the United States Army.

On Thursday, September 8, 2016, at approximately 9:15 a.m., OFFICER PYLE was giving out canteen items to B dorm. OFFICER PYLE heard Brooks County Jail LT. COURTNEY GIDDENS in E dorm asking for assistance from OFFICER DAVIS, who

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OFFICER PYLE knew was out sick that day. LT. GIDDENS then called over the radio and asked for assistance from OFFICER PYLE.

As OFFICER PYLE arrived, Brooks County Jail CAPTAIN SCOTT BOUTWELL said to move INMATE STEPHEN STYLES to the A dorm, which was the lock down unit. OFFICER PYLE did not know why INMATE STYLES was being moved to lock down. LT. GIDDENS had INMATE STYLES roll up his mat and then said that INMATE STYLES was going to C dorm. OFFICER PYLE then told LT. GIDDENS that CAPTAIN BOUTWELL said INMATE STYLES was going to A dorm.

CAPTAIN BOUTWELL later came out and was going into C dorm when INMATE STYLES asked why he had to go to the lock down unit. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL told INMATE STYLES it was because of his attitude. INMATE STYLES then mentioned that CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was the reason that INMATE STYLES was in jail to begin with. INMATE STYLES began getting angry and moved towards CAPTAIN BOUTWELL. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL then instructed LT. GIDDENS and OFFICER PYLE to handcuff INMATE STYLES. OFFICER PYLE handcuffed INMATE STYLES behind the back. INMATE STYLES began what OFFICER PYLES described as passive resistance, meaning he was moving around but was not pulling or pushing against the jailers. OFFICER PYLE believed he and LT. GIDDENS had INMATE STYLES under control. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL then reached over LT. GIDDENS and grabbed STYLES around the head. INMATE STYLES said "you're choking me". CAPTAIN BOUTWELL then pulled INMATE STYLES down to the ground by his head. OFFICER PYLE was not sure why CAPTAIN BOUTWELL had taken INMATE STYLES down to the ground.

Once they were on the ground, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL began kneeling INMATE

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STYLES in the chest. OFFICER PYLE knew immediately that CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was using excessive force. OFFICER PYLE was down on a knee assisting with securing INMATE STYLES, but OFFICER PYLE noted he was not having to use force to do so. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL then backed off of INMATE STYLES, and OFFICER PYLE and LT. GIDDENS took INMATE STYLES to the lock down unit. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL then told LT. GIDDENS to leave the handcuffs on INMATE STYLES. When OFFICER PYLE and LT. GIDDENS took INMATE STYLES to the lock down unit, INMATE STYLES told CAPTAIN BOUTWELL "you know I got your job".

Approximately thirty minutes after the incident, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL made the order that A dorm was losing its one hour outside and would no longer have phone call privileges. OFFICER PYLE noted that this order came from CAPTAIN BOUTWELL per either LT. GIDDENS or Brooks County Jail OFFICER TITIANA PROCTOR.

Approximately one hour after the incident, OFFICER PYLE and OFFICER PROCTOR went to INMATE STYLES' cell and removed the handcuffs. OFFICER PYLE asked if INMATE STYLES was ok and he said yes.

Between 6:00 and 7:00 p.m. of that same evening, OFFICER PYLE went to check on INMATE STYLES. OFFICER PYLE spoke with INMATE STYLES and recalled that INMATE STYLES made no requests for medical attention nor mentioned any physical complaints from the incident. OFFICER PYLE also recalled that INMATE STYLES never made any indication during the incident that he needed medical attention.

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On Monday, September 12, 2016, OFFICER PYLE and Brooks County Jail OFFICER ANITA HILL discussed the incident with INMATE STYLES. OFFICER PYLE did not know that OFFICER HILL had observed the incident from the video control room. Both were discussing how the incident was not handled right by CAPTAIN BOUTWELL. OFFICER PYLE never discussed the incident with CAPTAIN BOUTWELL, LT. GIDDENS, or OFFICER PROCTOR.

SA SEACRIST provided OFFICER PYLE with his incident report, which OFFICER PYLE confirmed was his (see attached). SA SEACRIST noted to OFFICER PYLE that incident report described INMATE STYLES acting more aggressively prior to being taken down to the ground. OFFICER PYLE clarified that INMATE STYLES made small lunges forward and was "passive aggressive" just before CAPTAIN BOUTWELL took INMATE STYLES down to the ground.

OFFICER PYLE recalled that after they stood INMATE STYLES back up at the end of the incident, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL told INMATE STYLES that he would receive more charges because INMATE STYLES had spit on CAPTAIN BOUTWELL. INMATE STYLES did not respond to CAPTAIN BOUTWELL'S comments. OFFICER PYLE never recalled seeing INMATE STYLES spit on CAPTAIN BOUTWELL.

OFFICER PYLE had no direct discussion with INMATE STYLES regarding the incident. On Tuesday, September 13, 2016, INMATE STYLES asked OFFICER PYLE if he was still going to receive additional charges related to the incident. OFFICE PYLE told INMATE STYLES that it was not likely that he would receive additional charges since none had been filed at that time.

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OFFICER PYLE stated he had no relationship outside of work with CAPTAIN BOUTWELL. OFFICER PYLE recalled that CAPTAIN BOUTWELL had offered OFFICER PYLE the SGT. position, but OFFICER PYLE turned it down due to his recurring medical issues.

OFFICER PYLE had no relationship outside the jail with INMATE STYLES or any member of his family. OFFICER PYLE noted he did not even know who INMATE STYLES' family was.

SA SEACRIST then reviewed the video surveillance footage of the incident with OFFICER PYLE. OFFICER PYLE noted that INMATE STYLES was more aggressive than what he recalled just prior to INMATE STYLES being taken down to the ground. OFFICER PYLE then noted that it seemed appropriate that INMATE STYLES was taken to the ground given his non-compliance. OFFICE PYLE also noted that, once down on the ground, INMATE STYLES did not appear to be immediately compliant. OFFICER PYLE noted that by the third knee by CAPTAIN BOUTWELL to INMATE STYLES, OFFICER PYLE began to stand up and noted that INMATE STYLES appeared to be compliant and there was no more need for force. OFFICER PYLE recalled at that point of the incident that it seemed "surreal" watching CAPTAIN BOUTWELL continue to knee INMATE STYLES even though he was compliant. OFFICER PYLE recalled that INMATE STYLES would give a sound like a "hurting laugh" every time CAPTAIN BOUTWELL'S knee hit INMATE STYLES. OFFICER PYLE described it almost as if INMATE STYLES could not believe what was going on.

SA SEACRIST asked OFFICER PYLE if there was any other incident that occurred in the jail that OFFICER PYLE felt needed to be reported. OFFICE PYLE stated

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there was an incident involving INMATE WALTER ELLER in May or June of 2016. OFFICER PYLE noted it was day shift on a week day when the incident occurred. INMATE ELLER was depressed and suicidal when CAPTAIN BOUTWELL ordered LT. GIDDENS to strap INMATE ELLER to the restraint chair. OFFICER PYLE may have helped LT. GIDDENS in strapping INMATE ELLER to the chair. Once INMATE ELLER was strapped into the restraint chair, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL ordered LT. GIDDENS to move the restraint chair into the shower area. LT. GIDDENS then pressed the shower button several times while the shower head was directed at INMATE ELLER'S head. OFFICER PYLE recalled he and Brooks County Jail SGT. TRACY TROUTMAN stood there witnessing the incident, in shock that it was occurring.

OFFICE PYLE believed that the video cameras that covered the intake area of the jail would show INMATE ELLER being strapped to the chair and wheeled into the shower. OFFICER PYLE stated there were no cameras in the actual shower area. OFFICER PYLE believed that INMATE ELLER was later transferred to the Lowndes County Jail, possibly within a day or two of the incident. OFFICER PYLE also believed this transfer may have occurred because the Lowndes County Jail was better staffed to provide the twenty-four hour suicide watch which INMATE ELLER may have needed.

OFFICE PYLE believed there may have been another incident during a different shift where an inmate was strapped into the restraint chair and put in the shower. OFFICER PYLE was unsure of the details for that incident.

This action concluded at approximately 1:45 p.m.

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Thursday, September 15, 2016, at 1:45 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Brooks County Sheriff's Office CID Annex, 1004 Holloway Drive, Quitman, Brooks County, Georgia, for the purpose of interviewing RINA GRIFFIN in regards to the present investigation.

It should be noted this is a general synopsis of the interview with RINA. For a detailed account of the interview in its entirety, refer to the recording associated with this summary (see attached).

SA SEACRIST advised RINA that the investigation was not an administrative or disciplinary inquiry, but rather a criminal investigation. SA SEACRIST also advised RINA that her cooperation in the investigation was voluntary. RINA confirmed that she had not been instructed that he was required to speak with SA SEACRIST as a condition of her employment. RINA essentially stated the following:

RINA had been employed as a JAIL OFFICER until the end of May 2016 when she was injured and later began working at the 911 Center due to her injuries received while working at the jail.

On April 4, 2016, at approximately 11:40 a.m., Brooks County Jail INMATE TONY STATEN became combative while in the D pod. INMATE STATEN fought with RINA, Brooks County Jail OFFICER JORQUA DAVIS, OFFICER CHARITY MOBLEY, and LT. COURTNEY GIDDENS. INMATE STATEN was secured with handcuffs while in D pod and then escorted to the intake area where he was placed

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in a restraint chair. INMATE STATEN was then wheeled into the shower area in intake where he was placed underneath a shower head. The shower was turned on for a period of 15 to 20 minutes. Brooks County Jail CAPTAIN SCOTT BOUTWELL specifically told RINA not to document the shower of INMATE STATEN in her report. RINA did not believe that any of the other jail officers put the shower in the report either.

RINA further clarified that it was CAPTAIN BOUTWELL who told LT. GIDDENS and OFFICER DAVIS to take INMATE STATEN into the shower area. As a female, RINA stayed in the intake area, but could see into the shower area most of the time. RINA noted that the door was mostly open but was closed a couple of times during the incident. Inside the shower was CAPTAIN BOUTWELL, LT. GIDDENS and OFFICER DAVIS. RINA heard CAPTAIN BOUTWELL give the order to push the shower button on and also heard CAPTAIN BOUTWELL say "this is how you cool them off". LT. GIDDENS then told RINA to get a broom so that they would not have to reach over INMATE STATEN to push the shower button on. RINA was unsure if she gave the broom to LT. GIDDENS or OFFICER DAVIS. During this incident, INMATE STATEN was screaming, crying and begging for them to stop. After the shower incident, INMATE STATEN was taken back to the intake area cells. INMATE STATEN was left in his wet jumpsuit in the restraint chair.

OFFICER MOBLEY was not present for the shower incident. INMATE STATEN had bitten OFFICER MOBLEY on the finger, breaking the skin. OFFICE MOBLEY had gone directly to the emergency room for treatment.

RINA provided SA SEACRIST with a copy of the report that she prepared and that was approved by CAPTAIN BOUTWELL (see attached). SA SEACRIST reviewed

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the report and noted that "NURSE ROB" was mentioned in the report. RINA stated that she believed NURSE ROB stepped into his office down the hall because he did not want to be a part of what was going on inside the shower. RINA also provided SA SEACRIST with the reports of LT GIDDENS and OFFICER MOBLEY (see attached).

On May 30, 2016, approximately 5:15 p.m. VICKIE THOMAS was brought in by Morven Police Department OFFICER TJ FRYE for disorderly conduct. INMATE THOMAS was intoxicated and began fighting with the jail staff during the intake process. RINA recalled that herself and Brooks County Jail OFFICER DELLISA BROWN, OFFICER DAVIS, and Morven PD OFFICER FRYE participated in restraining INMATE THOMAS. During the fight, RINA was injured, causing her entire right arm and hand to go numb. RINA was the SHIFT SGT. and instructed OFFICERS BROWN and DAVIS to put INMATE THOMAS into the restraint chair. RINA then stepped into the property room to regain her composure and check on her injury.

When RINA exited the property room and returned to the intake area, she found OFFICERS DAVIS and BROWN had INMATE THOMAS in the restraint chair in the shower. When RINA asked what was going on, they replied that they were doing what "CAPTAIN BOUTWELL had taught us". They said this was what "the Captain said to do to cool them down". RINA stayed in the shower room for approximately five minutes and then left, but did not tell OFFICERS BROWN and DAVIS to stop.

RINA then called CAPTAIN BOUTWELL to advise him of her injury and that she needed to go to the hospital. RINA also advised CAPTAIN BOUTWELL that INMATE THOMAS had been subjected to the shower treatment, to which CAPTAIN

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BOUTWELL said "ok good". RINA then called her dad, Brooks County Sheriff's Office SGT. TERRY GRIFFIN, who came and picked RINA up to take her to the hospital. RINA told her dad about the shower incident that same night.

Several days later, RINA went back over to the jail to write her report. RINA initially reported that the inmate was restrained to the chair and put in the shower for behavioral purposes. When she turned the report into CAPTAIN BOUTWELL, he told her to change the report to say the inmate was placed in the shower because she refused to shower as part as the intake process. RINA provided SA SEACRIST with a copy of the incident report (see attached). SA SEACRIST asked if RINA had a copy of the report prior to changing it per CAPTAIN BOUTWELL'S instructions, to which RINA said she did not. RINA told her dad the same day about CAPTAIN BOUTWELL telling her to change her report. Her dad told her she should go back and tell him she was not comfortable with changing the report. RINA noted that she was scared to do that with CAPTAIN BOUTWELL. RINA also provided the report prepared by OFFICER BROWN (see attached).

This action concluded at approximately 2:35 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

AUDIO

[\(Attachments\)](#)

INCIDENT REPORT

[\(Attachments\)](#)

ID DATA:

GRIFFIN, RINA (MS)

██████████/1986

SEX/RACE: FEMALE/WHITE

ADDRESS: ██████████ ROAD

PAVO, GA

COUNTRY: UNITED STATES

OCCUPATION: JAILER

EMPLOYER:

BROOKS COUNTY JAIL

CELLULAR: ██████████

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 9/16/2016

Is: 9/21/2016

JS MS

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Thursday, September 15, 2016, at approximately 3:35 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Lowndes County Jail, 100 Prison Farm Road, Valdosta, Lowndes County, Georgia, for the purpose of interviewing INMATE WALTER ELLER in regards to the present investigation.

It should be noted this is a general synopsis of the interview with INMATE ELLER. For a detailed account of the interview in its entirety, refer to the recording associated with the summary (see attached).

SA SEACRIST asked if there was anything that had occurred at the Brooks County Jail which INMATE ELLER would like to report. INMATE ELLER recalled that he had been "roughed up" at the Brooks County Jail. INMATE ELLER stated that he was a co-defendant in a burglary with BRIAN MOBLEY. MOBLEY had been initially housed in a different part of the Brooks County Jail. After MOBLEY had bonded out, INMATE ELLER began getting threats from other inmates. The same people making the threats inside the jail were also telling the jail staff that INMATE ELLER was trying to escape. INMATE ELLER stated that the statements were not true.

The jail staff was preparing to move INMATE ELLER to the same area where the inmates were housed that were making the threats against INMATE ELLER. INMATE ELLER refused to move so he was placed in A dorm, also known as "lock down". Once INMATE ELLER was placed in the "hole", INMATE ELLER took off his jumpsuit and tried to hang himself with it. Brooks County Jail LT. COURTNEY GIDDENS and OFFICER JORQUA DAVIS found INMATE ELLER and brought him

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back to consciousness. At this time, INMATE ELLER was only wearing boxer shorts. Once INMATE ELLER regained consciousness, he began beating his head on the wall. LT. GIDDENS and OFFICER DAVIS then moved INMATE ELLER to the intake area cells.

Brooks County Jail CAPTAIN SCOTT BOUTWELL then told LT. GIDDENS to strap INMATE ELLER into the restraint chair. INMATE ELLER noted that it was actually OFFICER DAVIS who strapped INMATE ELLER into the chair. To strap INMATE ELLER into the chair, they used the leather straps along with handcuffs, which were very tight. INMATE ELLER recalled that his hands turned black and blue.

After approximately one hour, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL, LT. GIDDENS, OFFICER DAVIS, and NURSE ROB COESTER came into INMATE ELLER'S cell. NURSE COESTER said that the cuffs had to be loosened and OFFICER DAVIS loosened them. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL then ordered everyone to get out of the cell and everyone left. A short time later, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL, LT. GIDDENS, OFFICER DAVIS, NURSE COESTER, along with a short black female SGT. whose name INMATE ELLER could not recall, returned. NURSE COESTER said something about having to be released from the restraint chair every two hours. INMATE ELLER was removed from the chair and allowed to stretch for approximately fifteen minutes. NURSE COESTER then told INMATE ELLER that he had to go back in the chair for another two hours. INMATE ELLER recalled that CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was standing at the cell door at this time. As OFFICER DAVIS put the cuffs back on INMATE ELLER, NURSE COESTER checked to make sure they were not too tight.

When NURSE COESTER left, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL told OFFICER DAVIS to take

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INMATE ELLER to the showers. OFFICER DAVIS maneuvered INMATE ELLER into the shower underneath the shower head. LT. GIDDENS grabbed a broom handle, which was then used to push the water button at least two times. INMATE ELLER recalled hearing CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and LT. GIDDENS laughing behind him. OFFICER DAVIS and the black female SGT. were standing nearby.

After LT. GIDDENS hit the water button the second time, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and LT. GIDDENS left. The black female SGT. told OFFICER DAVIS to pull INMATE ELLER out of the water. She told OFFICER DAVIS to get INMATE ELLER out of the chair while she retrieved towels. When she returned, she helped dry INMATE ELLER off. OFFICER DAVIS then told INMATE ELLER "I'm sorry but you got to get back in it." Once INMATE ELLER was secured back into the restraint chair, OFFICER DAVIS maneuvered the chair back to the intake holding cell. Later, NURSE COESTER, LT. GIDDENS, and OFFICER DAVIS came to INMATE ELLER'S cell and removed him from the restraint chair. INMATE ELLER was then given a clean smock to wear.

The next morning, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL came into INMATE ELLER'S cell laughing at him. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was laughing because he told INMATE ELLER that he was in clean street clothes while INMATE ELLER was in a jumpsuit. INMATE ELLER told CAPTAIN BOUTWELL that he no longer felt safe with the inmates or the staff at Brooks County Jail. INMATE ELLER then began a hunger strike.

INMATE ELLER believed the shower incident occurred on a Monday. By the following Thursday, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL had an ambulance take INMATE ELLER to the Brooks County Hospital. INMATE ELLER was there for approximately two hours. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and LT. GIDDENS, along with another young white

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Friday, September 16, 2016, at approximately 12:45 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Brooks County Sheriff's Office CID Annex, 1004 Holloway Drive, Quitman, Brooks County, Georgia, for the purpose of meeting with Brooks County Sheriff's Office INVESTIGATOR EUGENE OWEN regarding the previous requests for information on the jail video surveillance system and the audit reports for the Eagle incident reporting system.

INVESTIGATOR OWEN stated he had spoken with CHAUNCEY MERRIWEATHER with Ace Technologies, which was the company that was contracted by the Sheriff's Office to maintain the video surveillance system in the Brooks County Jail. CHAUNCEY informed INVESTIGATOR OWEN that a lightning strike approximately three to four weeks before had damaged the recording system. During the repair, the hard drive had to be reformatted which deleted all prior video. After the repair, the DVR was holding approximately four weeks of video storage. CHAUNCEY also stated that there were no backups completed on the video storage DVR. SA SEACRIST noted that, with the exception of the incident with INMATE STEPHEN STYLES, all of the reported incidents involving inmates being placed in the shower while secured in a restraint chair occurred prior to the DVR hard drive being reformatted.

SA SEACRIST later spoke with CHAUNCEY on Tuesday, September 27, 2016. CHAUNCEY confirmed the damage to the jail DVR system. CHAUNCEY had a copy of the service ticket regarding the incident sent to SA SEACRIST via email (see attached). SA SEACRIST reviewed the service ticket and noted the service

09-0037-34-17

date was July 28, 2016, and that the service was consistent with CHAUNCEY'S explanation.

INVESTIGATOR OWEN spoke with a technician with Eagle Software regarding the audit logs for jail incident reports. SA SEACRIST was attempting to obtain an audit log for the report generated by SERGEANT RINA GRIFFIN due to her statement that she had written an initial report, and was instructed by Brooks County Jail CAPTAIN SCOTT BOUTWELL to change the report as it related to the restraining chair and shower incident involving INMATE TONY STATEN. The technician with Eagle Software informed INVESTIGATOR OWEN that the jail disciplinary/incident report did not have an audit log.

SA SEACRIST later spoke with Eagle Software representatives APRIL CHEATWOOD and JULIE HAMILTON via phone on Tuesday, September 27, 2016. APRIL and JULIE confirmed that there were no audit logs in the jail incident report module in Eagle. SA SEACRIST asked if there was any other way within Eagle to determine if a report had been changed after having been saved. JULIE and APRIL spoke with the owner and informed SA SEACRIST that there was no other function within Eagle that would show if a jail incident report had been changed.

This investigative act occurred over several days and concluded on Tuesday, September 27, 2106 at approximately 2:00 p.m

ATTACHMENTS

OTHER ACE Technologies service ticket

[\(Attachments\)](#)

ID DATA:

[REDACTED]

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 9/16/2016
ls: 9/19/2016

ST MS

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Friday, September 16, 2016, at approximately 2:15 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Brooks County Sheriff's Office CID Annex, 1004 Holloway Drive, Quitman, Brooks County, Georgia, for the purpose of re interviewing Brooks County Jail LT. COURTNEY GIDDENS in regards to the present investigation.

It should be noted this is a general synopsis of the interview with LT. GIDDENS. For a detailed account of the interview in its entirety, refer to the recording associated with this summary (see attached).

SA SEACRIST advised LT. GIDDENS of his rights using a GBI Wavier of Rights Form. LT. GIDDENS indicated he understood his rights and was willing to talk to SA SEACRIST regarding the present investigation by signing the form (see attached). LT. GIDDENS essentially stated the following:

SA SEACRIST advised LT. GIDDENS that during the course of the investigation regarding the use of force against Brooks County Jail INMATE STEPHEN STYLES, other incidents involving inmates have been discovered. SA SEACRIST asked LT. GIDDENS if he was aware of any other kinds of incidents. Initially, LT. GIDDENS could not recall any other incidents that were concerning, but eventually LT. GIDDENS began discussing use of the restraint chair. After further discussion, LT. GIDDENS recalled that some inmates were put into the restraint chair and then taken into the jail shower and placed underneath the shower head with the water on.

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LT. GIDDENS was unsure of the date, but recalled an incident where INMATE TONY STATEN refused to move from D cell. LT. GIDDENS was called down to assist with INMATE STATEN, possibly by SGT. RINA GRIFFIN. Also there was Brooks County Jail OFFICERS JORQUA DAVIS and CHARITY MOBLEY. INMATE STATEN continued to be non-compliant to the jailers commands and had to be restrained. During the struggle to restrain INMATE STATEN, OFFICER MOBLEY was bitten on the finger by INMATE STATEN. INMATE STATEN was eventually handcuffed behind the back and taken to the intake area where he was placed in the restraint chair.

Once in the intake area, Brooks County Jail CAPTAIN SCOTT BOUTWELL became involved in the incident. INMATE STATEN struggled against the restraints and CAPTAIN BOUTWELL gave an order to have INMATE STATEN taken to the shower. Either LT. GIDDENS or OFFICER DAVIS, or possibly both, rolled INMATE STATEN into the shower area. SGT. GRIFFIN stayed in the intake area because she was a female, even though INMATE STATEN was in his jumpsuit. Once INMATE STATEN was placed underneath the shower head, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL told LT. GIDDENS to turn the water on. After LT. GIDDENS turned the water on and the pressure valve released, which caused the water to turn off, OFFICER DAVIS then turned the water on again. LT. GIDDENS and OFFICER DAVIS alternated turning the water on approximately fifteen to twenty times in total. LT. GIDDENS believed they used a stick to push the shower button on so that they would avoid getting wet. While this was occurring, INMATE STATEN was yelling "fuck y'all". Eventually, INMATE STATEN calmed down and got quiet.

Once INMATE STATEN was quiet, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL gave the order to stop and take him back to the intake area cells. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL ordered them to

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release INMATE STATEN from the chair and dry him off and get him a dry jumpsuit. Once INMATE STATEN was dried off, he was placed back in the restraint chair, with which he did not struggle. INMATE STATEN was then placed in the holding cell for approximately two hours. INMATE STATEN was then removed from the chair and remained in the holding cell in the intake area for a few days.

LT. GIDDENS could not recall the exact date this occurred, but believed it was approximately five to six months ago. LT. GIDDENS believed this was the first time he had seen this type of treatment of an inmate at the Brooks County Jail. That same day, he asked CAPTAIN BOUTWELL about how to justify that tactic. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL told LT. GIDDENS that "other jails do it" but did not specify which jails. LT. GIDDENS did not include the shower incident in the report, which was his own decision. LT. GIDDENS was worried that if he put the shower incident in the report, he would become a target of CAPTAIN BOUTWELL. LT. GIDDENS went on to describe an incident where CAPTAIN BOUTWELL had unfairly targeted LT. GIDDENS. He also discussed CAPTAIN BOUTWELL targeting SGT. GRIFFIN and SGT. TRACEY TROUTMAN due to them receiving light duty orders.

LT. GIDDENS noted that NURSE ROB was in his office when the incident occurred. NURSE ROB did not check the restraints when they were first put on INMATE STATEN. Once INMATE STATEN had been dried off, NURSE ROB came and checked the restraints.

When the water was first turned on INMATE STATEN, it was hitting the top of his head. LT. GIDDENS then readjusted the chair, without CAPTAIN BOUTWELL'S orders, so that the water was hitting just below INMATE STATEN'S mouth. When LT. GIDDENS did this, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL did not say anything.

LT. GIDDENS and OFFICER DAVIS later talked about whether the tactic was legitimate or allowed. LT. GIDDENS noted that he had done internet searches trying to find information on the tactic, but was unsuccessful.

LT. GIDDENS recalled another incident where this tactic was used with INMATE WALTER ELLER. INMATE ELLER was suicidal and had taken off his jumpsuit and wrapped it around his neck. INMATE ELLER had twisted the jumpsuit around his neck, while also tying his hand up in it. INMATE ELLER was turning blue in the face when LT. GIDDENS found him. The jumpsuit was wrapped so tightly that LT. GIDDENS had difficulty removing INMATE ELLER'S hand from the middle of the knot. LT. GIDDENS recalled that another jailer went with him into the cell to assist with INMATE ELLER. LT. GIDDENS and the other jailer attempted to handcuff INMATE ELLER, which INMATE ELLER resisted. INMATE ELLER was eventually cuffed behind the back but continued to be non-compliant. As this was occurring, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL arrived. INMATE ELLER was then moved to the intake area and placed in the restraint chair, where he continued to struggle and curse. Once INMATE ELLER'S hands were strapped into the chair, INMATE ELLER stopped struggling physically, but continued to curse.

CAPTAIN BOUTWELL then order LT. GIDDENS and the jailer to put INMATE ELLER into the shower. LT. GIDDENS and the other jailer then turned the shower on INMATE ELLER approximately fifteen to twenty times in total, with each taking turns. LT. GIDDENS and the jailer again used a stick to push the shower button to avoid getting wet. LT. GIDDENS noted it started with the shower water hitting INMATE ELLER directly in the head. The other jailer with LT. GIDDENS then adjusted the chair so that it would not be hitting INMATE ELLER in the mouth. LT.

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GIDDENS recalled that INMATE ELLER was only wearing boxer shorts while this was occurring because he had taken off his jumpsuit to use to choke himself.

LT. GIDDENS believed that the water was "warm" because the pipes mix hot and cold to come out of the shower head. LT. GIDDENS believed the water could be cold at first, depending on how long since it was last used.

Once the shower treatment was complete, INMATE ELLER was allowed to remove his arm from the restraint so that he could dry himself off. INMATE ELLER was then given a dry smock to wear. INMATE ELLER was restrained in the chair again and moved to an intake holding cell. NURSE ROB came to examine INMATE ELLER and check the restraints for proper fit.

LT. GIDDENS again did not include the shower treatment in his report for fear of being targeted by CAPTAIN BOUTWELL.

LT. GIDDENS only knew of one other possible incident where an inmate was placed in a restraint chair and stuck under the shower. LT. GIDDENS was not on shift when it occurred and did not know who the inmate was who received this treatment. LT. GIDDENS believed that CAPTAIN BOUTWELL had informed him that a night shift had used the shower treatment on an inmate.

When asked if there were any other incidents that occurred in the jail that concerned LT. GIDDENS, he recalled an incident with INMATE JOHNATHON VICKS. Approximately two to three months ago, LT GIDDENS was doing his daily inspection and walk-through checks. INMATE VICKS was in cell A7, which was a lock down cell. INMATE VICKS was naked in the cell, which LT. GIDDENS had never seen before. LT. GIDDENS noted that if INMATE VICKS was suicidal, he would have

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been placed in the intake or medical cells up front and not in the lock down cells on A dorm.

When LT. GIDDENS asked CAPTAIN BOUTWELL about INMATE VICKS, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL said "it was his mouth, he will get his clothes back today". The conversation with CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was short because CAPTAIN BOUTWELL already seemed in a bad mood. LT. GIDDENS believed that INMATE VICKS did receive his jumpsuit that same day. LT. GIDDENS noted that he was very familiar with INMATE VICKS because INMATE VICKS was frequently booked into the jail. LT. GIDDENS knew INMATE VICKS to not be violent. Instead, INMATE VICKS was just very "mouthy", which meant he would be very loud and cuss and be verbally defiant.

LT. GIDDENS knew of no other incident within the jail that may be an issue.

Following the interview with SA SEACRIST, LT. GIDDENS was suspended by Brooks County SHERIFF MIKE DEWEY in regards to the investigation.

This action concluded at approximately 3:25 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

AUDIO

[\(Attachments\)](#)

WAIVER OF RIGHTS

[\(Attachments\)](#)

ID DATA:

GIDDENS, COURTNEY (Previously Submitted)

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 9/19/2016
Is: 9/21/2016

ST MS

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Friday, September 16, 2016, at approximately 4:15 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Brooks County Sheriff's Office CID Annex, 1004 Holloway Drive, Quitman, Brooks County, Georgia, for the purpose of interviewing Brooks County Jail SGT. DELLISA BROWN in regards to the present investigation.

It should be noted this is a general synopsis of the interview with SGT. BROWN. For a detailed account of the interview in its entirety, refer to the recording associated with this summary (see attached).

SA SEACRIST advised SGT. BROWN of her rights utilizing the GBI Waiver of Rights Form. SGT. BROWN indicated that she understood her rights and was willing to talk to SA SEACRIST regarding the investigation by signing the form (see attached). SGT. BROWN essentially stated the following:

SGT. BROWN had been employed at the Brooks County Jail for approximately two years. In 2009 and 2010, SGT. BROWN had also worked at a juvenile detention facility in Florida.

SA SEACRIST asked if SGT. BROWN knew the purpose of SA SEACRIST'S investigation. SGT. BROWN stated that she had heard about an incident involving Brooks County Jail CAPTAIN SCOTT BOUTWELL and Brooks County Jail INMATE STEPHEN STYLES. SGT. BROWN was aware that Brooks County Jail LT. COURTNEY GIDDENS and OFFICER JIM PYLE were also involved. SGT. BROWN noted that she had never had a problem with INMATE STYLES during his

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previous incarcerations. SGT. BROWN also noted that INMATE STYLES was especially calm this time in jail. SGT. BROWN contributed this to the medication he was taking. SGT. BROWN also noted that you had to say something to INMATE STYLES just to get him to talk back.

SA SEACRIST asked SGT. BROWN if there were any other incidents that she could recall occurring in the jail that seemed inappropriate. SGT. BROWN had difficulty recalling anything else occurring in the jail that seemed inappropriate. With further provocation by SA SEACRIST, SGT. BROWN eventually recalled an incident involving INMATE VICKIE THOMAS. SGT. BROWN recalled that INMATE THOMAS was brought into the jail and was very irate. SGT. RINA GRIFFIN was the Shift Sergeant that night as SGT. BROWN had yet to be promoted to sergeant. SGT. BROWN was aware that SGT. GRIFFIN had an injured shoulder. SGT. BROWN could tell that INMATE THOMAS was escalating in her aggressive behavior with SGT. GRIFFIN. SGT. BROWN got concerned due to SGT. GRIFFIN'S injury. SGT. BROWN then stepped in and told INMATE THOMAS to not talk to SGT. GRIFFIN that way. INMATE THOMAS continued to be aggressive and the jail staff was forced to restrain INMATE THOMAS in the restraint chair. Along with SGT. BROWN and SGT. GRIFFIN was also Brooks County Jail OFFICER JORQUA DAVIS.

Once in the chair, INMATE THOMAS continued to struggle, so OFFICER DAVIS wheeled INMATE THOMAS into the shower. OFFICER DAVIS told SGT. BROWN that the captain said "that's how to do it when they get aggressive". OFFICER DAVIS also told SGT. BROWN that was what they did with INMATE TONY STATEN when he would not calm down. Once in the shower, INMATE THOMAS was placed underneath the showerhead. SGT. BROWN then pushed the shower button on one

09-0037-34-17

time and INMATE THOMAS said to stop because she had asthma. SGT. BROWN noted that OFFICER DAVIS had left after he pulled the chair into the shower because males were not supposed to be in the showers with females. When SGT. BROWN turned the shower on, she was the only jail staff in the shower with INMATE THOMAS. SGT. BROWN believed that SGT. GRIFFIN was still standing at the desk in the intake area.

After turning the shower on one time, SGT. BROWN pulled INMATE THOMAS towards the door. SGT. BROWN noted that INMATE THOMAS had been able to remove an arm from the restraint, so SGT. BROWN then attempted to re-secure INMATE THOMAS to the chair. At this time, SGT. GRIFFIN and OFFICER DAVIS came into the shower with handcuffs which were used to secure INMATE THOMAS to the chair. INMATE THOMAS was then placed in one of the intake holding cells.

SGT. BROWN stated that the only part of INMATE THOMAS that became wet was her pants because she was not directly under the showerhead to get anything else wet. When INMATE THOMAS was placed in the holding cell, she was still in her wet clothes. SGT. BROWN recalled that INMATE THOMAS stayed in the holding cell for a while. While in the holding cell, INMATE THOMAS had again been able to remove her hands from the restraints.

After the incident, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL had come to the jail to see what had happened. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL never asked about INMATE THOMAS being put in the shower while in the restraint chair. SGT. BROWN also did not recall anyone else pushing the shower button on in this incident. SGT. BROWN believed that the shower door was open so that SGT. GRIFFIN and OFFICER DAVIS could see what was going on inside the shower while SGT. BROWN was with INMATE THOMAS.

SGT. BROWN later had a discussion with Brooks County Jail OFFICER MCMINN about the legality of the shower treatment. OFFICER MCMINN was adamant that it was not legal. OFFICER MCMINN mentioned this during a discussion with CAPTAIN BOUTWELL. OFFICER MCMINN and CAPTAIN BOUTWELL argued back and forth over the legality of the treatment.

SGT. BROWN had heard about INMATE STATEN receiving the same shower treatment. SGT. BROWN believed that CAPTAIN BOUTWELL, LT. GIDDENS, and OFFICER CHARITY MOBLEY were involved. SGT. BROWN did not know the details of that incident. SGT. BROWN also believed that there may have been someone else who received a shower treatment but SGT. BROWN could not remember who the inmate was or when it occurred.

SGT. GRIFFIN did a report regarding the incident with INMATE THOMAS. SGT. BROWN could not recall if she did a report regarding the incident with INMATE THOMAS. SA SEACRIST provided SGT. BROWN with a copy of the report allegedly completed by SGT. BROWN that had been provided to SA SEACRIST by SGT. GRIFFIN (see attached). SGT. BROWN reviewed the report and said that she may have written the report but she could not remember specifically. After further provocation, SGT. BROWN mentioned that she normally put "end of report" at the end on her report, which was not on the report SA SEACRIST provided. SA SEACRIST again asked if this was the report completed by SGT. BROWN, to which she eventually indicated that she believed it was. SGT. BROWN eventually noted that, later on that same shift, after SGT. GRIFFIN had gone to the emergency room for injuries, SGT. BROWN called to check on SGT. GRIFFIN. SGT. GRIFFIN told SGT. BROWN that CAPTAIN BOUTWELL had just left from the emergency room.

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CAPTAIN BOUTWELL had told SGT. GRIFFIN to not put the shower treatment in her incident report. SGT. BROWN took this to mean that she was not to add it to her report either.

Several days later, SGT. BROWN talked to SGT. GRIFFIN. SGT. GRIFFIN stated that CAPTAIN BOUTWELL told her that he could not press charges against INMATE THOMAS regarding the injuries received by SGT. GRIFFIN. SGT. BROWN assumed that this was because they had stuck INMATE THOMAS in the shower.

SGT. BROWN stated that there was no one else available to ask about the legitimacy of the shower treatment being done to inmates. SGT. BROWN knew that LT. GIDDENS had also been involved in the INMATE STATEN incident. With CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and LT. GIDDENS involved in prior incidents using the shower treatment, SGT. BROWN did not know where else to go to ask.

SA SEACRIST noted that following the conclusion of the interview, Brooks County SHERIFF MIKE DEWEY suspended SGT. BROWN pending the completion of the current investigation.

This action concluded at approximately 5:10 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

AUDIO

[\(Attachments\)](#)

WAIVER OF RIGHTS

[\(Attachments\)](#)

INCIDENT REPORT

[\(Attachments\)](#)

ID DATA:

BROWN, DELLISA (MS)

██████████/1990

SEX/RACE: FEMALE/BLACK

ADDRESS: ██████████

QUITMAN, BROOKS COUNTY, GA 31643

COUNTRY: UNITED STATES

OCCUPATION: SERGEANT

EMPLOYER:

BROOKS COUNTY JAIL

QUITMAN, GA

████████████████████

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 9/19/2016

Is: 9/22/2016

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**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Monday, September 19, 2016 at approximately 11:00 a.m. Georgia Bureau of Investigation SPECIAL AGENT ZACH JOHNSON was located at the Brooks County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Division in Quitman, Georgia for the purpose of interviewing SGT. TRACEY TROUTMAN pursuant to the ongoing use of force investigation. AGENT JOHNSON noted this interview was audio recorded and will be digitally attached to this summary.

Prior to any questioning, SGT. TROUTMAN was advised that the ongoing investigation was criminal in nature and that it was not an administrative or disciplinary inquiry. SGT. TROUTMAN was further advised that her cooperation was voluntary and that she was not being compelled in any way to make a statement to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation. SGT. TROUTMAN stated she understood and consented to the interview.

SGT. TROUTMAN essentially stated the following:

TROUTMAN recalled an incident in which INMATE WALTER ELLER was treated unfairly. During this incident ELLER was complaining because he did not want to go back to his cell due to the fact that he did not get along well with the other inmates. LT. GIDDENS instructed OFFICER HENRY DAVIS and TROUTMAN to bring ELLER up to the front. TROUTMAN stated that ELLER was then stripped of his clothes. ELLER was then placed into the restraint chair by LT. GIDDENS. TROUTMAN recalled at this point ELLER was agitated and fussing at the officers. TROUTMAN commented that ELLER was not spitting on the officers nor was he

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resisting in any way. TROUTMAN stated there was no way for ELLER to physically resist due to the fact he was completely restrained in the chair. TROUTMAN recalls CAPTAIN BOUTWELL hearing the commotion and walking up front. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL then instructed "put his ass in the shower."

SGT. TROUTMAN recalled LT. GIDDENS pushed the restraint chair in which ELLER was sitting into the shower. TROUTMAN and OFFICER JAMES PYLE stood next to the fingerprint machine and did not enter the shower. TROUTMAN specifically recalled CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and LT. GIDDENS being the only individuals in the shower in addition to ELLER. TROUTMAN recalled LT. GIDDENS repeatedly hitting the button to turn on the water in the shower. The bathroom door was only half way opened so TROUTMAN was only able to observe CAPTAIN BOUTWELL standing in the shower. TROUTMAN further stated that the door blocked her direct line of view to ELLER and LT. GIDDENS. TROUTMAN recalled ELLER screaming throughout the incident.

TROUTMAN stated that she then walked away to retrieve a towel for ELLER. When she arrived back up front, TROUTMAN determined that ELLER had already been placed into a cell. TROUTMAN entered the cell and provided the towel to ELLER at which point ELLER stated to TROUTMAN that he was not mad at TROUTMAN or OFFICER PYLE. ELLER further stated to TROUTMAN that he wanted to kill the Captain and Lieutenant.

TROUTMAN stated that because of her angle of view into the shower she could not observe the facial expressions or reactions of CAPTAIN BOUTWELL or LT. GIDDENS during the incident. TROUTMAN recalled CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and LT. GIDDENS making comments; however, TROUTMAN could not specifically recall

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these statements.

TROUTMAN could not recall whether or not she completed a report regarding the incident. TROUTMAN stated she would be able to look through the records at the conclusion of the interview to find any and all reports if needed. TROUTMAN had not discussed with CAPTAIN BOUTWELL, LT. GIDDENS or any other detention officers about the incident. TROUTMAN further stated that she had never been instructed or influenced to alter or change any documentation about any incident in the jail.

TROUTMAN stated CAPTAIN BOUTWELL appeared to act normal prior to the incident with ELLER. TROUTMAN did not recall observing any signs of stress or agitation from CAPTAIN BOUTWELL prior to the incident. TROUTMAN noted that after the incident involving ELLER she did not have any contact with CAPTAIN BOUTWELL for the remainder of that shift.

TROUTMAN stated she had heard of a separate incident involving INMATE TONY STATEN, however, TROUTMAN was not present for that incident and did not know the details. Aside from this, TROUTMAN has never observed any inappropriate conduct by any officers or supervisors.

TROUTMAN could provide no further information that was pertinent to the investigation. This investigative act concluded at approximately 11:42 a.m.

ATTACHMENTS

AUDIO

[\(Attachments\)](#)

ID DATA:

TROUTMAN, TRACEY (SERGEANT)

██████████ 1973

SEX/RACE: FEMALE/UNKNOWN

COUNTRY: UNITED STATES

OCCUPATION: SERGEANT

EMPLOYER:

BROOKS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE/DETENTION CENTER

SPECIAL AGENT ZACHARY JOHNSON: 9/21/2016

Is: 9/23/2016

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**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Monday, September 19, 2016, at approximately 11:45 a.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Brooks County Sheriff's Office CID Annex, 1004 Holloway Drive, Quitman, Brooks County, Georgia, for the purpose of interviewing INMATE TONY STATEN in regards to the present investigation.

It should be noted this is a general synopsis of the interview with INMATE STATEN. For a detailed account of the interview in its entirety, refer to the recording attached to this summary (see attached).

SA SEACRIST advised INMATE STATEN that he was here to interview him regarding an incident that may have occurred to him in the Brooks County Jail. SA SEACRIST also advised that INMATE STATEN was not here to be questioned about any of his prior arrests and that his cooperation was voluntary. INMATE STATEN knew the specific incident to which SA SEACRIST was referring. INMATE STATEN essentially stated the following:

On Monday, April 4, 2016, between 10:40 a.m. and 11:00 a.m., INMATE STATEN had refused a sandwich and threw it, hitting a jail officer. LT. COURTNEY GIDDENS and OFFICERS CHARITY MOBLEY, JORQUA DAVIS, and RINA GRIFFIN came in the cell to move INMATE STATEN to "the hole", which SA SEACRIST knew to be A-block. INMATE STATEN refused to go and OFFICER GRIFFIN hit INMATE STATEN in the nose with handcuffs. LT. GIDDENS then hit INMATE STATEN'S head up against the wall. INMATE STATEN was then taken to medical and seen by NURSE ROB COESTER. INMATE STATEN was then

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strapped to a restraint chair, which secured his arms, legs and waist. Brooks County Jail CAPTAIN SCOTT BOUTWELL and LT. GIDDENS then had INMATE STATEN placed inside the shower in the restraint chair, allegedly to wash the blood off from the injuries. INMATE STATEN was then taken to the holding cell for approximately two hours. INMATE STATEN was then taken back into the shower allegedly because he was still bleeding. INMATE STATEN was then taken back to the holding cell for approximately five hours.

INMATE STATEN noted that he had written to his lawyer with the Valdosta Public Defender's Office, CHELSEA IBARRA. ATTORNEY IBARRA spoke with INMATE STATEN and told him he needed to get a civil rights attorney.

After the incident, OFFICERS DAVIS and MOBLEY went to the emergency room for injuries they sustained during the fight. INMATE STATEN did not believe that OFFICER DAVIS or OFFICER MOBLEY were present while he was in the shower. OFFICER GRIFFIN was in the intake area just outside the shower. INMATE STATEN believed that the shower door was closed. While the water was turned on INMATE STATEN, he was screaming. INMATE STATEN believed that NURSE COESTER went back into his office after observing INMATE STATEN'S injuries and did not observe the incident in the shower. INMATE STATEN noted that handcuffs were not used while he was in the restraint chair, just the straps.

While in the shower, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and LT. GIDDENS were both pressing the shower button using a broom handle. The chest restraint on the chair was not in use and CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and LT. GIDDENS would stand just off INMATE STATEN'S shoulder when pressing the shower button. This allowed INMATE STATEN to see who was turning the shower on.

INMATE STATEN noted that he was positioned under the shower head so that the water would hit the top of his head and go down his face. INMATE STATEN was never repositioned so that the water would not hit his head and face.

After the shower incident and while INMATE STATEN was in the holding cell, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL told INMATE STATEN that the shower treatment was used as a way to calm INMATE STATEN down. INMATE STATEN asked to be let out of the restraint chair, to which the CAPTAIN asked "are you sorry or do just want out of the chair". INMATE STATEN answered "both". INMATE STATEN recalled that while the shower treatment was occurring, he heard CAPTAIN BOUTWELL tell LT. GIDDENS that when people come in, if they do not want to take a shower, strap them to the chair and put them in the shower.

INMATE STATEN recalled that once the shower treatment was done and he was returned to his holding cell, he remained in his wet jumpsuit. SA SEACRIST asked how INMATE STATEN knew that he was being placed in the shower to wash away blood from his injuries. INMATE STATEN said that no one told him that, that was just what he thought it may have been for.

INMATE STATEN estimated that during the first shower treatment incident, it occurred for approximately thirty minutes. During the second shower treatment incident, INMATE STATEN believed it occurred for approximately twenty minutes. During that second incident, INMATE STATEN did not scream or holler, but the water was still positioned to hit the top of his head and face. INMATE STATEN recalled that he began throwing up from the water during the second incident.

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INMATE STATEN confirmed that he was diabetic but that during these incidents he was never checked to be sure his diabetic condition was stable. NURSE COESTER did see INMATE STATEN again right before he was taken to lock down. At this time, INMATE STATEN was in a dry jumpsuit. INMATE STATEN did not tell NURSE COESTER about the shower treatment incident.

INMATE STATEN believed that a jail officer by the last name of HENRY had come into the shower area during the second shower treatment incident. INMATE STATEN believed OFFICER HENRY had arrived because OFFICERS DAVIS and MOBLEY had to leave for the emergency room. INMATE STATEN believed that OFFICER HENRY had walked into the shower and just watched but not participated.

INMATE STATEN also believed there was another jail officer who was also working and witnessed the shower incident. INMATE STATEN believed that this jail officer had since been fired. This jail officer was also turning the water on with CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and LT. GIDDENS. INMATE STATEN believed this jail officer was there for the first shower incident but was not sure if he was there for the second shower incident. INMATE STATEN did not know his name, but described him as a white male, approximately 23 to 26 years old and clean shaven. INMATE STATEN believed he was approximately 5'10" tall and 180 to 190 lbs. INMATE STATEN described him as not wearing glasses and being somewhat muscular.

This action concluded at approximately 12:20 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

AUDIO

[\(Attachments\)](#)

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Monday, September 19, 2016 at approximately 12:03 p.m., Georgia Bureau of Investigation SPECIAL AGENT ZACH JOHNSON was located at the Brooks County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Division for the purpose of interviewing ROB COESTER pursuant to the ongoing use of force investigation. AGENT JOHNSON noted this interview was audio recorded and digitally attached to this summary.

COESTER essentially stated the following information:

COESTER was employed as a Registered Nurse by Southern Health Partners. While in this capacity, COESTER had been assigned to the Brooks County Detention Center since February 2016.

COESTER generally stayed in his office most of the work day. COESTER normally arrived around 8:30 a.m. and assisted with providing medication and assessing medical complaints from inmates.

COESTER noted that a medical room is located adjacent to his office. This room was used to provide medical treatment or to further assess inmates' health conditions. For example, if an inmate attempted to commit suicide, the inmate would normally be moved to the medical room, stripped of clothing and wrapped with a suicide-prevention blanket. COESTER is then responsible for closely monitoring the inmate's condition.

COESTER commented that a restraint chair was often used to secure

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uncooperative inmates. In COESTER'S opinion, the restraint chair was sometimes used "too liberally." Certain inmates who had been in the restraint chair numerous times had learned methods to remove their arms from the straps. For this reason, inmates were occasionally handcuffed to the restraint chair as an additional precaution.

COESTER could not state when the incident occurred but recalled INMATE WALTER ELLER had requested to be removed from his cell. According to ELLER, his cellmates were wanting to attack him. COESTER recalled ELLER then attempted a hunger strike by refusing to eat. As part of the protocol, ELLER was placed into the medical room for further observation to include daily weigh-ins. COESTER recalled ELLER was held in the medical room for approximately three or four days.

COESTER stated on one occasion in the past, ELLER was highly agitated and unhappy. ELLER was being moved into the medical room for observation. As COESTER exited his office, he observed ELLER walking into the cell. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL then instructed COESTER to return to COESTER'S office until his assistance was requested. BOUTWELL further instructed COESTER to stay out of the hallways until contacted. COESTER could not recall if this incident was related to ELLER'S previously mentioned hunger strike.

Approximately 5-10 minutes later, COESTER was requested to check on ELLER. COESTER entered the cell and noticed that LIEUTENANT GIDDENS was still present inside the cell. BOUTWELL had already exited. COESTER checked the restraints on ELLER'S arms which appeared to be properly adjusted. COESTER recalled ELLER had a swollen area on the top of his head. COESTER believed

09-0037-34-17

ELLER was placed in the restraint chair because he repeatedly attempted to hit his head on the wall. COESTER noted that ELLER was dry when he observed him. COESTER could not recall GIDDENS or BOUTWELL making any specific comments to ELLER.

COESTER had never observed any inmates being inappropriately placed in the shower. COESTER specifically commented he had never observed anyone being placed into the showers while secured in the restraint chair. COESTER had heard BOUTWELL state “put them in the shower” on a couple occasions but was unsure of the context surrounding the statements.

COESTER had heard rumors from INMATE FNU GODWIN that an altercation took place between BOUTWELL and ELLER. COESTER had not discussed any of the rumors with other staff members.

AGENT JOHNSON noted that COESTER drew by hand a sketch to assist with his explanations. This sketch denoted the location of COESTER’S office in relation to the showers and other cells. This sketch will be digitally attached to this summary.

COESTER could provide no further information that was pertinent to the investigation. This investigative act concluded at approximately 12:38 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

AUDIO

[\(Attachments\)](#)

OTHER Sketch

[\(Attachments\)](#)

ID DATA:

COESTER, ROB (NURSE)

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

SPECIAL AGENT ZACHARY JOHNSON: 10/6/2016

zj: 10/6/2016

ZJ *ST*

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**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Monday, September 19, 2016, at approximately 1:05 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Brooks County Sheriff's Office CID Annex, 1004 Holloway Drive, Quitman, Brooks County, Georgia, for the purpose of interviewing Brooks County Sheriff's Office SGT. TERRY GRIFFIN, the father of former Brooks County JAIL SGT. RINA GRIFFIN, in regards to the present investigation

It should be noted this is a general synopsis of the interview with SGT. GRIFFIN. For a detailed account of the interview in its entirety, review to the recording associated with the summary (see attached).

Prior to the interview, SA SEACRIST advised SGT. GRIFFIN that the investigation was criminal in nature and was not an administrative or disciplinary inquiry. SA SEACRIST also advised SGT. GRIFFIN that his cooperation in the investigation was voluntary. SGT. GRIFFIN confirmed that no one at the Brooks County Sherriff's Office had told him that he was required to participate in the interview as a function of his job. SGT. GRIFFIN further advised he was willing to provide a voluntary statement. SGT. GRIFFIN essentially stated the following:

SGT. GRIFFIN had worked for the Brooks County Sheriff's Office for approximately five years. SGT. GRIFFIN currently worked in the narcotics investigation division. Prior to that, SGT. GRIFFIN had been a LT. on road patrol. During his entire time at Brooks County Sheriff's Office, he was also a canine officer. Prior to the Brooks County Sheriff's Office, SGT. GRIFFIN worked at the Lowndes County Sheriff's Office for approximately 20 years.

SGT. GRIFFIN'S daughter, RINA, had called him one day and told him about being a witness regarding an inmate being put in a restraint chair and then placed in the shower with the water turned on for approximately 20 minutes. RINA told SGT. GRIFFIN that Brooks County Jail CAPTAIN SCOTT BOUTWELL said "this is how you cool them off". RINA had called SGT. GRIFFIN for advice and SGT. GRIFFIN advised RINA to "keep her mouth shut" and to "put it in her book". SGT. GRIFFIN was referring to a personal journal that RINA kept for documentation purposes. SGT. GRIFFIN also told his supervisor, Brooks County Sheriff's Office CAPTAIN JERRY MILLER. This was done for the purpose of "covering them" should this come back up. SGT. GRIFFIN noted that CAPTAIN BOUTWELL ran the jail like a "bully". SGT. GRIFFIN was concerned of repercussions that RINA would face from CAPTAIN BOUTWELL if she were to report the incident.

SGT. GRIFFIN recalled that RINA had been hurt while fighting with an inmate in the jail. RINA'S doctor had put her on light duty. When RINA provided a light duty note to CAPTAIN BOUTWELL, he laughed and said "you don't do any of this stuff anyway". SGT. GRIFFIN was aware that another jail officer had been put on light duty and CAPTAIN BOUTWELL had moved the jail officer into a pod control room to accommodate the light duty status.

RINA also told SGT. GRIFFIN about the incident that occurred on the day RINA received her injury which finally moved her out of the jail. Morven Police Department OFFICER TJ FRYE had arrested someone and brought them to the jail. Once at the jail, the arrestee continued to fight with jail staff, which was when RINA got hurt. Once the person was under control, RINA had stepped away to regain her composure due to the injury. When RINA returned, two other jail staff members had

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put the inmate in the shower. When RINA asked what they were doing, the jail officers commented that this was how CAPTAIN BOUTWELL told them to do it. RINA told SGT. GRIFFIN about this incident the same day while RINA was at the hospital for the injury she incurred.

SGT. GRIFFIN believed that CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was able to do whatever he wanted in the jail. SGT. GRIFFIN believed that the SHERIFF was unaware of a lot of things that were going on in the jail due to certain items not being reported through the chain of command. SGT. GRIFFIN had heard about another incident with another inmate with the last name of WASHINGTON. Allegedly, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL told another jail officer to close him in the cell with INMATE WASHINGTON and to not let him out until CAPTAIN BOUTWELL told him to. RINA may have been the source of this information and believed that "something" happened inside the cell between CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and INMATE WASHINGTON.

RINA had also told SGT. GRIFFIN about comments made by CAPTAIN BOUTWELL to RINA. These comments were related to CAPTAIN BOUTWELL'S nephew, who worked at the jail, having a sexual relationship with a female jail officer. SGT. GRIFFIN was also aware that CAPTAIN BOUTWELL may have known that his nephew was smoking marijuana while working at the jail. Allegedly, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL had made a comment to his nephew asking if he needed to "study a few days for his drug test". SGT. GRIFFIN believed it was common knowledge that his nephew smoked marijuana.

SGT. GRIFFIN had remained in a good working relationship with CAPTAIN BOUTWELL through all of this, up until the time where RINA was injured. SGT.

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GRIFFIN was concerned about the repercussions that RINA might face should these incidents get reported. Whenever RINA would tell SGT. GRIFFIN about an incident, SGT. GRIFFIN would tell her to write it in her book. SGT. GRIFFIN would also tell CAPTAIN MILLER about the incident so that, should these incidents become public, they would have a defense.

This action concluded at approximately 1:30 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

AUDIO

[\(Attachments\)](#)

ID DATA:

GRIFFIN, TERRY (SERGEANT)
SEX/RACE: UNKNOWN/UNKNOWN
COUNTRY: UNITED STATES
OCCUPATION: SERGEANT
EMPLOYER:
BROOKS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
QUITMAN, GA

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 9/22/2016
Is: 9/29/2016



**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Monday, September 19, 2016 at approximately 1:55 p.m., Georgia Bureau of Investigation SPECIAL AGENT ZACH JOHNSON was located at 2755 Marshall Drive in Tifton, Tift County, Georgia for the purpose of interviewing Morven Police Department OFFICER TJ FRYE pursuant to the ongoing use of force investigation. AGENT JOHNSON noted this interview was audio recorded and will be digitally attached to this summary.

Prior to any questioning OFFICER FRYE was advised that the ongoing investigation was criminal in nature and that it was not an administrative or disciplinary inquiry. OFFICER FRYE was further advised that his cooperation was voluntary and that he was not being compelled in any way to make a statement to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation. OFFICER FRYE stated he understood and consented to the interview.

OFFICER FRYE essentially stated the following information:

In June 2016 while working in his capacity as a Morven Police Officer, FRYE was dispatched to a domestic disturbance. VICKI THOMAS was subsequently arrested by FRYE for disorderly conduct and transported to the Brooks County Jail. FRYE brought THOMAS into the booking area. THOMAS was then turned over to the jail officers as FRYE completed his arrest paperwork. FRYE recalled a black female supervisory jail officer and a white female jail officer beginning the booking process of THOMAS. The white female officer attempted to pat down THOMAS. FRYE could not recall specifically what was said but the black female officer came close to

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THOMAS' face and began screaming at her. FRYE recalled that THOMAS then flung her arm in an attempt to hit the officer. FRYE then assisted the officers with forcing THOMAS to sit in the restraint chair. FRYE noted that THOMAS was still attempting to fight so FRYE was forced to hold THOMAS' arm down so the straps could be placed on her. After THOMAS was securely restrained, FRYE walked back to the counter to finish his paperwork. FRYE recalled the white female officer commenting that she had possibly injured her arm.

Moments later, FRYE observed the two female officers push VICKI THOMAS in the restraint chair inside the shower. FRYE noted that THOMAS was positioned in the shower in such a way that she would be facing the shower head. FRYE then observed one of the jail officers reach across THOMAS and press the button multiple times with a broom handle which turned on the water. FRYE noted that the black female officer continued to antagonize THOMAS while inside the shower. FRYE recalled this officer using several racial slurs. FRYE specifically recalled this officer using the word "nigger" towards THOMAS. FRYE recalled THOMAS was cursing at the officers as well.

FRYE noted that when he completed his paperwork, he left the jail. As FRYE was leaving THOMAS was still inside the shower under the water. FRYE noted that the only jail officers he observed in the shower with THOMAS were the original two female officers who assisted with booking THOMAS.

OFFICER FRYE could provide no further information that was pertinent to the investigation. This investigative act concluded at approximately 2:15 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

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ID DATA:

FRYE, THOMAS (TJ) SETH JR (OFFICER)

██████████ 1985

SEX/RACE: MALE/UNKNOWN

COUNTRY: UNITED STATES

OCCUPATION: OFFICER

EMPLOYER:

MORVEN POLICE DEPARTMENT

MORVEN, GA

CELLULAR ██████████

SPECIAL AGENT ZACHARY JOHNSON: 9/21/2016

Is: 9/23/2016

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**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Monday, September 19, 2016 at approximately 4:31 p.m. Georgia Bureau of Investigation SPECIAL AGENT ZACH JOHNSON was located at 5165 Grenada Street in Lake Park, Georgia for the purpose of interviewing Moultrie Police Department OFFICER CHARITY MOBLEY pursuant to the ongoing use of force investigation. AGENT JOHNSON noted this interview was audio recorded and will be digitally attached to this summary.

It should be noted that although MOBLEY is currently a police officer with the Moultrie Police Department, at the time of the incident in question she was employed by the Brooks County Sheriff's Office as a detention officer.

Prior to any questioning MOBLEY was advised that the ongoing investigation was criminal in nature and that it was not an administrative or disciplinary inquiry. MOBLEY was further advised that her cooperation was voluntary and that she was not being compelled in anyway to make a statement to the GBI. MOBLEY stated she understood and consented to the interview.

MOBLEY essentially stated the following information:

A couple months prior to the date of this interview MOBLEY recalled an incident involving INMATE TONY STATEN while MOBLEY was employed as a DETENTION OFFICER at the Brooks County Jail. MOBLEY stated it was around lunch time on this particular day when she walked into the "D" housing pod. Upon her entrance, a sandwich was thrown at MOBLEY and it was immediately determined that INMATE

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TONY STATEN threw the sandwich. MOBLEY recalled STATEN to be very irate and agitated. STATEN then walked into his cell as OFFICERS GRIFFIN, DAVIS and MOBLEY entered behind him. OFFICER GRIFFIN informed STATEN that he was going to be placed in lock down because of his conduct. STATEN continued to refuse and commented that the officers would have to force him to go to lock down. A supervisor was then requested to assist and LT. GIDDENS responded.

MOBLEY was instructed to move out of the cell and OFFICER GRIFFIN was instructed to step aside by LT. GIDDENS. LT. GIDDENS and OFFICER DAVIS then began to physically force STATEN into handcuffs. STATEN was ultimately able to over-power LT. GIDDENS and OFFICER DAVIS onto the floor. OFFICERS GRIFFIN and MOBLEY then jumped in to assist. During the altercation STATEN bit MOBLEY'S hand. STATEN was eventually handcuffed and escorted away.

MOBLEY commented that she believed STATEN was being transported to the lock down area, however, moments later MOBLEY walked to the front and observed STATEN to be in the restraint chair. When MOBLEY observed STATEN in the restraint chair, she turned around and began walking the other way. MOBLEY ran into CAPTAIN BOUTWELL who asked what happened. MOBLEY briefly informed CAPTAIN BOUTWELL of the situation. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL immediately walked into the holding cell where STATEN was located. MOBLEY recalled hearing CAPTAIN BOUTWELL instruct LT. GIDDENS and OFFICER DAVIS to leave. MOBLEY observed CAPTAIN BOUTWELL walk in the cell and shut the door after LT. GIDDENS and OFFICER DAVIS exited. MOBLEY then heard approximately three loud sounds which MOBLEY described as "cracks" or "booms". Moments later CAPTAIN BOUTWELL exited the holding cell and appeared to be very angry. MOBLEY did not recall seeing any injuries on CAPTAIN BOUTWELL. MOBLEY

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noted that OFFICER DAVIS and herself were then instructed to go to the hospital for treatment of their injuries.

MOBLEY commented that the jail nurse ROB LNU had an office directly across the hallway from where STATEN was being held while in the restraint chair. MOBLEY believed that ROB is likely a WITNESS to what occurred. MOBLEY recalls seeing ROB standing in the doorway and appearing shocked as STATEN began hollering.

MOBLEY noted that she had never been influenced by any staff members to alter any reports pertaining to use of force incidents. MOBLEY further stated she had never been instructed to not document any actions which would normally result with a report being created.

MOBLEY could provide no further information that was pertinent to the investigation. This investigative act concluded at approximately 5:53 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

AUDIO

[\(Attachments\)](#)

ID DATA:

MOBLEY, CHARITY (OFFICER)

████████████████████

SEX/RACE: FEMALE/UNKNOWN

COUNTRY: UNITED STATES

OCCUPATION: OFFICER

EMPLOYER:

MOULTRIE POLICE DEPARTMENT

████████████████████

SPECIAL AGENT ZACHARY JOHNSON: 9/21/2016

Is: 9/28/2016

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**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Monday, September 19, 2016, at approximately 6:50 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Brooks County Sheriff's Office CID Annex, 1004 Holloway Drive, Quitman, Brooks County, Georgia, for the purpose of interviewing Brooks County Sheriff's Office JAIL OFFICER JORQUA DAVIS in regards to the present investigation.

It should be noted this a general synopsis of the interview with OFFICER DAVIS. For a detailed account of the interview in its entirety, refer to the recording associated with this summary (see attached).

SA SEACRIST advised OFFICER DAVIS of his rights utilizing a GBI Waiver of Rights form. OFFICER DAVIS indicated that he understood his rights and agreed to talk with SA SEACRIST by signing the form (see attached). OFFICER DAVIS essentially stated the following:

OFFICER DAVIS had been employed as a Brooks County JAIL OFFICER for approximately one year. OFFICER DAVIS started on the same day that Brooks County JAIL CAPTAIN SCOTT BOUTWELL took over as JAIL ADMINISTRATOR at the jail. Prior to that, OFFICER DAVIS had been a DETENTION OFFICER at the Youth Detention Center in Thomasville for approximately two years. Prior to that, OFFICER DAVIS had been a MILITARY POLICEMAN in the United States Air Force for four years.

SA SEACRIST asked OFFICER DAVIS if there were any incidents occurring inside

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the jail with which OFFICER DAVIS had concerns. OFFICER DAVIS noted there were multiple incidents with what he believed was excessive force by former JAIL OFFICER CHARITY MOBLEY. SA SEACRIST was aware that OFFICER MOBLEY was currently employed as a POLICE OFFICER with the Moultrie Police Department. SA SEACRIST again asked if there was anything concerning that occurred inside the jail, to which OFFICER DAVIS had difficulty recalling anything.

Eventually, OFFICER DAVIS recalled the incident where INMATE TONY STATEN was placed in a restraint chair and placed under the shower with the water on. OFFICER DAVIS stated that INMATE STATEN had thrown a sandwich and then refused to go to lock down. OFFICER DAVIS, OFFICER MOBLEY, Brooks County Jail LT. COURTNEY GIDDENS, and SGT. RINA GRIFFIN were involved with restraining INMATE STATEN. OFFICER DAVIS believed that this was also one of the incidents where OFFICER MOBLEY had used excessive force by stomping INMATE STATEN. When asked about the injury that OFFICER MOBLEY received from being bitten by INMATE STATEN, OFFICER DAVIS recalled that the injury was not severe and that it did not break the skin. OFFICER DAVIS noted he also injured his leg while trying to restrain INMATE STATEN.

INMATE STATEN was restrained by being handcuffed behind his back. INMATE STATEN was then taken to the intake area and put in a restraint chair. The restraint chair was old and the straps had stretched out and was not very good with restraining inmates. For this reason, handcuffs and leg shackles were used on INMATE STATEN to secure him to the chair. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL then ordered OFFICER DAVIS and LT. GIDDENS to move the chair into the shower area. Once inside the shower, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL told OFFICER DAVIS and LT. GIDDENS to turn the shower on while INMATE STATEN was underneath the shower head.

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OFFICER DAVIS and LT. GIDDENS used a broom handle to push the shower button on to avoid getting wet. During this time, INMATE STATEN was spitting and cussing.

All inmates were warned not to drink the water from the shower because it contained a substance used to combat lice. The water was hitting INMATE STATEN in the head area. INMATE STATEN began throwing up, so they stopped turning the water on. OFFICER DAVIS noted that CAPTAIN BOUTWELL had left the shower area by that point. OFFICER DAVIS and LT. GIDDENS pushed the shower button on over sixty times. After INMATE STATEN got done throwing up, he calmed down and apologized. INMATE STATEN was removed from the chair and allowed to dry off and get in a dry jumpsuit. INMATE STATEN remained out of the chair and was taken to a holding cell. OFFICER DAVIS believed that NURSE ROB checked on INMATE STATEN'S condition, but OFFICER DAVIS was not certain of this.

Just before INMATE STATEN was given the shower treatment, OFFICER DAVIS heard CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and LT. GIDDENS discussing a new "punishment". OFFICER DAVIS believed he heard one of them say something like "try your punishment". This conversation led OFFICER DAVIS to believe that CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and LT. GIDDENS had discussed this shower treatment in the past. While INMATE STATEN was receiving the shower treatment, OFFICER DAVIS heard CAPTAIN BOUTWELL talk about moving the button that would turn the shower on that they would not have to use a broom handle to avoid getting wet.

OFFICER DAVIS completed a report on this incident. In OFFICER DAVIS' report, he documented the use of the shower as punishment for INMATE STATEN.

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When SA SEACRIST asked OFFICER DAVIS about other incidents where the shower treatment occurred, OFFICER DAVIS could not recall another occurrence. As SA SEACRIST continued to ask questions regarding another incident, OFFICER DAVIS eventually recalled the incident with INMATE VICKI THOMAS. OFFICER DAVIS stated he was in medical with an inmate when he heard a commotion in intake. OFFICER DAVIS then saw INMATE THOMAS swing at Brooks County Jail OFFICER DELLISA BROWN. INMATE THOMAS was then placed in the restraint chair and put into the shower. Once INMATE THOMAS was in the chair, she became even more aggressive. INMATE THOMAS' aggression seemed to be directed at the female officers. OFFICER DAVIS recalled that INMATE THOMAS was also spitting.

Brooks County Jail SGT. RINA GRIFFIN, who was the SHIFT SGT. that day, told OFFICER DAVIS that she had talked to Brooks County Jail LT. COURTNEY GIDDENS. LT. GIDDENS told SGT. GRIFFIN to put INMATE THOMAS into the shower. OFFICER DAVIS pulled the restraint chair with INMATE THOMAS into the shower. SGT. BROWN stayed in the shower with INMATE THOMAS and turned the water on. This incident was much shorter in duration than with INMATE STATEN. OFFICER DAVIS believed the shower was turned on four to five times. OFFICER DAVIS turned the shower on one time and SGT. BROWN did the rest. A broom handle was also used to turn the shower on to avoid getting OFFICER DAVIS and SGT. BROWN wet. The water was hitting INMATE THOMAS on the top of the head and in the face.

Following the shower treatment, INMATE THOMAS was moved to a holding cell while still in her wet street clothes. INMATE THOMAS did seem to calm down after the shower treatment, but was initially cussing and screaming when the shower

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treatment began.

OFFICER DAVIS completed a report on the incident with INMATE THOMAS. OFFICER DAVIS included the shower treatment in the report, stating something similar to "the inmate was placed in the shower in a restraint chair". OFFICER DAVIS was never asked or ordered by any supervisors to change his report. OFFICER DAVIS noted that it was protocol to print two reports with one copy going to the shift sgt. and which was unsigned, and the other copy to be signed and turned into CAPTAIN BOUTWELL. The only feedback OFFICER DAVIS recalled regarding the incident with INMATE THOMAS came from LT. GIDDENS. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL had told LT. GIDDENS to pass the word that the shower treatment was not to be done when the person was in street clothes.

OFFICER DAVIS did not think at all about whether the shower treatment was the proper thing to do. OFFICER DAVIS was just doing what he was order to do by his supervisors. OFFICER DAVIS never questioned whether or not he should be participating in the shower treatments.

OFFICER DAVIS had not heard of any other shower treatment incidents with any other inmates.

Following the interview with SA SEACRIST, OFFICER DAVIS was suspended by Brooks County SHERIFF MIKE DEWEY in regards to the investigation.

This action concluded at approximately 7:35 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

AUDIO

[\(Attachments\)](#)

MIRANDA WARNING

[\(Attachments\)](#)

ID DATA:

DAVIS, JORQUA (OFFICER)

██████████ 1989

SEX/RACE: MALE/BLACK

ADDRESS: ██████████

CAIRO, GRADY COUNTY, GA

COUNTRY: UNITED STATES

OCCUPATION: OFFICER

EMPLOYER:

BROOKS COUNTY JAIL

CELLULAR: ██████████

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/5/2016

Is: 10/5/2016

ST MS

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Tuesday, September 20, 2016, at approximately 9:40 a.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located in Valdosta, Lowndes County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation.

SA SEACRIST spoke via phone with Brooks County Sheriff's Office INVESTIGATOR EUGENE OWEN regarding reports completed by Brooks County Jail OFFICER JORQUA DAVIS. During an interview with OFFICER DAVIS the prior evening, SA SEACRIST was advised that OFFICER DAVIS had completed reports regarding the shower treatment incidents with INMATE TONY STATEN and VICKI THOMAS. Per OFFICER DAVIS, the reports included the inmates being placed in restraint chairs and subsequently placed underneath the shower.

INVESTIGATOR OWEN checked the Eagle reporting system, which was where jail incident reports were completed and stored. INVESTIGATOR OWEN could find no reports for OFFICER DAVIS regarding the incidents with INMATE STATEN and INMATE THOMAS.

This action concluded at approximately 9:50 a.m.

ID DATA:

OWEN, EUGENE (Previously Submitted)

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/5/2016
Is: 10/11/2016

ST

JS

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Tuesday, September 20, 2016, at approximately 9:50 a.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Lowndes County District Attorney's Office, 327 North Ashley Street, Valdosta, Lowndes County, Georgia, for a meeting with GBI SAC JAMY STEINBERG and Southern Judicial Circuit CHIEF ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY BRAD SHEALEY. During the meeting, Southern Judicial Circuit DISTRICT ATTORNEY DAVID MILLER arrived. The meeting was to discuss the present investigation and relevant charges.

SA SEACRIST presented the results of the investigation to date. Possible charges for participants were discussed. It was also discussed that further investigation was required to confirm the correct charge and the persons to charge.

This action concluded at approximately 12:00 p.m.

ID DATA:

STEINBERG, JAMY (Previously Submitted)

MILLER, DAVID (DISTRICT ATTORNEY)

SEX/RACE: MALE/UNKNOWN

COUNTRY: UNITED STATES

OCCUPATION: DISTRICT ATTORNEY

EMPLOYER:

SOUTHERN CIRCUIT JUDICIAL CIRCUIT (DA)

SHEALEY, BRAD (DISTRICT ATTORNEY)

SEX/RACE: MALE/UNKNOWN

COUNTRY: UNITED STATES

OCCUPATION: DISTRICT ATTORNEY

EMPLOYER:

SOUTHER CIRCUIT DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE (CHIEF

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/5/2016

Is: 10/12/2016



**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Tuesday, September 20, 2016, at approximately 1:35 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Brooks County Sheriff's Office CID Annex, 1004 Holloway Drive, Quitman, Brooks County, Georgia, for the purpose of interviewing Brooks County Sheriff's Office CAPTAIN JERRY MILLER in regards to the present investigation.

It should be noted this is a general synopsis of the interview with CAPTAIN MILLER. For a detailed account of the interview in its entirety, refer to the recording associated with the summary (see attached).

SA SEACRIST advised CAPTAIN MILLER that the GBI was conducting a criminal investigation and that CAPTAIN MILLER'S participation was voluntary. CAPTAIN MILLER verified that he had not been ordered to provide a statement to SA SEACRIST nor was he advised that giving a statement was a condition of his employment. CAPTAIN MILLER was willing to give a voluntary statement. CAPTAIN MILLER essentially stated the following:

CAPTAIN MILLER had been with the Brooks County Sheriff's Office since 1991. Currently, CAPTAIN MILLER was the supervisor of narcotics investigations. CAPTAIN MILLER supervised SGT. TONY BRANHAM and SGT. TERRY GRIFFIN, both with the Brooks County Sheriff's Office. Quitman Police Department OFFICER WILBUR COPE was attached to the narcotics investigation unit and reported to CAPTAIN MILLER.

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SGT. GRIFFIN'S daughter, RINA GRIFFIN, had previously worked at the Brooks County Jail. Approximately two or three months ago, SGT. GRIFFIN had come to CAPTAIN MILLER regarding an incident that had occurred in the jail. RINA had told SGT. GRIFFIN that a female inmate was put in the restraint chair, placed in the shower and the water was turned on. RINA was very concerned. CAPTAIN MILLER did not recall who the inmate was that was placed in the shower. CAPTAIN MILLER believed that Brooks County Jail CAPTAIN SCOTT BOUTWELL was present and had ordered the shower treatment.

CAPTAIN MILLER believed that RINA was afraid of repercussions from CAPTAIN BOUTWELL, so RINA did not want to make a report regarding the incident. Instead, RINA told SGT. GRIFFIN, who then told CAPTAIN MILLER so that the incident would be on the record with SGT. GRIFFIN'S supervisor.

CAPTAIN MILLER never discussed the information provided by SGT. GRIFFIN with anyone at the Sheriff's Office. CAPTAIN MILLER told SGT. GRIFFIN that he needed to tell Brooks County SHERIFF MIKE DEWEY about the incident. SGT. GRIFFIN told CAPTAIN MILLER "maybe he would". CAPTAIN MILLER felt that SGT. GRIFFIN was afraid of possible repercussions towards RINA. CAPTAIN MILLER believed the conversation with SGT. GRIFFIN occurred over the phone.

SGT. GRIFFIN had also told CAPTAIN MILLER that RINA had been previously injured in her shoulder and/or back from an altercation with an inmate. A doctor told RINA that the injury was significant and that she did not need to be dealing with inmates where there might be a chance that she could become further injured. SGT. GRIFFIN told CAPTAIN MILLER that RINA had told CAPTAIN BOUTWELL about the doctor's orders upon her return to work. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL told RINA

09-0037-34-17

that she needed to work. CAPTAIN MILLER believed that RINA may have tried to defend herself to CAPTAIN BOUTWELL, but it was not successful. SGT. GRIFFIN was not happy with the situation and wanted to talk to CAPTAIN BOUTWELL. CAPTAIN MILLER advised SGT. GRIFFIN to instead talk to SHERIFF DEWEY. CAPTAIN MILLER noted that there was an ongoing issue regarding RINA'S injuries. SGT. GRIFFIN was advised to talk to the sheriff about the incidents.

CAPTAIN MILLER knew that placing inmates under the shower water while secured to the restraint chair was not right. CAPTAIN MILLER was surprised to hear that CAPTAIN BOUTWELL ordered and approved of this treatment, even though CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was a little bit high strung. When SA SEACRIST asked why CAPTAIN MILLER had not reported the information through his chain of command, CAPTAIN MILLER stated that SGT. GRIFFIN had asked CAPTAIN MILLER to promise not to tell anyone because SGT. GRIFFIN was very concerned for RINA because she worked for CAPTAIN BOUTWELL.

SGT. GRIFFIN had also told CAPTAIN MILLER that RINA had written a report regarding the incident, which included specific information on the shower treatment. SGT. MILLER told CAPTAIN MILLER that after CAPTAIN BOUTWELL reviewed the report, he told RINA to change the report in regards to how the shower treatment was documented. SGT. GRIFFIN did not provide CAPTAIN MILLER with specifics on what CAPTAIN BOUTWELL wanted changed in the report .

This action concluded at approximately 2:00 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

AUDIO

[\(Attachments\)](#)

ID DATA:

MILLER, JERRY (CAPTAIN)

SEX/RACE: MALE/BLACK

COUNTRY: UNITED STATES

OCCUPATION: UNKNOWN

EMPLOYER:

BROOKS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE (CAPTAIN)

1004 HOLLOWAY DRIVE

QUITMAN, GA

BUSINESS:(229)263-1394

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/5/2016

Is: 10/12/2016

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**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Tuesday, September 20, 2016, at approximately 3:00 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at 118 Albany Street, Morven, Brooks County, Georgia, for the purpose of interviewing former Brooks County Jail INMATE VICKIE THOMAS in regards to the present investigation. Also present for the interview was VICKIE'S mother, EMMA THOMAS, and sister, DEBRA FULLER.

It should be noted this is a general synopsis of the interview with VICKIE. For a detailed account of the interview in its entirety, refer to the recording associated with this summary (see attached).

SA SEACRIST advised he was conducting an investigation regarding the Brooks County Jail. VICKIE was aware of why the Brooks County Jail would be investigated without much provocation by SA SEACRIST. VICKIE essentially stated the following:

VICKIE was arrested in Morven for a minor issue, maybe a noise ordinance. VICKIE was taken to the jail, where she was confronted by four to five jail officers. VICKIE was put in a restraint chair and taken into the shower. VICKIE was then placed underneath the shower head while in the restraint chair and the water was turned on. VICKIE felt like she was drowning. VICKIE was not sure how long she was underneath the water, but believed they pushed the button to turn the water on at least two or three times. A black female jailer who had been very confrontational with VICKIE when she came into the jail was the one inside the shower pressing the button. VICKIE recalled telling the jailer as this was occurring that she was

09-0037-34-17

"asthmatic".

VICKIE believed there may have been a white male jailer present during the incident. This person may have pushed the button first. A black male jailer then came in and also pushed the button to turn the water on. After the water was turned on the third time, the restraint chair may have been pulled back from the water before the water turned off. VICKIE also recalled that while in the restraint chair, she was secured to the chair with handcuffs. The handcuffs were very tight and caused her hands to go black and blue.

A "SGT." later looked at the jail surveillance tape and told VICKIE that charges may be pending on VICKIE because she fought the jail staff. SA SEACRIST noted that VICKIE was describing the SGT. has a "he" and VICKIE then described the individual was a white male and wore a ball cap. The conversation with this person had occurred the same evening of the shower treatment incident. This person had come to the jail that night in street clothes. SA SEACRIST was aware from prior interviews that Brooks County Jail CAPTAIN SCOTT BOUTWELL had arrived at the jail after hours on the night VICKIE was placed in the shower in the restraint chair. VICKIE noted this person in the ball cap was standing at the cell door she was in when he told her he was going to look at the tape again to see if there were more charges that could be brought against VICKIE. VICKIE recalled that she was still in her wet street clothes. VICKIE believed she was not given a dry jail jumpsuit until approximately one to two hours prior to her release from the jail. After being released from the jail, VICKIE called asking if other charges were pending. VICKIE was told that no other charges were filed against her.

EMMA recalled that when she picked VICKIE up from the jail, staff members told her

09-0037-34-17

that VICKIE was combative when she was brought in by the Morven Police Department. EMMA was advised that VICKIE was placed in the restraint chair. Once EMMA had picked VICKIE up and they left the jail, VICKIE told EMMA about the water treatment.

This action concluded at approximately 3:25 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

AUDIO

[\(Attachments\)](#)

ID DATA:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/5/2016
ls: 10/12/2016

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[Signature]

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Wednesday, September 21, 2016, at approximately 1:55 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the GBI Region Nine Field Office, 396 South Pinetree Blvd, Thomasville, Thomas County, Georgia, for the purpose of interviewing former Brooks County Jail employee SHAWN SMITH in regards to the present investigation.

Earlier that same day, SA SEACRIST had received a phone call to the GBI Region Nine Office from SHAWN. SHAWN had stated that he had information regarding a sexual assault, possibly of a minor, at the Brooks County Jail. SHAWN stated he was a former Brooks County JAILER who had heard about a possible investigation going on at the jail. SHAWN was not sure if the information he wanted to provide had anything to do with the current investigation, but SHAWN was willing to come to the office to talk in person.

It should be noted this is a general synopsis of the interview with SHAWN. For a detailed account of the interview in its entirety, refer to the recording associated with this summary (see attached). SHAWN essentially the following:

SHAWN was recently at a gas station getting gas in Quitman when he heard there was an investigation involving current JAIL ADMINISTRATOR CAPTAIN SCOTT BOUTWELL. SHAWN heard that the investigation was related to CAPTAIN BOUTWELL using excessive force on an inmate.

SHAWN worked at the Brooks County Jail from April 2015 to August 2015. During

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this time, MAMIE BENTON was the JAIL ADMINISTRATOR. In July or August of 2015, a sixteen year old white male was booked into the Brooks County Jail and then transferred to the youth detention center. Approximately two weeks later, the inmate turned seventeen and was transferred back to the Brooks County Jail. SHAWN could not recall the inmate's name but described him as having blonde hair. SHAWN also remembered that he was arrested related to a charge of child molestation. His parents were also booked in at the same time, but had immediately bonded out. All were awaiting a court date. SHAWN also remembered that his grandfather was also in the Brooks County Jail for molesting him and another relative.

The inmate was placed in a dorm and began faking seizures to try to get out of his dorm. SHAWN noted this first happened the same day as an inmate escape. A couple of weeks later, the inmate asked to talk to SHAWN and Brooks County Jail SGT. RINA GRIFFIN. The inmate was brought to the multi-purpose room, where he told SHAWN and SGT. GRIFFIN that his cell mate was forcing him to perform sex acts. The cell mate had threatened to kill him with a razor if he told anyone.

SHAWN and SGT. GRIFFIN did a report regarding the incident. The inmate specified that the cell mate was forcing him to perform oral and anal sex. The inmate said that his cell mate would hold a razor blade to his neck to force the sex acts. SHAWN recalled that there did appear to be a possible wound to the inmate's neck. The wound appeared to be a couple of days old. A dorm search was conducted and a magnet was found underneath the cell mate's bunk. The magnet was holding a razor blade from a shower razor. SHAWN believed the cell mate's last name was GARDNER, but could not recall his first name. SHAWN believed INMATE GARDNER may currently be held at the Lowndes County Jail.

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SHAWN gave the report to SGT. GRIFFIN, who then allegedly gave the report to JAIL ADMINISTRATOR BENTON. INMATE GARDNER was moved to a holding cell and later moved to the Lowndes County Jail. SHAWN never heard anything else about the report or an investigation being done. SHAWN noted that he was never interviewed by an investigator regarding the incident.

When SHAWN left employment at the jail, he had to be interviewed CAPTAIN BOUTWELL for "stuff" that was going on in the jail. At the time, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was an investigator in the Criminal Investigation Division of the Brooks County Sheriff's Office. At the time, SHAWN was also in cancer treatment. One of the chemotherapy drugs had a specific time table with which it had to be administered. Because of CAPTAIN BOUTWELL'S interview, SHAWN was unable to receive the cancer treatment. When SA SEACRIST asked what the interview with CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was related to, SHAWN noted he had sprayed a bleach bottle while cleaning a table. The spray may have hit an inmate who then made a complaint. The jail administrator also had an issue with SHAWN sharing a car with CANDACE HALL, another Brooks County Jailer. SHAWN noted that he and CANDACE had a platonic relationship outside of work. SHAWN also added that he used to date SGT. GRIFFIN'S sister, BRITTANY.

The interview concluded at approximately 2:20 p.m.

On September 22, 2016 at approximately 12:45 p.m., SA SEACRIST spoke with Brooks County Sheriff's Office INVESTIGATOR EUGENE OWEN regarding the incident described by SHAWN. INVESTIGATOR OWEN was a part of the investigation described by SHAWN and stated that the inmate who made the

09-0037-34-17

complaint was AUSTIN JOHNSON. INVESTIGATOR OWEN stated that INMATE JOHNSON later admitted that the accusations of the forced sexual acts was false. INMATE JOHNSON made the false allegations in an attempt to be placed in a cell by himself.

This action occurred over multiple days and concluded on September 22, 2016 at approximately 1:00 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

AUDIO

[\(Attachments\)](#)

ID DATA:

[REDACTED]

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/5/2016

ls: 10/12/2016

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**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Thursday, September 22, 2016, at approximately 11:45 a.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Brooks County Sheriff's Office CID Annex, 1004 Holloway Drive, Quitman, Brooks County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation.

Brooks County Sheriff's Office INVESTIGATOR EUGENE OWEN provided SA SEACRIST with the following documents:

An incident report completed by Brooks County Jail LT. COURTNEY GIDDENS related to the incident with INMATE WALTER ELLER (see attached). The incident date was noted as March 28, 2016. SA SEACRIST reviewed the report and noted that the incident was consistent with the description provided by LT. GIDDENS during his prior interview, with the exception that INMATE ELLER was placed in the shower while in the restraint chair was not documented in the report. INVESTIGATOR OWEN also checked and verified that there was no report by Brooks County Jail SGT. TRACEY TROUTMAN and OFFICER JORQUA DAVIS regarding this incident.

The jail inmate activity report for INMATE ELLER, which noted that he was "released" on March 31, 2016, which SA SEACRIST knew to mean INMATE ELLER was transferred to Lowndes County Jail (see attached). The activity report also noted that INMATE ELLER was given a "shower in intake shower room" because "inmate refused shower...RG" on March 27, 2016 at 7:55 p.m. March 28, 2016 at 4:40 p.m. was the first time INMATE ELLER was documented refusing his food tray.

09-0037-34-17

The Jail Policy and Procedure Manual from the jail, which ended at 6.16-2 (see attached). This was the policy manual that was retrieved from the jail.

The Jail Policy and Procedure Manual from the sheriff's office, which ended 6.16-3 (see attached). This was the policy manual that was retrieved from the sheriff's office at the courthouse.

INVESTIGATOR OWEN also advised SA SEACRIST about complaint forms filled out by Brooks County Jail INMATE J. VICKS. A complaint was received from INMATE VICKS on September 21, 2016 and referenced the complaint was originally reported on August 22, 2016. SA SEACRIST reviewed the complaint and noted that it was unrelated to the current investigation and advised INVESTIGATOR OWEN to proceed per Brooks County Sheriff's Office protocol.

SA SEACRIST noted to INVESTIGATOR OWEN that a jail employee by the name of "OFFICER HENRY" had been described as possibly being a witness to certain water treatment incidents. INVESTIGATOR OWEN called Brooks County Jail LT. DARLENE WOOTEN, who confirmed that Brooks County Jail OFFICER HENRY DAVIS was sometimes called "OFFICER HENRY" to avoid confusion with Brooks County Jail OFFICER JORQUA DAVIS.

SA SEACRIST had also advised INVESTIGATOR OWEN that there may be a white male Brooks County JAILER who witnessed the shower treatment of INMATE TONY STATEN. INMATE STATEN believed that this jailer had since been terminated. LT. WOOTEN believed that would have been former Brooks County Jail OFFICER RYAN WARREN.

09-0037-34-17

This action concluded at approximately 12:45 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

INCIDENT REPORT

[\(Attachments\)](#)

OTHER INMATE REPORT

[\(Attachments\)](#)

AGENCY POLICY Manual kept at jail

[\(Attachments\)](#)

AGENCY POLICY Manual kept at sheriffs
office

[\(Attachments\)](#)

ID DATA:

OWEN, EUGENE (Previously Submitted)

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/5/2016

Is: 10/12/2016

JS MS

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Thursday, September 22, 2016, at approximately 1:15 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Brooks County Sheriff's Office CID Annex, 1004 Holloway Drive, Quitman, Brooks County, Georgia, for the purpose of interviewing Brooks County Jail OFFICER HENRY DAVIS in regards to the present investigation.

It should be noted this is a general synopsis of the interview with OFFICER DAVIS. For a detailed account of the interview in its entirety, refer to the recording associated with the summary (see attached).

SA SEACRIST advised OFFICER DAVIS that a criminal investigation was being conducted and that OFFICER DAVIS' participation was completely voluntary. OFFICER DAVIS confirmed that he had not been ordered by superiors to give a statement to SA SEACRIST and that he was willing to provide a statement voluntarily. OFFICER DAVIS essentially stated the following:

OFFICER DAVIS had worked at the Brooks County Jail since October of 2015. This was OFFICER DAVIS' first job in law enforcement. OFFICER DAVIS had been verbally told by CAPTAIN BOUTWELL that he would be going to get his jail certificate in January 2017.

OFFICER DAVIS knew a criminal investigation was being conducted by the GBI regarding Brooks County Jail ADMINISTRATOR/CAPTAIN SCOTT BOUTWELL hitting Brooks County Jail INMATE STEPHEN STYLES while INMATE STYLES was handcuffed behind his back. OFFICER DAVIS knew that, prior to the incident,

09-0037-34-17

INMATE STYLES had been sick. OFFICER DAVIS had worked the Wednesday before the incident involving CAPTAIN BOUTWELL. On that day, the jail staff had allowed INMATE STYLES to lay in his bunk because of his sickness.

When OFFICER DAVIS first began working at the jail, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL would hardly speak to OFFICER DAVIS. After a period of time, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL did start talking to OFFICER DAVIS. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL had specifically told OFFICER DAVIS that he appreciated OFFICER DAVIS' work ethic.

SA SEACRIST asked if there were any other incidents that occurred in the jail that concerned OFFICER DAVIS. OFFICER DAVIS recalled that there was an incident with INMATE WALTER ELLER. INMATE ELLER had refused to go to C dorm. Brooks County Jail LT. COURTNEY GIDDENS, SGT. TRACEY TROUTMAN, and OFFICER DAVIS were escorting INMATE ELLER. When INMATE ELLER learned that he was going to C dorm, INMATE ELLER became very non-compliant. INMATE ELLER had to be handcuffed behind his back and taken to A dorm, which was the lock down unit. Once in A dorm, INMATE ELLER was uncuffed and left alone.

A short time later, INMATE ELLER was found in his cell with his jumpsuit tied around his neck. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL eventually came into contact with the jail staff and INMATE ELLER. At that time, INMATE ELLER tried to head butt CAPTAIN BOUTWELL. INMATE ELLER was then escorted to the intake area to be placed in a holding cell, which were known as the P cells. INMATE ELLER was then put into the restraint chair by LT. GIDDENS and Brooks County Jail OFFICER JIM PYLE. OFFICER DAVIS noted that OFFICER PYLE had arrived sometime during the incident. OFFICER DAVIS also assisted with strapping INMATE ELLER into the

09-0037-34-17

restraint chair. Handcuffs were used to restrain INMATE ELLER in the chair. The jail nurse did check the fit of the handcuffs on INMATE ELLER in the restraint chair. INMATE ELLER was then placed in the P cell restrained in the chair and naked.

At some point later, the shift was called for a "training activity". Brooks County Jail OFFICER ANITA HILL was located in the main control room, which housed all the video surveillance cameras. OFFICER DAVIS, OFFICER PYLE, LT. GIDDENS, SGT. TROUTMAN, and CAPTAIN BOUTWELL all went to the intake area. OFFICER DAVIS removed INMATE ELLER from the cell by rolling the restraint chair out. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL told the group "this is how you give a person a shower in a chair". CAPTAIN BOUTWELL then ordered OFFICER DAVIS to put INMATE ELLER in the shower. OFFICER DAVIS asked "is this legal?". CAPTAIN BOUTWELL said this is how its done when an inmate is combative and in a restraint chair. OFFICER DAVIS would not move the chair into the shower, so LT. GIDDENS pulled INMATE ELLER into the shower while in the restraint chair. In the shower area with INMATE ELLER was CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and LT. GIDDENS. OFFICER DAVIS, OFFICER PYLE, and SGT. TROUTMAN were standing near the intake desk. All three felt disgusted about what was occurring. OFFICER DAVIS and SGT. TROUTMAN continued to discuss whether this was legal.

In the shower, LT. GIDDENS used a broom handle to push the button to turn the water on. OFFICER DAVIS estimated that INMATE ELLER was in the shower with the water running for approximately two to three minutes. OFFICER DAVIS believed the water was hitting INMATE ELLER just below his chin. OFFICER DAVIS did not believe there was a reason to place INMATE ELLER in the shower.

Once they were done with the shower treatment, OFFICER DAVIS got someone to

09-0037-34-17

bring towels in to dry INMATE ELLER off with SGT. TROUTMAN. OFFICER DAVIS and SGT. TROUTMAN then pushed INMATE ELLER back into the P cell in intake. They gave INMATE ELLER a dry jumpsuit. At some point on that same shift, OFFICER DAVIS was aware that INMATE ELLER was removed from the restraint chair and fed. It was the next day when OFFICER DAVIS learned that INMATE ELLER was being transported to the Lowndes County Jail.

LT. GIDDENS told OFFICER DAVIS to write a report and to include only the part he was "physically" involved in. OFFICER DAVIS noted this would only be the part where INMATE ELLER had resisted going into the dorm.

SA SEACRIST asked why OFFICER DAVIS did not include the incident in the shower in his report. OFFICER DAVIS stated that LT. GIDDENS instructed him to only write in the report if he was "hands on". OFFICER DAVIS was not "hands on" then, so he was not to include it in the report. OFFICER DAVIS typed his report and turned it in to a supervisor per general protocol.

OFFICER DAVIS later heard that the same water treatment was given to Brooks County Jail INMATE TONY STATEN. OFFICER DAVIS was not on shift that day. OFFICER DAVIS knew the incident with INMATE STATEN occurred after the incident with INMATE ELLER. OFFICER DAVIS added that he knew INMATE STATEN from the jail. OFFICER DAVIS had never had any issues with INMATE STATEN. SA SEACRIST asked if OFFICER DAVIS had been called in to replace Brooks County Jail OFFICER JORQUA DAVIS and/or Brooks County Jail OFFICER CHARITY MOBLEY, specifically because either one of them had to go to the emergency room regarding injuries that they had received while trying to restrain INMATE STATEN. OFFICER DAVIS did not believe that he had ever been called in

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/5/2016
Is: 10/17/2016

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**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Friday, September 23, 2016, at approximately 9:00 a.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Brooks County Jail, 1003 Holloway Drive, Quitman, Brooks County, Georgia, for the purpose of searching the jail administrator's office. SA SEACRIST noted this was the office previously occupied by Brooks County Jail ADMINISTRATOR/CAPTAIN SCOTT BOUTWELL. SA SEACRIST was assisted by Brooks County Sheriff's Office INVESTIGATOR EUGENE OWEN.

The following items were removed from the office:

- Brooks County Jail inmate handbook,
- Jail Management Conference three ring binder, a conference which occurred in Savannah, Georgia, in February 2016
- Incident report by former Brooks County Jail OFFICER RYAN WARREN regarding the incident with INMATE VICKIE THOMAS on May 30, 2016 (see attached),
- Signed incident reports related to the incident with STEPHEN STYLES on September 8, 2016 (see attached),
- Brooks County Jail employee contact list (see attached).

All of these items were documented on GBI evidence receipt E-366612 (see attached). The Brooks County Jail inmate handbook and the jail management conference three ring binder were later documented on GBI property tag AA61870. The remaining items were attached to this summary.

SA SEACRIST later spoke with Brooks County Sheriff's Office CHIEF DEPUTY JOE

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WHEELER who confirmed that the Brooks County Sheriff's Office had paid all fees related to CAPTAIN BOUTWELL'S attendance at the jail management conference in Savannah, Georgia in February 2016.

SA SEACRIST then went to the area of the jail where the incident with INMATE STYLES occurred and took pictures (see attached). SA SEACRIST then went to the intake area of the jail, which was also where the shower area was located. SA SEACRIST also took pictures (see attached).

This action concluded at approximately 11:20 a.m.

ATTACHMENTS

- INCIDENT REPORT [\(Attachments\)](#)
- OTHER EMPLOYEE CONTACT LIST [\(Attachments\)](#)
- GBI EVIDENCE RECEIPT EVIDENCE RECEIPT [\(Attachments\)](#)
- PHOTOGRAPH [\(Attachments\)](#)
- INCIDENT REPORT RE: INMATE STYLES [\(Attachments\)](#)

ID DATA:

OWEN, EUGENE (Previously Submitted)

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/5/2016

Is: 10/14/2016

ST MS

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Monday, September 26, 2016, at approximately 12:55 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the GBI Region Nine Field Office, 396 South Pinetree Blvd., Thomasville, Thomas County, Georgia, for the purpose of interviewing Brooks County JAIL ADMINISTRATOR/CAPTAIN SCOTT BOUTWELL in regards to the present investigation. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL'S ATTORNEY, MILES HANNAN, was also present for the interview.

It should be noted this is a general synopsis of the interview with CAPTAIN BOUTWELL. For a detailed account of the interview in its entirety, refer to the recording associated with the summary (see attached).

SA SEACRIST advised CAPTAIN BOUTWELL that a criminal investigation was being conducted and that CAPTAIN BOUTWELL'S participation was voluntary. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL confirmed that he had not been required by his supervisors to provide a statement to SA SEACRIST as a condition of his employment. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL stated that he was willing to speak with SA SEACRIST regarding the present investigation. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL essentially stated the following:

CAPTAIN BOUTWELL had been a combat engineer in the United States Marine Corp from 1985 to 1989. From approximately 2002 - 2012, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was a member of the Georgia Army National Guard. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was in infantry and was also a sniper. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL had completed a combat tour in Iraq in 2005/2006 and a combat tour in Afghanistan in 2009/2010.

In 2007, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was hired at the Brooks County Jail. In 2008, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL attended the Georgia Law Enforcement Academy. Following completion of mandate training, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was ordered to begin work-ups for his deployment to Afghanistan in 2009. Following his deployment, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL returned to the Brooks County Sheriff's Office and around April of 2010 started as a road deputy. In 2012, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was promoted to an investigator in the criminal investigations department. In October of 2015, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL became the Brooks County jail administrator.

CAPTAIN BOUTWELL believed his first contact with Brooks County Jail INMATE STEPHEN STYLES occurred when, as a member of the Brooks County CID, he was working courtroom security. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL believed it was during a state court hearing when a group of approximately five inmates entered into the courtroom talking. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL warned the inmates about talking in the courtroom. Following the warning, the inmates continued talking. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL again warned the inmates about talking, at which time INMATE STYLES said "fuck you". INMATE STYLES then took a swing at CAPTAIN BOUTWELL. With the help of another person working courtroom security, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL grabbed INMATE STYLES and removed him from the courtroom. INMATE STYLES was taken out of the back of the courtroom and a deputy transported INMATE STYLES to the jail. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL recalled that current Southern Judicial Circuit CHIEF ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY BRAD SHEALY was a witness to this incident. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL later obtained a felony obstruction warrant against INMATE STYLES. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL later learned that INMATE STYLES pled to the charge. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL had no other contact with INMATE STYLES or with INMATE STYLES' family. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL stated that he did not even

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recall interviewing INMATE STYLES following the obstruction charge. Following the incident in the courtroom, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL did not see INMATE STYLES again until INMATE STYLES pled in court.

On September 8, 2016, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL arrived for work at the Brooks County Jail at approximately 9:00 a.m. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was in a good mood and took Brooks County Jail LT. COURTNEY GIDDENS with him to conduct rounds. During rounds, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and LT. GIDDENS went to the cells known as E block, which contained the inmates who were on work details. As CAPTAIN BOUTWELL walked through the top tier of the dorm, there were several work detail inmates laying in bed. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL told them to "get on up" and they all followed CAPTAIN BOUTWELL'S command. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL observed them get off their bunks and had even made small talk with the inmates.

CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and LT. GIDDENS then went to the downstairs area of E block. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL saw an inmate in his bunk with a blanket up over his head. LT. GIDDENS was still accompanying CAPTAIN BOUTWELL when he tapped the inmate on the big toe. The inmate pulled the blanket down off his head, at which time CAPTAIN BOUTWELL realized it was INMATE STYLES. INMATE STYLES asked CAPTAIN BOUTWELL "what the fuck you want". CAPTAIN BOUTWELL told INMATE STYLES to get up. INMATE STYLES replied "who the fuck you think you are". CAPTAIN BOUTWELL then told INMATE STYLES that he was "going back to orange". CAPTAIN BOUTWELL explained that work detail inmates wore a different colored jumpsuit than other inmates. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was telling INMATE STYLES that he was being removed from work detail. Inmates not on work detail wore an orange jumpsuit. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL also meant for INMATE STYLES to be taken to A dorm which was the lock down

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unit. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was not sure if he actually told LT. GIDDENS this at that moment, but recalled telling Brooks County Jail OFFICER JIM PYLE later.

After telling INMATE STYLES that he was being removed from the work detail, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL left E block. LT. GIDDENS remained in E block to facilitate INMATE STYLES' move to lock down. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL recalled INMATE STYLES yelling at CAPTAIN BOUTWELL as he left E block "you're a racist".

After leaving E block, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL continued his rounds in the jail. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL made his round through the lock down unit and then moved into B dorm. As CAPTAIN BOUTWELL left B dorm and was going into C dorm, INMATE STYLES came up behind CAPTAIN BOUTWELL. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL turned around and noted INMATE STYLES had crossed the door threshold and was coming at CAPTAIN BOUTWELL. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL recalled that a cart had been outside the door where the commissary was being handed out. LT. GIDDENS assisted in removing INMATE STYLES from the area in which he was unauthorized to be. INMATE STYLES was pushed up against the cart, at which time words were exchanged between CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and INMATE STYLES. INMATE STYLES was yelling at CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was telling INMATE STYLES he was going to A dorm. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL, LT. GIDDENS, and OFFICER PYLE handcuffed INMATE STYLES behind his back due to his aggressive behavior.

At some point, INMATE STYLES broke away and moved towards CAPTAIN BOUTWELL. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL believed that INMATE STYLES was trying to spit on CAPTAIN BOUTWELL. INMATE STYLES was then pushed back into the corner against the wall. INMATE STYLES was still trying to spit on CAPTAIN

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BOUTWELL. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL, LT. GIDDENS, and OFFICER PYLE took INMATE STYLES down to the ground. During the take down, INMATE STYLES fell on top of LT. GIDDENS. At this time, INMATE STYLES was still resisting physically and not following the verbal commands being given to him. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL recalled that INMATE STYLES was pressing against the wall to get leverage while LT. GIDDENS was underneath INMATE STYLES. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL got near the wall and used a knee to INMATE STYLES' thigh while telling INMATE STYLES to stop resisting. After kneeling INMATE STYLES approximately three times, INMATE STYLES complied with the verbal commands and laid flat on the ground.

At about this time, Brooks County Jail OFFICER TITANIA PROCTOR arrived. OFFICER PROCTOR pulled INMATE STYLES' feet to straighten INMATE STYLES out on the ground on his stomach. LT. GIDDENS and OFFICER PYLE then lifted INMATE STYLES off the ground by his arms and escorted him to A dorm.

CAPTAIN BOUTWELL told OFFICER PROCTOR to take the handcuffs off INMATE STYLES in approximately one hour. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL had to leave the jail between 10:00 and 10:30 a.m. for another appointment. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL recalled calling Brooks County SHERIFF MIKE DEWEY at approximately 10:00 a.m. and mentioning that CAPTAIN BOUTWELL had "got into it with STYLES".

No medical assistance was provided to INMATE STYLES. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL never observed any problem with INMATE STYLES' ability to walk or move. There were no injuries reported to any of the jail staff involved in the incident. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL did not complete a report regarding his involvement in the incident with INMATE STYLES. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL did review the reports of the other jail officers involved in the incident with INMATE STYLES. When asked why the reports

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of his subordinates did not include any mention of CAPTAIN BOUTWELL'S use of knees even though the reports were specific in other forms of force, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL stated it was not intentional and it was strictly an oversight issue.

The Monday following the incident, which SA SEACRIST knew to be September 12, 2016, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL went to see INMATE STYLES in A dorm to make sure INMATE STYLES was ok. INMATE STYLES told CAPTAIN BOUTWELL that he was ok. On that same day, at approximately 12:00 p.m., Brooks County Sheriff's Office CAPTAIN JERRY MILLER asked CAPTAIN BOUTWELL if there was an incident with INMATE STYLES in the jail, to which CAPTAIN BOUTWELL stated there was. CAPTAIN MILLER asked CAPTAIN BOUTWELL to download the footage from the video surveillance system regarding the incident. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL did not recall being asked for a "play by play" of the incident with INMATE STYLES.

CAPTAIN BOUTWELL did not believe he had ever been the subject of a use of force complaint while working for the Brooks County Sheriff's Office. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL provided SA SEACRIST with verbal consent to review his Brooks County Sheriff's Office personnel file and Georgia P.O.S.T. records. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL noted that he had no malice towards INMATE STYLES during the incident. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was only trying to handle the situation and take care of his subordinates.

SA SEACRIST then played the video of the incident with CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and ATTORNEY HANNAN. During review of the video, SA SEACRIST noted that CAPTAIN BOUTWELL kned INMATE STYLES at least five times. SA SEACRIST also noted to CAPTAIN BOUTWELL that OFFICER PYLE had taken his hands off

09-0037-34-17

INMATE STYLES and was standing up as CAPTAIN BOUTWELL continued to knee INMATE STYLES. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL continued to state that INMATE STYLES was still resisting and that was why he continued to knee INMATE STYLES.

CAPTAIN BOUTWELL recalled that, also on the morning of Monday, September 12, 2016, Brooks County Jail LT. DARLENE WOOTEN had informed CAPTAIN BOUTWELL that INMATE STYLES' mother had called the jail. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL told LT. WOOTEN that if she called back to tell her that CAPTAIN BOUTWELL wanted to talk to her in person. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL did not hear from INMATE STYLES' mom and he believed she had spoken with CAPTAIN MILLER.

CAPTAIN BOUTWELL confirmed he had attended a jail management conference in Savannah, Georgia in February 2016. SA SEACRIST provided CAPTAIN BOUTWELL with the jail management conference three ring binder reference aid from the conference. SA SEACRIST asked CAPTAIN BOUTWELL about the use of the restraint chair. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL eventually stated that, while at the jail management conference in Savannah, he had gotten the idea to use the restraint chair if an INMATE was brought to the jail and refused to take a shower per jail policy. During the booking process, the inmate could be placed in the restraint chair and rolled into the shower, at which time the water would be turned on. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL explained this was for hygiene purposes. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL stated that this tactic was given to him, not during an official training session at the conference, but rather while "networking" with other jail administrators. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL could not recall any detail about who it was that told him about the tactic. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL also confirmed that there was no written policy regarding this tactic or whether the jail nurse should be involved for the safety of the

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inmate.

SA SEACRIST asked CAPTAIN BOUTWELL if this tactic had been used at the Brooks County Jail. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL recalled that it was done on INMATE TONY STATEN. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL could not recall why INMATE STATEN was placed and secured in the restraint chair and put in the shower with the water turned on. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL stated there was a policy on hygiene and that it could have been because INMATE STATEN was not clean, such as having feces or urine on him and refused to shower.

SA SEACRIST showed CAPTAIN BOUTWELL the incident report completed by LT. GIDDENS regarding the incident with INMATE STATEN. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL read the report. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL stated he believed he was standing at the intake desk and at the shower door at intake when the incident occurred. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL estimated that INMATE STATEN was in the shower, under the water, for approximately two minutes. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL stated that he could not recall a lot of the details regarding the incident with INMATE STATEN.

CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was aware of another incident where the same shower treatment tactic was used by Brooks County Jail SGT. RINA GRIFFIN. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL had met SGT. GRIFFIN at the hospital because she had been injured while restraining an inmate. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL believed it may have been a shoulder sprain. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was told that a female had been brought into booking and was combative. The female inmate was placed in the restraint chair and had refused to shower. Because she refused to shower, the inmate was put into the shower for hygiene purposes.

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SA SEACRIST showed CAPTAIN BOUTWELL the incident report completed by SGT. GRIFFIN regarding the incident with INMATE VICKIE THOMAS. SA SEACRIST asked CAPTAIN BOUTWELL if he instructed SGT. GRIFFIN to change her report regarding the description of the shower treatment incident. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL denied telling anyone to change their report. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL further stated that he had advised SGT. GRIFFIN to document INMATE THOMAS' combativeness.

SA SEACRIST asked CAPTAIN BOUTWELL about the water treatment incident with INMATE WALTER ELLER. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL did not recall an incident with INMATE ELLER being placed in the restraint chair and put in the shower with the water turned on. SA SEACRIST provided CAPTAIN BOUTWELL with a copy of the incident report by LT. GIDDENS, which documented the incident with INMATE ELLER, but did not report the water treatment. After CAPTAIN BOUTWELL reviewed the report, he continued to claim that he did not recall the incident.

This action concluded at approximately 2:40 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

AUDIO

[\(Attachments\)](#)

ID DATA:

BOUTWELL, DEWAYNE SCOTT (CAPTAIN)

[REDACTED] 1966

SEX/RACE: MALE/WHITE

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

QUITMAN, GA

COUNTRY: UNITED STATES

OCCUPATION: OFFICER

EMPLOYER:

BROOKS COUNTY JAIL (CAPTAIN)

QUITMAN, GA

CELLULAR: [REDACTED]

HANNAN, MILES (ATTORNEY)

SEX/RACE: MALE/WHITE

COUNTRY: UNITED STATES

OCCUPATION: ATTORNEY/LAWYER

EMPLOYER:

UNKNOWN

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 9/26/2016

ls: 10/18/2016

JS MS

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Tuesday, September 27, 2016, at approximately 9:05 a.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located in Valdosta, Lowndes County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation.

SA SEACRIST requested, via email, the Georgia P.O.S.T. records for Brooks County Jail ADMINISTRATOR/CAPTAIN SCOTT BOUTWELL, including answers to the standard questions required by GBI policy in a Use of Force investigation (see attached). SA SEACRIST noted that CAPT BOUTWELL had previously provided SA SEACRIST with verbal consent to review the records.

SA SEACRIST requested, via email, the Georgia P.O.S.T. records for the following Brooks County Jail employees: LT COURTNEY GIDDENS, SGT RINA GRIFFIN, SGT DELLISA BROWN, OFFICER JORQUA DAVIS. SA SEACRIST also requested answers to the standard questions required by GBI policy in a Use of Force investigation for each individual. SA SEACRIST had not received verbal consent for these records from the individuals. For this reason, SA SEACRIST made the request through Open Records. SA SEACRIST received the records from the Georgia P.O.S.T. Records Custodian (see attached). The question answers were received from a Georgia P.O.S.T. Director (see attached).

SA SEACRIST later reviewed the records and noted nothing of investigative interest regarding CAPT BOUTWELL, LT GIDDENS, SGT GRIFFIN, or SGT BROWN. SA SEACRIST did note that OFFICER DAVIS had been terminated from the Department of Juvenile Justice in December 2012 for placing a youth "in mechanical

09-0037-34-17

restraints without prior approval and failed to properly document the incident".

This investigative act occurred over multiple days and concluded on Thursday, September 29, 2016, at approximately 4:00 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

OTHER P.O.S.T. records for CAPT
BOUTWELL

[\(Attachments\)](#)

OTHER P.O.S.T. records via Open Records for
LT GIDDENS, SGT GRIFFIN, SGT BROWN,
OFCR DAVIS

[\(Attachments\)](#)

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/11/2016
js: 10/11/2016



**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Tuesday, September 27, 2016, at approximately 9:25 a.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located in Valdosta, Lowndes County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation.

SA SEACRIST accessed the secure EPIC Deconfliction website and deconflicted the following individuals:

Brooks County Sheriff's Office CAPTAIN/JAIL ADMINSTRATOR SCOTT BOUTWELL. SA SEACRIST was provided the Target ID number 14585 and the SAFETNet number 20160004097.

Brooks County Sheriff's Office SERGEANT RINA GRIFFIN. SA SEACRIST was provided the Target ID number 14586 and the SAFETNet number 20160004098.

Brooks County Sheriff's Office SERGEANT DELLISA BROWN. SA SEACRIST was provided the Target ID number 14587 and the SAFETNet number 20160004099.

Brooks County Sheriff's Office LIEUTENANT COURTNEY GIDDENS. SA SEACRIST was provided the Target ID number 14588 and the SAFETNet number 20160004100.

Brooks County Sheriff's Office OFFICER JORQUA DAVIS. SA SEACRIST was provided the Target ID number 14589 and the SAFETNet number 20160004101.

09-0037-34-17

This action concluded at approximately 9:40 a.m.

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 9/27/2016

js: 9/27/2016

JS MS

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Tuesday, September 27, 2016, at approximately 2:10 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Brooks County Sheriff's Office CID Annex, 1004 Holloway Drive, Quitman, Brooks County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation.

SA SEACRIST met with Brooks County Sheriff's Office INVESTIGATOR EUGENE OWEN. SA SEACRIST noted that Brooks County Jail OFFICER HENRY DAVIS had stated he had completed an incident report regarding his involvement in the incident with Brooks County Jail INMATE WALTER ELLER. INVESTIGATOR OWEN queried the Eagle reporting system and found no report on record for OFFICER H. DAVIS involving INMATE ELLER.

INVESTIGATOR OWEN did locate within the Eagle reporting system, the daily jail activity logs. INVESTIGATOR OWEN provided SA SEACRIST with the jail activity logs for March 28, 2016 (INMATE ELLER incident); April 4, 2016 (INMATE STATEN incident); May 30, 2016 (INMATE THOMAS incident); September 8, 2016 (INMATE STYLES incident).

SA SEACRIST reviewed the activity log for March 28, 2016 and noted the following: At 2:29 p.m., Jail OFFICER TRACEY TROUTMAN logged "Gave WALTER ELLER a shower and took him out of the chair".

SA SEACRIST later reviewed the activity log for April 4, 2016 and noted there was no mention of INMATE STATEN.

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SA SEACRIST later reviewed the activity log for May 30, 2016 and noted the following:
At 7:15 p.m., Jail OFFICER TYLER CARROL logged "CAPT. JAIL ADMINISTRATOR on duty. J1 on compound". At 7:22 p.m., OFFICER CARROL logged "CAPT. JAIL ADMINISTRATOR off duty. Leaves compound". There was no mention of INMATE THOMAS.

SA SEACRIST later reviewed the activity log for September 8, 2016 and noted there was no mention of INMATE STYLES.

This action concluded at approximately 3:00 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

OTHER JAIL ACTIVITY LOGS (4)

[\(Attachments\)](#)

ID DATA:

OWEN, EUGENE (Previously Submitted)

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/5/2016

Is: 10/14/2016

ST

J

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Tuesday, September 27, 2016, at approximately 3:00 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Brooks County Sheriff's Office CID Annex, 1004 Holloway Drive, Quitman, Brooks County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation.

SA SEACRIST met with MARY JANE DRYMAN, the ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT for Brooks County SHERIFF MIKE DEWEY. SA SEACRIST had previously obtained verbal consent from Brooks County Jail ADMINISTRATOR/CAPTAIN SCOTT BOUTWELL to review his personnel file. MARY JANE provided CAPTAIN BOUTWELL'S personnel file that was kept at the Sheriff's Office for review. MARY JANE also noted that there may be another personnel file for CAPTAIN BOUTWELL at the Brooks County Jail.

SA SEACRIST reviewed CAPTAIN BOUTWELL'S personnel file and noted the following:

CAPTAIN BOUTWELL'S original Brooks County Oath of Office was observed and SA SEACRIST made a copy of the original (see attached). SA SEACRIST noted it was administered by SHERIFF DEWEY on April 26, 2010.

In 2009, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL received a P.O.S.T. training waiver for his law enforcement required training hours due to his deployment in Iraq.

In a letter dated December 8, 2008 from the Georgia Public Safety Training Center,

09-0037-34-17

Tifton campus, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was acknowledged for receiving the overall achievement award for the 229th session at the G.P.S.T.C Regional Police Academy - Tifton Basic Mandate Class. The letter also noted that CAPTAIN BOUTWELL received the 2nd place award for academics. The letter was signed by MANAGER MARTY SMITH.

CAPTAIN BOUTWELL'S Basic Jail Officer certificate, which was completed April 16, 2008, and his Basic Mandate Certificate, which was completed December 5, 2008, were part of CAPTAIN BOUTWELL'S personnel file. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL also completed the Basic Jail Training course on March 14, 2008 per the certificate in his personnel file. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL did not successfully complete the marijuana identification course in December of 2011.

While assigned to the Criminal Investigations Division for the Brooks County Sheriff's Office, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL received a letter of accommodation for case work in 2012. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL led the investigations unit with 110 cases and 49 arrests.

CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was transferred to the JAIL ADMINISTRATOR position on October 19, 2015.

A suspension order from P.O.S.T. for CAPTAIN BOUTWELL'S basic law enforcement certificate # PBLE090260S noted a failure to maintain training for 2015. SA SEACRIST made a copy of the order (see attached).

This action concluded at approximately 3:20 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

OATH OF OFFICE

[\(Attachments\)](#)

OTHER FAILURE TO MAINTAIN TRAINING

[\(Attachments\)](#)

ID DATA:

DRYMAN, MARY JANE (MS)

SEX/RACE: FEMALE/UNKNOWN

COUNTRY: UNITED STATES

OCCUPATION: SECRETARY

EMPLOYER:

BROOKS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE (SHERIFF'S SECRETAR

1 SCREVEN STREET, SUITE

QUITMAN, GA

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/4/2016

Is: 10/4/2016



**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Tuesday, September 27, 2016, at approximately 3:20 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Brooks County Sheriff's Office CID Annex, 1004 Holloway Drive, Quitman, Brooks County, Georgia, for the purpose of interviewing Brooks County Jail OFFICER STEVE MCMINN in regards to the present investigation.

It should be noted this is a general synopsis of the interview with OFFICER MCMINN. For a detailed account of the interview in its entirety, refer to the recording associated with the summary (see attached).

Prior to the interview, SA SEACRIST advised OFFICER MCMINN that a criminal investigation was being conducted and that OFFICER MCMINN'S cooperation was completely voluntary. OFFICER MCMINN confirmed that he had not been instructed that his cooperation in the investigation was required as a condition of employment. OFFICER MCMINN essentially stated the following:

OFFICER MCMINN advised he had spent approximately 22 years in the United States Army as a Combat Engineer. OFFICER MCMINN had also worked at Autrey State Prison from approximately 2005 to 2006 and was a member of the CERT team. OFFICER MCMINN worked at Ware State Prison for approximately three months before moving to Texas and working in a prison there. OFFICER MCMINN then came back and worked at the Brooks County Jail for less than a year before going to the Valdosta State Prison for approximately six years. OFFICER MCMINN returned to the Brooks County Jail in approximately 2013.

09-0037-34-17

OFFICER MCMINN stated he had begun hearing about CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and LT. GIDDENS strapping inmates into a restraint chair and sticking them in the shower and turning the water on. One day, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and LT. GIDDENS called OFFICER MCMINN in and told him about the water treatment in the restraint chair. OFFICER MCMINN expressed concerns with the treatment, comparing it to, "water boarding." CAPTAIN BOUTWELL said, "No, that was not what it was." OFFICER MCMINN told CAPTAIN BOUTWELL that he believed the act was illegal. OFFICER MCMINN was not sure when this conversation occurred, but believed it may have been four to six months ago. OFFICER MCMINN describe CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and LT. GIDDENS attitude towards the water treatment as excited and "giddy". OFFICER MCMINN stated that the water treatment was not used for hygiene purposes, but was instead used for "torture".

OFFICER MCMINN had heard that this water treatment was used on INMATE WALTER ELLER, INMATE TONY STATEN, another unknown male inmate and an unknown female inmate. OFFICER MCMINN had also advised other jailers of his concerns about the legality of the water treatment.

This action concluded at approximately 3:45 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

AUDIO

[\(Attachments\)](#)

ID DATA:

MCMINN, STEVEN (OFFICER)

██████████/1960

SEX/RACE: MALE/WHITE

ADDRESS: ██████████

QUITMAN, GA

COUNTRY: UNITED STATES

OCCUPATION: OFFICER

EMPLOYER:

BROOKS COUNTY JAIL (JAILER)

QUITMAN, GA

████████████████████

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/3/2016

Is: 10/4/2016

ST

JS

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Tuesday, September 27, 2016, at approximately 4:00 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Brooks County Sheriff's Office, 1 Screven Street, Suite 3, Quitman, Brooks County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation.

SA SEACRIST met with Brooks County Sheriff's ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, MARY JANE DRYMAN, who provided access to the personnel records for the jailers involved in the present investigation. MARY JANE advised SA SEACRIST that there may be additional personnel files for the individuals stored at the jail. SA SEACRIST reviewed the personnel records and noted the following:

In the personnel file of JORQUA DAVIS, there was a jail employment application dated August 17, 2015 and an emergency contact sheet. These were the only items in the file.

In the personnel file of COURTNEY GIDDENS there was a copy of the Basic Jail Training certificate, which was dated September 21, 2012. SA SEACRIST noted an Employee Notice, dated October 15, 2012, which documented that GIDDENS was suspended three days for not finding contraband (marijuana) when GIDDENS searched an inmate. There was an Employee Notice dated June 7, 2013, which documented a warning for failure to immediately frisk and search and inmate at the intake desk per policy. There was a Change In Personnel status, dated January 31, 2013, which documented GIDDENS being placed back on six months probationary status due to work performance. There was an Employee Notice, dated February 23, 2014, warning GIDDENS for being one hour and twenty minutes late to his shift.

09-0037-34-17

It was further noted that GIDDENS was promoted to JAIL LT. on March 10, 2016.

In the personnel file of RINA GRIFFIN was the Basic Jail Officer certificate, dated February 16, 2011. A complaint from an inmate, dated March 17, 2015, stated that another inmate on work detail was not allowed to do their job. This caused the inmate to be removed from the work detail, which also meant a loss of the two-for-one time served program. The complaint was specifically against GRIFFIN and OFFICER LUCAS. A Disciplinary Notice dated August 4, 2015, documented GRIFFIN being suspended three days without pay due to the results of an internal investigation on July 23, 2015. GRIFFIN was promoted to SGT. on April 26, 2016.

In the personnel file of DELLISA BROWN was an application for employment and the suspension notice for the present investigation.

This action concluded at approximately 4:30 p.m.

ID DATA:

DRYMAN, MARY JANE (Previously Submitted)

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/5/2016

Is: 10/14/2016

JS MS

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Tuesday, September 27, 2016, at approximately 4:40 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Brooks County Jail, 1003 Holloway Drive, Quitman, Brooks County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation.

SA SEACRIST located the personnel files in the jail administrator's office. SA SEACRIST reviewed the personnel files of the jail staff involved in the present investigation and noted the following:

In the personnel file of SCOTT BOUTWELL, SA SEACRIST noted an employee notice, dated April 4, 2008, where BOUTWELL was warned for failure to attend a mandatory meeting. Another employee notice, dated May 15, 2008 warned BOUTWELL about errors on head count. An employee notice dated August 15, 2008, documented a two day suspension for failure to obey an order and using a taser on an inmate, which caused greater force than necessary to be used to subdue the inmate. Also located was a Lowndes County Sheriff's Office incident report for case # 93-12-00774. The incident report indicated that BOUTWELL was arrested on December 21, 1993 for Pointing A Gun At Another, Carrying A Concealed Weapon, and Criminal Trespass. The final disposition along with a memo prepared by BOUTWELL explaining the incident was reviewed (see attached).

In the personnel file of COURTNEY GIDDENS was an employee counseling notice, dated August 1, 2014, for incorrect bonding procedures. An employee discipline action form, dated January 19, 2016, cited GIDDENS for failure to follow an order,

09-0037-34-17

specifically for not moving a mattress from the sally port area. A request to expunge a criminal record for GIDDENS related to a Disorderly Conduct arrest was also reviewed (see attached).

In the personnel file of DELLISA BROWN was an employee counseling notice, dated June 17, 2016, for failure to show up for work. On June 24, 2016, BROWN was promoted to SGT. An employee counseling notice, dated July 15, 2016, cited BROWN for failure to provide an inmate with soap, rag and a towel, which caused the inmate to not have a shower. The warning was for not carrying out jail policy. An employee counseling notice dated June 6, 2016, cited BROWN for letting inmates in the medical isolation cells out of their cells all day long, which was against policy. An employee disciplinary notice dated August 14, 2015, documented a one day suspension without pay for releasing an inmate without posting bond. An employee counseling notice for October 14, 2015 documented BROWN being suspended three days without pay for sleeping at the window in main control. A denial letter from CAPTAIN SCOTT BOUTWELL for the jail LT. position, which was filled by COURTNEY GIDDENS, was reviewed.

In the personnel file of JORQUA DAVIS, nothing of investigative interest was found.

In the personnel file of RINA GRIFFIN was an employee counseling notice for incidents occurring on December 2 and December 7, 2010 for failure to search and secure contraband. On January 31, 2013, GRIFFIN was placed back on probationary status for work performance issues. An employee counseling notice, dated June 4, 2014, documented that GRIFFIN accepted a bond payment with the incorrect payee on the money order. An employee disciplinary notice dated July 14, 2015, documented a one day suspension for GRIFFIN who, as the team lead,

09-0037-34-17

allowed an unqualified staff member to run the main control room. An employee disciplinary action form, dated December 15, 2015, documented GRIFFIN'S three day suspension without pay for allowing a cell phone in an unauthorized area and for getting Ibuprofen from the medical office without permission. GRIFFIN was also order to take a drug screen, which she passed.

This action concluded at approximately 5:30 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

INCIDENT REPORT Boutwell arrest 1993

[\(Attachments\)](#)

OTHER GIDDENS EXPUNGE REQUEST

[\(Attachments\)](#)

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/5/2016

ls: 10/17/2016

ST MS

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Wednesday, September 28, 2016, at approximately 2:00 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the GBI Region 9 Field Office, 396 S. Pinetree Blvd., Thomasville, Thomas County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation.

GBI INTEL ANALYST MALLORY WALL provided SA SEACRIST with the criminal histories for the following: CAPTAIN SCOTT BOUTWELL, LIETENANT COURTNEY GIDDENS, SERGEANT RINA GRIFFIN, SERGEANT DELLISA BROWN, OFFICER JORQUA DAVIS, INMATE STEPHEN STYLES, INMATE WALTER ELLER, INMATE TONY STATEN, INMATE VICKIE THOMAS (see attached).

This action concluded at approximately 2:10 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

CRIMINAL HISTORY CAPT BOUTWELL	(Attachments)
CRIMINAL HISTORY LT GIDDENS	(Attachments)
CRIMINAL HISTORY SGT GRIFFIN	(Attachments)
CRIMINAL HISTORY SGT BROWN	(Attachments)
CRIMINAL HISTORY OFCR J. DAVIS	(Attachments)
CRIMINAL HISTORY INMATE STYLES	(Attachments)
CRIMINAL HISTORY INMATE ELLER	(Attachments)
CRIMINAL HISTORY INMATE STATEN	(Attachments)
CRIMINAL HISTORY INMATE THOMAS	(Attachments)

ID DATA:

WALL, MALLORY (MS)
SEX/RACE: FEMALE/WHITE
COUNTRY: UNITED STATES
OCCUPATION: ANALYST
EMPLOYER:
GBI

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 9/28/2016
js: 9/28/2016

JS

JS

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Monday, October 3, 2016, at approximately 9:45 a.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Brooks County Sheriff's Office, 1 Screven Street, Suite 3, Quitman, Brooks County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation.

SA SEACRIST met with GBI SAC JAMY STEINBERG and Brooks County SHERIFF MIKE DEWEY. SA SEACRIST updated SHERIFF DEWEY on the present investigation. Arrangements were discussed concerning the pending arrests of the following jail employees: CAPTAIN SCOTT BOUTWELL, LT. COURTNEY GIDDENS, SGT. RINA GRIFFIN, SGT. DELLISA BROWN, and OFFICER JORQUA DAVIS.

This action concluded at approximately 10:30 a.m.

ID DATA:

STEINBERG, JAMY (Previously Submitted)

DEWEY, MIKE (Previously Submitted)

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/5/2016

Is: 10/14/2016

JS

J

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Monday, October 3, 2016, at approximately 12:15 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at Thomas County Superior Court, 325 North Madison Street, Thomasville, Thomas County, Georgia, for the purpose of obtaining arrest warrants in the present investigation.

SA SEACRIST presented South Judicial Circuit SUPER COURT JUDGE BRIAN MCDANIEL with arrest warrants for SCOTT BOUTWELL, COURTNEY GIDDENS, RINA GRIFFIN, DELLISA BROWN, and JORQUA DAVIS. SA SEACRIST provided JUDGE MCDANIEL with written and verbal sworn testimony. JUDGE MCDANIEL signed the following arrests warrants (see attached):

SCOTT BOUTWELL for simple battery, cruelty to inmates (three counts), and violation of oath by a public officer.

COURTNEY GIDDENS for cruelty to inmates (two counts).

RINA GRIFFIN for cruelty to inmates (one count).

DELLISA BROWN for cruelty to inmates (one count).

JORQUA DAVIS for cruelty to inmates (two counts).

This action concluded at approximately 12:35 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

ARREST WARRANT

[\(Attachments\)](#)

ID DATA:

MCDANIEL, BRIAN (JUDGE)

SEX/RACE: MALE/WHITE

COUNTRY: UNITED STATES

OCCUPATION: JUDGE

EMPLOYER:

SOUTHERN JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SUPERIOR COURT

P.O. BOX 227

MOULTRIE, GA 31776

BUSINESS:(229)616-7445

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/3/2016

js: 10/3/2016



**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Monday, October 3, 2016, at approximately 4:50 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Brooks County Jail, 1003 Holloway Drive, Quitman, Brooks County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation.

With the assistance of Brooks County Jail LT. DARLENE WOOTEN, SA SEACRIST recorded the jail shower running in the jail intake area (see attached). SA SEACRIST used a broom that was located by LT. WOOTEN in the jail to turn the water on.

LT. WOOTEN then took SA SEACRIST outside to the area behind the shower where products that had been described as being used to remove lice were mixed into the shower water. SA SEACRIST noted that the product mix area was accessed from the outside of the jail, but was directly behind the shower wall. SA SEACRIST took pictures and video of the containers that were being mixed into the water which went into the shower (see attached). SA SEACRIST noted that the products used were Romaine brand DE-STAPH anti bacterial body shampoo which included 3% of the active ingredient triclosan. It also contained Romaine brand tree leaf hair shampoo and body wash.

This action concluded at approximately 5:10 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

VIDEO

[\(Attachments\)](#)

PHOTOGRAPH

[\(Attachments\)](#)

ID DATA:

WOOTEN, DARLENE (LIEUTENANT)

SEX/RACE: FEMALE/UNKNOWN

COUNTRY: UNITED STATES

OCCUPATION: LIEUTENANT

EMPLOYER:

BROOKS COUNTY JAIL

QUITMAN, GA

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/3/2016

Is: 10/4/2016

ST

J

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Tuesday, October 4, 2016, approximately 10:00 a.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Brooks County Sheriff's Office CID Annex, 1004 Holloway Drive, Quitman, Brooks County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation. Also present were Brooks County SHERIFF MIKE DEWEY and INVESTIGATOR EUGENE OWEN.

At approximately 10:30 a.m., SA SEACRIST effected the arrest of Brooks County Jail LT. COURTNEY GIDDENS for the charge of two counts cruelty to inmates. SA SEACRIST then completed an arrest record with LT. GIDDENS (see attached).

At approximately 10:40 a.m., SA SEACRIST effected the arrest of Brooks County Jail SGT. DELLISA BROWN for one count cruelty to inmates. SA SEACRIST then completed an arrest record with SGT. BROWN (see attached).

At approximately 10:50 a.m., SA SEACRIST effected the arrest of Brooks County Jail OFFICER JORQUA DAVIS for two counts cruelty to inmates. SA SEACRIST then completed an arrest record with OFFICER DAVIS (see attached).

At approximately 11:00 a.m., SA SEACRIST effected the arrest of Brooks County JAIL ADMINISTRATOR/CAPTAIN SCOTT BOUTWELL for three counts cruelty to inmates, one count simple battery, and one count violation oath of office. SA SEACRIST then completed an arrest record with CAPTAIN BOUTWELL (see attached).

09-0037-34-17

At approximately 11:45 a.m., SA SEACRIST effected the arrest of former Brooks County Jail SGT. and current Brooks County 911 OPERATOR RINA GRIFFIN for one count cruelty to inmates. SA SEACRIST then completed an arrest record with SGT. GRIFFIN (see attached).

At the conclusion of each arrest, SHERIFF DEWEY terminated the arrestees employment. Following the arrests, SA SEACRIST obtained the Brooks County Jail arrest-booking reports and fingerprint cards for each arrested individual (see attached).

This action concluded at approximately 12:10 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

ARREST RECORD

[\(Attachments\)](#)

ARREST-BOOKING REPORT

[\(Attachments\)](#)

FINGERPRINT CARDS

[\(Attachments\)](#)

ID DATA:

DEWEY, MIKE (SHERIFF)

SEX/RACE: MALE/WHITE

COUNTRY: UNITED STATES

OCCUPATION: SHERIFF

EMPLOYER:

BROOKS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

QUITMAN, GA

OWEN, EUGENE (Previously Submitted)

BOUTWELL, DEWAYNE SCOTT (CAPTAIN)

██████████ 1966

SEX/RACE: MALE/WHITE

HAIR: GRAY OR PARTIALLY GRAY

SMT: TATTOO ; BARBWIRE ; ARM - LEFT

WEIGHT: 185

ADDRESS: ██████████

QUITMAN, GA

COUNTRY: UNITED STATES

OCCUPATION: OFFICER

EMPLOYER:

BROOKS COUNTY JAIL (CAPTAIN)

QUITMAN, GA

██████████

██████████

CONVEYANCE: AUTOMOBILE:CHEV-CHEVROLET 2006 TAHOE BLACK

BROWN, DELLISA (MS)

██████████ /1990

SEX/RACE: FEMALE/BLACK

HAIR: BLACK

WEIGHT: 160

ADDRESS: ██████████

QUITMAN, BROOKS COUNTY, GA 31643

COUNTRY: UNITED STATES

OCCUPATION: SERGEANT

EMPLOYER:

BROOKS COUNTY JAIL

QUITMAN, GA

[REDACTED]
CONVEYANCE: AUTOMOBILE:CHEV-CHEVROLET 2010 TRAVERSE

DAVIS, JORQUA (OFFICER)

[REDACTED]
SEX/RACE: MALE/BLACK
HAIR: BLACK
SMT: TATTOO
WEIGHT: 210
ADDRESS: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] NW
CAIRO, GRADY COUNTY, GA
COUNTRY: UNITED STATES
OCCUPATION: OFFICER
EMPLOYER:
BROOKS COUNTY JAIL
QUITMAN, GA
O [REDACTED]
7 VEHICLES

GRIFFIN, RINA EILEEN (MS)

[REDACTED] 1986
SEX/RACE: FEMALE/WHITE
HAIR: BROWN
SMT: TATTOO
WEIGHT: 160
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
PAVO, THOMAS COUNTY, GA 31778
COUNTRY: UNITED STATES
OCCUPATION: JAILER
EMPLOYER:
BROOKS COUNTY JAIL/911 OPERATOR
QUITMAN, GA
O [REDACTED]
CONVEYANCE: AUTOMOBILE:DODG-DODGE 2015 CHALLENGER

GIDDENS, COURTNEY DEWAYNE (LIEUTENANT)

[REDACTED] 1986
SEX/RACE: MALE/UNKNOWN
HAIR: BLOND OR STRAWBERRY
WEIGHT: 140
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
MORVEN, BROOKS COUNTY, GA

without written approval of a GBI Supervisor

COUNTRY: UNITED STATES
OCCUPATION: LIEUTENANT
EMPLOYER:
BROOKS COUNTY JAIL
QUITMAN, GA



SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/4/2016
Is: 10/4/2016

JS

JS

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Tuesday, October 4, 2016, at approximately 1:20 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Brooks County Jail, 1003 Holloway Drive, Quitman, Brooks County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation.

SA SEACRIST provided the original arrest warrants in the present investigation to Southern Judicial Circuit Superior Court JUDGE BRIAN MCDANIEL, who was overseeing the first appearance for each arrestee. JUDGE MCDANIEL requested SA SEACRIST be present for the hearings.

SA SEACRIST witnessed the first appearance for SCOTT BOUTWELL, COURTNEY GIDDENS, RINA GRIFFIN, DELLISA BROWN, and JORQUA DAVIS. JUDGE MCDANIEL turned over the original completed arrest warrants to SA SEACRIST, who turned them over to Brooks County Jail LT. DARLENE WOOTEN.

This action concluded at approximately 2:00 p.m.

ID DATA:

MCDANIEL, BRIAN (Previously Submitted)

WOOTEN, DARLENE (Previously Submitted)

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/5/2016

Is: 10/14/2016



**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Wednesday, October 5, 2016, at approximately 2:00 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located in Valdosta, Lowndes County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation.

SA SEACRIST had previously spoken with Southern Judicial Circuit PUBLIC DEFENDER CHELSEA IBARRA regarding the existence of a letter sent by Brooks County Jail INMATE TONY STATEN to ATTORNEY IBARRA. ATTORNEY IBARRA was representing INMATE STATEN on his current charges.

ATTORNEY IBARRA called SA SEACRIST and advised that she had located a letter she received from INMATE STATEN. In the letter, INMATE STATEN referenced being beaten and tortured on April 4, 2016. ATTORNEY IBARRA checked her notes for her next meeting with INMATE STATEN, but noted there was no reference to a discussion regarding the allegations.

ATTORNEY IBARRA advised SA SEACRIST that she would provide a copy of letter, but that portions of the letter would be redacted as they contained privileged information regarding INMATE STATEN'S current case. ATTORNEY IBARRA further noted that the letter was not dated, but that the envelope included the dated post mark stamp along with the date stamp for receipt by the Public Defender's Office and the date stamp of the Brooks County Jail for when it was sent.

SA SEACRIST later obtained the copy of the letter as described from ATTORNEY IBARRA (see attached). SA SEACRIST noted that the contents of the letter were as

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ATTORNEY IBARRA described and that the post mark date was April 25, 2016. The date stamp from the Brooks County Jail from when it left the jail was unreadable. The date stamp for the Public Defender's Officer for when it was received was April 27, 2016.

This action concluded at approximately 2:10 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

OTHER LETTER

[\(Attachments\)](#)

ID DATA:

IBARRA, CHELSEA (MS)
SEX/RACE: FEMALE/UNKNOWN
COUNTRY: UNITED STATES
OCCUPATION: ATTORNEY/LAWYER
EMPLOYER:
UNKNOWN

████████████████████
████████████████████

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/5/2016
ls: 10/14/2016

ST

JS

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Thursday, October 6, 2016, at approximately 12:50 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at Lowndes County Sheriff's Office, 100 Prison Farm Road, Valdosta, Lowndes County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation.

SA SEACRIST had been previously notified that SAM COMMANDER had called the GBI Region Nine Field Office with information regarding the Brooks County Jail. SA SEACRIST made contact via phone with SAM, who essentially stated the following:

SAM was arrested with his fiancé, STACEY HALL, on February 26, 2016 at approximately 9:30 p.m. The arrest was related to a road block and SAM was charged with possession of an unknown substance and misdemeanor cruelty to children.

When SAM and STACEY arrived at the Brooks County Jail, a white male jailer was conducting the booking process. SAM felt that they were treated like "shit". SAM noted that the intake jailer wanted him to sign a property report saying that he only had \$.21 cents in his possession when he came into the jail. SAM noted that he had just been paid and had over \$400 on his person. When he refused to sign the form, the jailer made threats regarding SAM'S safety. Specifically, the jailer, who was in his mid 20's to 30's, told SAM that if he reported the inconsistency, the jailer would "fuck him up".

SAM was kept in a holding cell with no mat or any other items. Although SAM arrived at the jail Friday night, he was not fed until dinner time on Saturday. SAM

09-0037-34-17

believed that the jailer told the day shift on Saturday to "forget about him (SAM)" so that SAM would not be able to go to the back of the jail or get any of the other privileges. SAM was also not allowed a phone call until Monday. SAM was not actually booked into the jail until Monday either. SAM believed he lost his job because of the way he was treated. SAM had been unable to contact his employer, with which he had been working for five years. Because of this, SAM was fired. SAM believed that his life has been irreparably damaged due to this incident.

STACEY had also told SAM that she felt degraded while in the jail. STACEY noted that the control pod that oversaw the female inmates did not have tinted windows. STACEY could see jailers standing in the pod and pointing and laughing at the female inmates. SAM noted that none of these allegations had ever been reported to the authorities.

This action concluded at approximately 1:00 p.m.

ID DATA:

COMMANDER, SAM (MR)
DOB: 5/23/1977
SEX/RACE: MALE/WHITE
COUNTRY: UNITED STATES
OCCUPATION: UNKNOWN
EMPLOYER:
UNKNOWN

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/11/2016
ls: 10/14/2016

ST

J

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Thursday, October 6, 2016, at approximately 1:22 p.m., Special Agent (SA) O.L. PORTER was located at the Terrell County Correctional Institute, 3110 Albany Highway, in Dawson, Terrell County, Georgia, for the purpose of interviewing Inmate CARRINGTON DIORE HOLLIS in reference to a use of force investigation out of the Brooks County Jail.

The interview with HOLLIS was recorded utilizing a digital audio recording device. What follows is a summation of the interview. For a more detailed account, refer to the attached audio recording to this investigative summary.

HOLLIS stated essentially the following:

HOLLIS was a inmate in the Brooks County Jail from approximately May 23, 2016 until August 2016 (last week of the month). HOLLIS was assigned to A - House, cell A-3 the entire time while at this facility. HOLLIS did not have a bunk mate assigned to his cell. HOLLIS did have individuals next to him in cell A-4, but did not know their names. HOLLIS stated that cell A-2 was a handicap cell but no one was assigned to this cell while he was at the Brooks County Jail.

On two occasions, Detention Officer GRIFFIN (FNU) a white male, possibly 25 years of age made threatening hand gestures at HOLLIS. The first incident occurred in June 2016 when HOLLIS requested toilet tissue. Detention Officer GRIFFIN brought HOLLIS the toilet tissue and placed it on his bible. Afterwards, Detention Officer GRIFFIN "shot a bird" (obscene hand gesture) at HOLLIS and stated,

09-0037-34-17

"What?", and then turned to walk out of HOLLIS' cell. The second incident occurred either late July 2016 or the first of August 2016, during count. Detention Officer GRIFFIN simulated holding a gun and did a shooting gesture at HOLLIS through HOLLIS' cell door.

HOLLIS wrote a Grievance after Detention Officer GRIFFIN shot a bird at him. HOLLIS requested a copy, but never got it. HOLLIS informed Detention Officers MCMANN (W/M) and BELL (B/F) of this situation. Detention Officers MCMANN and BELL brought Detention Officer GRIFFIN to HOLLIS' cell to ask Detention Officer GRIFFIN about the obscene hand gesture. Detention Officer GRIFFIN smiled and denied doing it. The second incident HOLLIS did not report because nothing came of the first incident. HOLLIS only called his mother after the second incident.

HOLLIS never did anything to provoke Detention Officer GRIFFIN. HOLLIS also never heard any other inmate talk about situations involving Detention Officer GRIFFIN.

During the first week of July 2016, HOLLIS heard from his cell (A-3) Inmate JOHNATHAN VICKS screaming that he (VICKS) could not breath. HOLLIS also heard a loud thump as if someone got slammed on the floor. HOLLIS also heard VICKS state he could not see due to being sprayed with pepper spray. HOLLIS talked with VICKS about what happened on the same day after the incident occurred. VICKS told HOLLIS he was pepper sprayed, handcuffed, and then choked by Cpt. BOUTWELL. This situation occurred because VICKS flooded his cell to get medical attention for VICKS' leg.

After the situation with VICKS, HOLLIS tried calling HOLLIS' parents but could not

SPECIAL AGENT ORENTAL PORTER: 10/13/2016
op: 10/13/2016

QAB JT

JK

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Tuesday, October 11, 2016, at approximately 9:55 a.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at Lowndes County Sheriff's Office, 100 Prison Farm Road, Valdosta, Lowndes County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation.

SA SEACRIST had previously been advised that JESSICA FOLSOM had called the GBI Region Nine Field Office with information regarding activities at the Brooks County Jail. JESSICA had stated her incident also involved JOSHUA ALDRIDGE, who was still incarcerated at the Brooks County Jail.

SA SEACRIST spoke to JESSICA by phone. JESSICA essentially stated the following:

JESSICA and JOSH were booked into the Brooks County Jail in April 2016. JESSICA and JOSH were arrested for criminal trespass and simple battery. JOSH had punched JESSICA in the face and JESSICA had pushed JOSH in return. After JESSICA and JOSH were transported to the Brooks County Jail, JOSH was in a holding cell. While in the holding cell, JOSH was not resisting but was belligerent and kicking the jail cell door. Brooks County Sheriff's Office DEPUTY JOHN HORTON and DEPUTY FNU WEST, along with a black male JAILER, possibly with the last name of STEVENS, had gone to the holding cell door and verbally threatened JOSH that if he did not calm down they would assault him. DEPUTY HORTON, DEPUTY WEST, and the black male jailer then slammed JOSH'S head into the wall. JESSICA noted that a female jailer had tried to grab JESSICA, but JESSICA told her to not touch her and would walk to the shower room on her own.

09-0037-34-17

JESSICA noted that she was released that same night on her own recognizance and that the charges against her were dropped the next day. JOSH was still incarcerated at the Brooks County Jail.

JESSICA added that she had an SD card that contained messages from DEPUTY HORTON that were inappropriate. The messages from DEPUTY HORTON related to him wanting JESSICA to provide sexual favors. JESSICA noted she would have to find the SD card. SA SEACRIST advised JESSICA that if she could find the SD card and verify that it still had the messages on it, to call SA SEACRIST.

This action concluded at approximately 10:05 a.m.

ID DATA:

FOLSOM, JESSICA (MS)

██████████1990

SEX/RACE: FEMALE/UNKNOWN

COUNTRY: UNITED STATES

OCCUPATION: UNKNOWN

EMPLOYER:

UNKNOWN

██

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/11/2016

Is: 10/14/2016

ST

JS

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Tuesday, October 11, 2016, at approximately 10:12 a.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Lowndes County Sheriff's Office, 120 Prison Farm Road, Valdosta, Lowndes County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation.

SA SEACRIST had previously been advised that DAMIAN JOHNSON had called the GBI Region Nine Field Office regarding information that Brooks County Jail CAPTAIN SCOTT BOUTWELL, along with DAMIAN'S ex-mother-in-law, FRANCIS MICHELLE PHILLIPS, had conspired to kill DAMIAN. SA SEACRIST spoke with DAMIAN on the phone and DAMIAN essentially stated the following:

DAMIAN'S ex-wife was DANIELLE DAVIS. DAMIAN'S ex-wife's aunt was WILLA MAE BUTLER. WILLA MAE was the sister of FRANCIS. FRANCIS and WILLA MAE were close friends with PEGGY MCCOY WILSON, who was the VICTIMS ADVOCATE in Brooks County, Georgia. DAMIAN believed that PEGGY was using her position to retaliate against subjects of investigations regarding abuse to friends or family. DAMIAN believed that PEGGY had an HIV infected woman sleep with suspects who have allegedly harmed PEGGY'S friends or family. DAMIAN believed the female's name was "TONYA". DAMIAN said a lady lives by the railroad tracks in Quitman and that her son, "RODNEY", had been a victim of HIV infection by "TONYA". DAMIAN believed that RODNEY'S HIV had progressed to AIDS.

In July of 2015, DAMIAN had been fighting with his wife, DANIELLE. DANIELLE had been having affairs behind DAMIAN'S back. DAMIAN was planning to leave his wife and take their child with him. DAMIAN believed that DANIELLE went to her

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mom, FRANCIS, who told DANIELLE that she needed to "get something on" DAMIAN. DAMIAN believed that DANIELLE then went to PEGGY and made the allegation that DAMIAN had grabbed DANIELLE by her arm. DAMIAN confirmed that he had grabbed DANIELLE'S arm, but it was because DANIELLE had "snapped" and DAMIAN grabbed her arm to keep her from hurting anyone. After the incident, DAMIAN went and watched TV with their daughter. DAMIAN believed that DANIELLE told WILLA MAE about the incident and WILLA MAE took DANIELLE to see PEGGY.

After that incident, DANIELLE began recording conversations and arguments with DAMIAN. DAMIAN noticed that DANIELLE was taking SIM cards and SD cards from cell phones, which DAMIAN later learned she was using to record conversations. DANIELLE eventually got a temporary protective order on DAMIAN and used those recordings as proof.

DAMIAN believed that they then tried to use the Quitman Police Department to falsely incarcerate him. An accusation was made that DAMIAN had kicked one of their trucks and rubbed mud all over it. INVESTIGATOR TRACY GASKINS with the Quitman Police Department was able to prove that DAMIAN did not do this. DETECTIVE GASKINS also advised DAMIAN that he knew what was going on was wrong and for DAMIAN to remain calm.

DAMIAN was accused in another incident of putting sugar in DANIELLE'S grandfather's truck. DAMIAN believed that DETECTIVE WILLIE CHARLES CLEMMONS with the Quitman Police Department had used footage from video surveillance cameras to prove that DAMIAN had not committed the act. At some point during this, Quitman Police Department OFFICER WRIGHT advised DAMIAN

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to get a body camera to record where he was so that if accusations were made DAMIAN would have proof that he was not at the area where the incident occurred. DAMIAN believed that DETECTIVE CLEMMONS was also aware of the conspiracy by PEGGY to falsely incarcerate DAMIAN.

When the Quitman Police Department was unable to incarcerate DAMIAN, he believed that PEGGY went to CAPTAIN BOUTWELL, who was assigned to the Brooks County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigative Division. DAMIAN was accused of breaking into a truck of a relative of DANIELLE. This relative stated she saw DAMIAN ride off on a bicycle. DAMIAN noted that he had not had that bicycle for several months at the time of the incident.

DAMIAN also advised that he had been warned by DANIELLE'S "UNCLE NICK" to not stay in his trailer by himself because they were attempting to have DAMIAN "set up". That very day, DAMIAN had taken a cushion off of his sofa and gone to his mother's house, where he would sleep on the floor. DAMIAN believed that CAPTAIN BOUTWELL arrived at his trailer to conduct a search there. DAMIAN believed there was proof of this because he later observed tire tracks through his yard that DAMIAN believed were consistent with several deputies driving through the yard. DAMIAN had also intentionally left his trailer in a condition that made it look like he would be home. DAMIAN did this to "test" the information "UNCLE NICK" had provided.

After finding that DAMIAN was not at his trailer, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL arrived at DAMIAN'S mother's house. While there, DAMIAN explained to CAPTAIN BOUTWELL about the bike and where it was located. An officer confirmed DAMIAN'S story, at which point CAPTAIN BOUTWELL began looking under sofas

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and cushions in an attempt to find anything for which he could falsely incarcerate DAMIAN. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was also rude and attempted to incite DAMIAN into an outburst. DAMIAN stated he had been warned in the past about CAPTAIN BOUTWELL'S tactics, so he remained calm and did not make any sudden movements. CAPTAIN BOUTWELL eventually had to leave. DAMIAN firmly believed that had he been at his trailer by himself that night, DAMIAN would be dead.

Since PEGGY and DANIELLE'S family were unsuccessful with the Quitman Police Department or the Brooks County Sheriff's Office, DAMIAN believed they attempted to use a local individual by the name of ANTHONY LAMAR DAVIS, aka "BOO", to kill DAMIAN. DAMIAN believed that ANTHONY was known in Quitman for randomly shooting at people that ANTHONY believed had slept with his girlfriend. DAMIAN noted that FRANCIS had previously told DAMIAN that she had a "9 mm for DAMIAN". After that comment by FRANCIS, DAMIAN was confronted by ANTHONY in the street. DAMIAN alleged that ANTHONY pulled out a 9 mm handgun and told DAMIAN that he was going to blow his head off. DAMIAN remained calm and slowly backed away and then called 911. DAMIAN stated there was a police report with the Quitman Police Department regarding this incident. DAMIAN believed that DANIELLE and her family told ANTHONY that DAMIAN was sleeping with ANTHONY'S girlfriend. DAMIAN also believed that the 9 mm reference by FRANCIS and the fact that ANTHONY had a 9 mm handgun that he threatened DAMIAN with was proof that DANIELLE'S family had attempted to have ANTHONY kill DAMIAN using a false rumor. DAMIAN noted that, were they successful, a jury would never convict them of murder because their defense would be they just told ANTHONY about DAMIAN sleeping with his girlfriend.

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DAMIAN noted that these incidents had caused him to be in fear for his life in Quitman. DAMIAN had since left Quitman and moved to Valdosta. DAMIAN stated all of these incidents occurred between July 2, 2015 and September of 2015.

SA SEACRIST contacted DETECTIVE CLEMMONS regarding information provided by DAMIAN. DETECTIVE CLEMMONS could not recall DAMIAN. After SA SEACRIST provided the content and accusations and DAMIAN'S statement, DETECTIVE CLEMMONS was confident that he had never heard of any such action by PEGGY, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL, or anyone else in the city of Quitman or anyone else.

SA SEACRIST then spoke with DETECTIVE GASKINS who was very familiar with DAMIAN. DETECTIVE GASKINS noted that he had multiple contacts with DAMIAN. DAMIAN was always very paranoid. DETECTIVE GASKINS believed that DAMIAN suffered from seizures and may have been diagnosed with bipolar disorder. DETECTIVE GASKINS also recalled the incident regarding ANTHONY. DETECTIVE GASKINS noted that ANTHONY said he was pushing his bicycle down the road and that DAMIAN continued to stare at him. When ANTHONY asked DAMIAN why he was staring at him so hard, that led to an altercation and DAMIAN'S accusation that ANTHONY had pointed a gun at him. DETECTIVE GASKINS believed that statements from DAMIAN were consistent with his continued paranoia.

This action concluded at approximately 11:00 a.m.

ID DATA:

JOHNSON, DAMIAN (MR)

██████████/1984

SEX/RACE: MALE/BLACK

COUNTRY: UNITED STATES

OCCUPATION: UNKNOWN

EMPLOYER:

UNKNOWN

████████████████████
████████████████████

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/11/2016

Is: 10/17/2016

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**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Tuesday, October 11, 2016, at 11:17 a.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Lowndes County Sheriff's Office, 100 Prison Farm Road, Valdosta, Lowndes County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation.

SA SEACRIST had been made aware that JESUS LOERA had previously called the GBI Region Nine Field Office with information regarding the Brooks County Jail. SA SEACRIST made contact via phone with JESUS, who essentially stated the following:

JESUS was arrested for simple battery around March or April of 2016. JESUS believed it was on a Thursday night. Once booked into the jail, JESUS asked for a phone call multiple times and was repeatedly denied. JESUS was placed in the "punish hole", which SA SEACRIST knew to mean the lock-down unit, for 50 hours for no reason. JESUS was also not given a pillow and was not provided with medication that he had told them he regularly took. JESUS was held past 72 hours without seeing a judge and it was approximately 82 hours until he got his bond. JESUS believed that he was released on a Wednesday night.

This action concluded at approximately 11:24 a.m.

ID DATA:

[REDACTED]

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/11/2016
Is: 10/14/2016

ST

JS

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Tuesday, October 11, 2016, at approximately 12:30 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at Lowndes County Sheriff's Office, 120 Prison Farm Road, Valdosta, Lowndes County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation.

SA SEACRIST had been previously advised that GEORGE THORNTON had called the GBI Region Nine Field Office in regards to an incident that occurred in January 2015 when Brooks County Jail ADMINISTRATOR/CAPTAIN SCOTT BOUTWELL was assigned to the criminal investigation department and threatened GEORGE'S life. SA SEACRIST contacted GEORGE via phone. GEORGE essentially stated the following:

GEORGE was arrested around December 18, 2015 with the charge of enticing a minor. GEORGE believed a charge of burglary was later added. GEORGE was arrested by CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and Brooks County Sheriff's Office INVESTIGATOR EUGENE OWEN. GEORGE had gone to a friend's house who had recently been married and had a step-daughter living at the house. GEORGE did not know that his friend was not home, so he knocked on the door and the step-daughter opened the door. GEORGE later learned that she was approximately fifteen years of age, but GEORGE noted she appeared older and was physically bigger than GEORGE. The step-daughter told GEORGE that his friend was not home and then opened the door further as if inviting GEORGE to come inside. As GEORGE walked inside, he told the girl "you look like a sexy young thing". Nothing else had occurred while GEORGE was at the house.

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After CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and INVESTIGATOR OWEN arrested GEORGE, he was interviewed. During the interview, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and INVESTIGATOR OWEN told GEORGE that they would like to "blow his fucking brains out". GEORGE responded "I bet you turned off the recorder". GEORGE stated that both CAPTAIN BOUTWELL and INVESTIGATOR OWEN made this statement to him, however CAPTAIN BOUTWELL was so mad that he believed that if INVESTIGATOR OWEN was not there, CAPTAIN BOUTWELL would have harmed GEORGE.

SA SEACRIST later spoke with INVESTIGATOR OWEN regarding the incident. INVESTIGATOR OWEN recalled the investigation and noted that GEORGE had known that the juvenile's parents were not home. GEORGE tried to force his way in the house but the girl was initially able to use her body in an attempt to shut the door. Eventually, though, GEORGE made entrance into the house and made statements regarding the juvenile's body. INVESTIGATOR OWEN stated that the comments described by GEORGE had not occurred, either by CAPTAIN BOUTWELL or INVESTIGATOR OWEN. While INVESTIGATOR OWEN had observed CAPTAIN BOUTWELL make comments to individuals after an audio recorder was turned off, INVESTIGATOR OWEN was sure that this comment was not made in INVESTIGATOR OWEN'S presence.

This action concluded at approximately 12:40 p.m.

[REDACTED]

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/11/2016
Is: 10/17/2016

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**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Tuesday, October 11, 2016, at approximately 12:40 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Lowndes County Sheriff's Office, 100 Prison Farm Road, Valdosta, Lowndes County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation.

SA SEACRIST had previously been advised that MICHAEL LNU had called the GBI Region 9 Field Office regarding information of mistreatment at the Brooks County Jail. MICHAEL refused to provide his last name, but provided a phone number 229-263-5080 and address of 210 Lafayette Street, Quitman, Georgia.

SA SEACRIST attempted to call MICHAEL at the provided phone number. The phone rang continuously with no answer or option to leave a voice mail.

SA SEACRIST attempted to call MICHAEL again on Friday, October 14, 2016, at approximately 4:35 p.m. Again, the phone rang continuously with no answer or option to leave a voice mail.

This investigative act occurred over multiple days and concluded on October 14, 2016, at approximately 4:40 p.m.

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/14/2016
js: 10/14/2016



**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Tuesday, October 11, 2016, at approximately 12:45 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at Lowndes County Sheriff's Office, 120 Prison Farm Road, Valdosta, Lowndes County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation.

SA SEACRIST had previously been made aware that MICHAEL WARREN had called the GBI Region Nine Field Office regarding information involving the Brooks County Jail. SA SEACRIST contacted via phone MICHAEL, who essentially stated the following:

MICHAEL was an inmate at the Brooks County Jail from December 2014 to February 2015. MICHAEL was B12 deficient and required a regular B12 shot. MICHAEL had informed the jail that he required a B12 shot for his deficiency but was denied access to the medicine. In early February 2015, approximately three weeks before MICHAEL was released from Brooks County Jail, MICHAEL "fell out and busted his head open" as a result of not getting his B12 shot. It was two days before MICHAEL was taken to the hospital for his injuries. MICHAEL believed this incident was documented by the jail staff when he went to the hospital. MICHAEL believed that the shift that included COURTNEY GIDDENS, DELLISA BROWN, and RINA GRIFFIN were responsible for this incident. MICHAEL then recalled that a CORPORAL TOWNSHOUSER was also on that shift but had since been fired from the Brooks County Jail.

MICHAEL also noted that the same shift had "favorites" among the inmates. MICHAEL recalled that the shift sometimes would not feed certain inmates.

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MICHAEL noted there was general mistreatment of inmates at the jail.

This action concluded at approximately 12:50 p.m.

ID DATA:

[REDACTED]

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/11/2016
Is: 10/14/2016

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**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Tuesday, October 11, 2016, at approximately 1:10 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at Lowndes County Sheriff's Office, 120 Prison Farm Road, Valdosta, Lowndes County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation.

SA SEACRIST had previously been advised that MANDY NEWELL had called the GBI Region Nine Field Office regarding information about the Brooks County Jail. SA SEACRIST contacted MANDY via phone. MANDY essentially stated the following:

MANDY had information regarding Brooks County Sheriff's Office DEPUTY NICK MORRIS. DEPUTY MORRIS would arrest someone and then take them to jail if they were unable to pay DEPUTY MORRIS cash. If the person was unable to pay DEPUTY MORRIS and was taken to jail, DEPUTY MORRIS would delay filing a report so that the person would have to stay in jail for a longer period of time.

MANDY also had information regarding incidents that resulted in a death. SA SEACRIST asked if MANDY had contacted the Sheriff regarding the information. MANDY stated the Sheriff was aware of the incident and had done nothing. SA SEACRIST asked if MANDY had contacted the District Attorney's Office. MANDY stated that CHIEF ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY BRAD SHEALEY was involved in the incident. SA SEACRIST advised MANDY that the GBI was a request agency and that her next option would be to report the incident to the District Attorney's Office. MANDY stated she would be calling the District Attorney's Office as soon as she got off the phone with SA SEACRIST.

09-0037-34-17

This action concluded at approximately 1:20 p.m.

ID DATA:

[REDACTED]

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/11/2016
ls: 10/17/2016

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JS

**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Thursday, October 13, 2016, at approximately 7:45 a.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located in Valdosta, Lowndes County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation.

SA SEACRIST received, via e-mail, the certification suspension orders from Georgia P.O.S.T. INVESTIGATOR CARL ELLIS for SCOTT BOUTWELL, COURTNEY GIDDENS, RINA GRIFFIN, DELLISA BROWN, and JORQUA DAVIS (see attached).

This action concluded at approximately 7:50 a.m.

ATTACHMENTS

OTHER GA P.O.S.T. Suspension Orders

[\(Attachments\)](#)

ID DATA:

ELLIS, CARL (INVESTIGATOR)
SEX/RACE: MALE/WHITE
COUNTRY: UNITED STATES
OCCUPATION: INVESTIGATOR
EMPLOYER:
GEORGIA P.O.S.T.

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/13/2016
js: 10/13/2016



**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Friday, October 14, 2016, at approximately 4:15 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located in Valdosta, Lowndes County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation. SA SEACRIST had previously been advised that NATALIE HIGHSMITH had called the GBI Region 9 Field Office with a complaint regarding the Brooks County Jail.

SA SEACRIST called NATALIE, who stated that an inmate had been "beaten up" when brought into the jail. NATALIE stated that the inmate had since fallen out of his bunk and injured his leg. The inmate was allegedly told by jail staff that he needed "money on his books" to receive medical attention.

SA SEACRIST advised NATALIE that the information was not related to the current investigation and that a request from certain individuals would be required to begin a GBI investigation. SA SEACRSIT advised NATALIE to speak with the Brooks County Sheriff or the District Attorneys Office.

This action concluded at approximately 4:20 p.m.

ID DATA:

HIGHSMITH, NATALIE (MRS)

SEX/RACE: FEMALE/WHITE

COUNTRY: UNITED STATES

OCCUPATION: UNKNOWN

EMPLOYER:

UNKNOWN

[REDACTED]

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/14/2016

js: 10/14/2016

JS

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**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Wednesday, October 19, 2016, at approximately 8:25 a.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at the Brooks County Jail, 1003 Holloway Drive, Quitman, Brooks County, Georgia, in regards to the present investigation.

SA SEACRIST located the jail restraint chair in the room marked "Property", which was close in proximity to the intake/booking area. SA SEACRIST took photographs of the restraint chair (see attached).

This action concluded at approximately 8:35 a.m.

ATTACHMENTS

PHOTOGRAPH

[\(Attachments\)](#)

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 10/19/2016

js: 10/19/2016



**GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REGION 9
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

09-0037-34-17

On Monday, December 5, 2016, at approximately 5:30 p.m., GBI SA JASON SEACRIST was located at 842 Mitchell Circle, Barney, Brooks County, Georgia, for the purpose of interviewing WITNESS RYAN WARREN in regards to the present investigation.

It should be noted this is a general synopsis of the interview with RYAN. For a detailed account of the interview in its entirety, refer to the recording associated with this summary (see attached). RYAN essentially stated the following:

RYAN could not recall the specific dates of his employment at the Brooks County Jail, but believed he began around June 2016 and ended around September 2016. This was RYAN'S first job in law enforcement. RYAN had been laid off from a previous job, and his uncle, former Brooks County Jail ADMINISTRATOR/CAPTAIN SCOTT BOUTWELL, offered him a job working at the jail. RYAN knew within a few weeks of starting work that a jailer was the not the job he wanted. RYAN noted that he liked to be outside and working on things and that being inside the jail was not what he liked.

RYAN was aware of the charges against SCOTT and the other jailers but was not aware of the specific incidents that led to the charges. RYAN noted that SCOTT had not talked to the family about anything regarding his arrest. RYAN did not recall any issues, concerns or incidents that occurred while he was working at the Brooks County Jail that he believed were inappropriate. Everything that did occur within the jail regarding the inmates "needed to happen" because of the inmate behavior.

SA SEACRIST asked if RYAN had ever known an inmate to be strapped into a restraint chair and placed in the shower. RYAN did recall an incident where that occurred to a small black male inmate, who SA SEACRIST knew to be INMATE TONY STATEN. RYAN noted that, despite INMATE STATEN'S size, he was "vicious". In one particular incident, INMATE STATEN had fought with Brooks County Jail OFFICERS CHARITY MOBLEY and RENA GRIFFIN. INMATE STATEN was throwing food and spitting on the jail officers. INMATE STATEN was placed in a restraint chair and taken into the bathroom. RYAN was told it was "cool down time" to keep INMATE STATEN from spitting.

RYAN assisted getting INMATE STATEN into the restraint chair because Brooks County Jail OFFICER JORQUA DAVIS and SCOTT could not get INMATE STATEN in the chair. Once in the chair, OFFICER DAVIS rolled INMATE STATEN in the shower, under the shower nozzle. SCOTT was also in the shower area with INMATE STATEN and OFFICER DAVIS. RYAN went into the shower area briefly. SCOTT used a broomstick to turn the water on and avoid getting himself wet. RYAN never saw OFFICER DAVIS turn on the water. RYAN did not turn on the water.

INMATE STATEN received the shower treatment for approximately thirty minutes. The incident ended when INMATE STATEN was done being "crazy". During the shower treatment, INMATE STATEN was screaming, hollering, and cussing. RYAN did not recall INMATE STATEN choking or having any other difficulties beyond INMATE STATEN'S behavior. The shower treatment stopped when INMATE STATEN agreed to calm down. INMATE STATEN had been in an orange jumpsuit during the entire incident. Once INMATE STATEN had calmed down and the

09-0037-34-17

shower treatment had ended, INMATE STATEN was allowed to change into a dry jumpsuit.

RYAN was still very new as a jailer and was trying to learn. While in the shower with SCOTT and OFFICER DAVIS, RYAN was told about this being the "cool down". At this point, RYAN recalled that Brooks County Jail LT. COURTNEY GIDDENS had also been in the shower area when the shower treatment occurred.

INMATE STATEN'S legs were shackled to the restraint chair. RYAN believed that INMATE STATEN'S arms "probably" were handcuffed to the chair. RYAN noted that inmates frequently pull free of the straps on the restraint chair, so shackles and handcuffs were used with the chair. While in the chair and under the shower, the water was hitting INMATE STATEN'S face, chest, and legs. RYAN noted the shower head's spray pattern was wide, allowing it to hit all parts of INMATE STATEN'S body.

SA SEACRIST asked RYAN about INMATE STATEN'S hygiene at the time of the incident. RYAN noted that there was no issue with INMATE STATEN'S hygiene and that the shower was strictly done as punishment for his outbursts with OFFICERS MOBLEY and GRIFFIN.

The incident occurred near the time for shift change. RYAN then recalled that INMATE STATEN was first just put in the restraint chair and placed in one of the holding cells in the intake area. As shift change was occurring, the oncoming shift tried to release INMATE STATEN from the restraints. INMATE STATEN again became belligerent and was restrained in the chair again. It was at this point that INMATE STATEN was placed into the shower.

09-0037-34-17

RYAN recalled that SCOTT had already left the jail, but had returned specifically for the incident with INMATE STATEN. RYAN was not sure who had called SCOTT and advised him of the incident. Once the shower treatment of INMATE STATEN was done, RYAN'S shift left the jail. RYAN also recalled that SCOTT had left the jail just before RYAN'S shift.

RYAN was "sure" that he had written a report on the incident and put it in SCOTT'S box, as RYAN was instructed.

SA SEACRIST showed RYAN a copy of the report on INMATE VICKIE THOMAS (see attached). RYAN recalled the incident with INMATE THOMAS and confirmed that was the report that he had written regarding the incident.

RYAN was working in main control when INMATE THOMAS was brought to the jail. From the time INMATE THOMAS had gotten out of the patrol car, she was fighting and resisting. OFFICER GRIFFIN and Brooks County Jail OFFICER DELLISA BROWN were trying to process INMATE THOMAS in the intake area. OFFICER DAVIS was also present in the intake area at the time. INMATE THOMAS got very agitated and started yelling and screaming. INMATE THOMAS then pushed OFFICER GRIFFIN. When OFFICER GRIFFIN went to hit INMATE THOMAS, something happened to her shoulder and she appeared injured. OFFICER BROWN then stepped in to assist in restraining INMATE THOMAS.

OFFICER DAVIS brought the restraint chair and got INMATE THOMAS into the chair. RYAN was not sure what occurred after that, and noted she may have been put in one of the holding cells in the intake area.

09-0037-34-17

RYAN later talked to OFFICER GRIFFIN to see if she was ok, but he did not recall talking about the specifics of the incident or what occurred afterwards. RYAN also briefly spoke with OFFICER BROWN, but mostly about how the incident escalated so quickly. RYAN did not recall having much conversation with OFFICER DAVIS regarding the incident. RYAN also did not recall if SCOTT had come into the jail that night regarding the incident with INMATE THOMAS. RYAN did not recall if INMATE THOMAS was placed in the shower the same way that INMATE STATEN was previously. RYAN noted that the whole event occurred quickly.

This action concluded at approximately 6:00 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

AUDIO

[\(Attachments\)](#)

INCIDENT REPORT

[\(Attachments\)](#)

ID DATA:

[REDACTED]

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, ASST JASON SEACRIST: 12/6/2016

js: 12/6/2016

JS MS