



EASLEY CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

220 N W MAIN ST EASLEY, SC 29640 | P: 864-859-4025 | F: 864-855-7924 |

Case E2023-01952

Printed on December 19, 2023

Status	Approved
Report Type	Incident
Primary Officer	AARON SMITH
Investigator	AARON SMITH
Reported At	06/29/23 14:57
Incident Date	06/29/23 14:57 - 06/29/23 14:57
Incident Code	1080 : SUSPICIOUS PERSON
Location	N 1ST ST, EASLEY, SC 29640
Zone	3
Beat	
Court	None
Ereferral County	None
Summary Of Incident	
Disposition	CA-Cleared by Arrest
Disposition Date/Time	06/30/23 08:30
Review for Gang Activity	None
Status Indicator	Administratively Closed
Status Change Date	6/29/23

Offense Information

Offense RESISTING ARREST
Statute 133.02
SCIBRS Code 90N - Resisting Arrest
Counts 1
Date 6/29/23
Include In NIBRS Yes
Completed Yes
Bias Motivation None (no bias)
Location Government/Public Property
Entry Forced No

Offense TRESPASSING - ENTERING PREMISES AFTER WARNING
Statute 16-11-620
SCIBRS Code 90J - Trespass of Real Property
Counts 1
Date 6/29/23
Include In NIBRS Yes
Completed Yes
Bias Motivation None (no bias)
Location Government/Public Property
Entry Forced No

Arrestee

BARTHEL, WILLIAM [REDACTED] JR - [REDACTED]

16-11-620 - TRESPASSING - ENTERING PREMISES
AFTER WARNING
133.02 - RESISTING ARREST

Offender

BARTHEL, WILLIAM [REDACTED] JR - [REDACTED]

16-11-620 - TRESPASSING - ENTERING PREMISES
AFTER WARNING
133.02 - RESISTING ARREST

Initial Narrative By AARON SMITH, 06/29/23 15:27

TRESPASSING

ON 06/29/23 I, DETECTIVE SMITH RESPONDED TO 205 NORTH 1ST STREET, EASLEY CITY HALL IN REFERENCE TO SUSPICIOUS PEOPLE IN THE AREA APPEARING TO BE RECORDING. THE MAIN NARRATIVE FOR THE CASE MAY BE FOUND IN THE SUPPLEMENTAL.

A SMITH
06/30/23

Supplemental Narrative By AARON SMITH, 06/29/23 16:30

NARRATIVE

ON 06/29/23 I, DETECTIVE SMITH AS WELL AS CAPTAIN LOVELL WERE CALLED TO 205 NORTH 1ST STREET (EASLEY CITY HALL) IN REFERENCE TO SEVERAL SUSPICIOUS SUBJECTS IN THE AREA RECORDING. UPON ARRIVAL WE INITIALLY MADE CONTACT WITH TWO SUBJECTS OUTSIDE THE BUILDING CARRYING RECORDING DEVICES. THE SUBJECTS APPROACHED US IN REFERENCE TO QUESTIONS ABOUT BEING ON TRESPASS FROM CITY HALL. THEY WERE ADVISED THAT WHERE THEY WERE STANDING CURRENTLY WAS CONSIDERED PROPERTY OF CITY HALL AND ASKED TO MOVE TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE STREET WHICH THEY DID WITHOUT INCIDENT.

ANOTHER SUBJECT, LATER IDENTIFIED AS WILLIAM [REDACTED] BARTHEL WAS SEEN WEARING A FULL WHITE BUNNY RABBIT SUIT AND WAS PACING BACK AND FORTH IN FRONT OF THE ENTRANCE TO CITY HALL. MR BARTHEL WAS HOLDING A FLAG HELD TOGETHER BY PIPING AND ON THE FLAG WAS THE STATEMENT, "FUCK BIDEN." ALSO WHILE PACING BACK AND FORTH, MR BARTHEL WAS HOLDING A CELL PHONE UP AND USING IT AS A RECORDING DEVICE.

CONTACT WAS NOT MADE WITH MR BARTHEL INITIALLY AND WE STEPPED INSIDE OF THE LOBBY OF CITY HALL AND SPOKE WITH THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR, TOMMY HOLCOMBE. HE JUST ADVISED THEY HAD BEEN OUT THERE FOR A LITTLE WHILE AND THE WERE UNSURE OF WHAT WAS ALLOWED DUE TO THE LANGUAGE ON THE SIGN. THERE WAS ALSO THREE OTHER SUBJECTS LOCATED IN THE LOBBY HANDLING BUSINESS IN REGARDS TO THEIR BUSINESS LICENSE, AND WERE NOT A PART OF THE INCIDENT. WHILE STANDING IN THE LOBBY, MR BARTHEL PLACED HIS FLAG TO THE SIDE OF THE BUILDING AND ENTERED THE LOBBY

[REDACTED]

I THEN CONTACTED DISPATCH AND ASKED

FOR AN ADDITIONAL UNIT TO ASSIST WITH HANDCUFFING AND TRANSPORTING MR BARTHEL TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT. WHILE ON THE GROUND, MR BARTHEL'S MASK WAS REMOVED AND HE BEGAN STATING THAT HE WAS HOT AND NEEDED AIR AND WATER. HE WAS PROVIDED A BOTTLE OF WATER THAT MYSELF AND ANOTHER OFFICER ON SCENE ASSISTED HIM IN DRINKING DUE TO HIM BEING HANDCUFFED. AFTER HE HAD CALMED DOWN INITIALLY, WE STOOD HIM UP AND WERE GOING TO WALK HIM OUTSIDE. WHEN HE WAS STOOD UP ON HIS FEET, STILL HANDCUFFED, [REDACTED]

AT THIS TIME, MORE OFFICERS HAD ARRIVED ON SCENE AND WERE ASSISTING IN GETTING MR BARTHEL TO HIS FEET AND HE WAS WALKED OUTSIDE TO A PATROL VEHICLE AND TRANSPORTED TO THE EASLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT. THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE INCIDENT, MR BARTHEL ATTEMPTED TO IDENTIFY HIMSELF AS WHITE RABBIT. IT WAS NOT UNTIL HE WAS PLACED IN TO A CELL AT THE DEPARTMENT WHEN HE FINALLY IDENTIFIED HIMSELF TO OFFICERS AS MR BARTHEL.

AN ARREST AND BOOKING WERE COMPLETED OF MR BARTHEL WITHOUT FURTHER INCIDENT. DUE TO THE INCIDENT OCCURRING [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] HIS PHONE THAT WAS BEING USED IS BEING PLACED IN TO PROPERTY/EVIDENCE AND A SEARCH WARRANT WILL BE COMPLETED.

MR BARTHEL WAS CHARGED WITH REFUSING TO LEAVE PREMISES ON REQUEST (20230790041247) AND RESISTING ARREST (20230790041248).

THE FLAG THAT MR BARTHEL WAS HOLDING WILL BE PLACED IN TO PROPERTY/EVIDENCE DUE TO THE SIZE AND IS ABLE TO BE RETURNED TO HIM AT HIS CONVENIENCE. THERE WAS A GOPRO CAMERA ON A TRIPOD LOCATED OUTSIDE THAT BELONGS TO MR BARTHEL THAT WAS BEING USED TO FILM HIM WHEN HE WAS OUTSIDE. THAT CAMERA WILL BE PLACED IN TO MR BARTHEL'S PROPERTY TO BE RETURNED UPON RELEASE.

THE CASE MAY REMAIN ACTIVE PENDING THE SEARCH WARRANT OF THE CELL PHONE.

A SMITH
06/29/23

Supplemental Narrative By JASON LOVELL, 06/30/23 13:51

ON 6-29-23 AT ABOUT 2:40PM I RECEIVED A PHONE CALL FROM EASLEY CITY HALL IN REFERENCE TO SUBJECTS BEING AT THE LOCATION VIDEO RECORDING AND ONE HOLDING A "FUCK BIDEN" SIGN. I WAS TOLD THAT EASLEY CITY HALL WAS OPEN AND CONDUCTING BUSINESS WITH THREE PEOPLE. ONE OF THE THREE PEOPLE ASK IF ANYONE WAS GOING TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT THIS INCIDENT. DETECTIVE SMITH AND MYSELF LEFT THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND WALKED UP THE HILL TOWARD CITY HALL TO SEE IF ANY OF THE DISTURBANCE WAS DUE TO ANY LAWS BEING VIOLATED. DURING OUR RESPONSE TO CITY HALL TWO SUBJECTS LATER IDENTIFIED TO BE TRAVIS [REDACTED] GREEN, AND HENRY [REDACTED] DORRELL STOPPED US TO ASK SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT TRESPASSING. MR. GREEN STATED HE WAS ON TRESPASS FROM CITY HALL AND WANTED TO KNOW WHAT WAS CONSIDERED CITY HALL PROPERTY. I EXPLAINED THAT THE BUILDING AND THE SURROUNDING PROPERTY INCLUDING THROUGH THE GREEN GRASS IN FRONT OF THE BUILDING DOWN TO THE SIDEWALK WAS PART OF THAT ADDRESS. MR. GREEN ASK IF THEY COULD STAND ON THE SIDEWALK AND POINTED TO THE SIDEWALK BOARDING THE PROPERTY ON WEST A AVENUE TO VIDEO. I LET MR. GREEN KNOW THAT WOULD BE FINE. MR. DORRELL ASK IF WE WERE GOING TO HONOR THE TRESPASS NOTICE THAT HAD BEEN ISSUED TO THEM AND I STATED YES AND I WISH THEY WOULD. THEY BOTH MOVED TO THE SIDEWALK WITHOUT ANY OTHER CONTACT AND APPEARED TO START VIDEOING.

DETECTIVE SMITH AND MYSELF CONTINUED TO WALK UP TO THE CITY HALL BUILDING. AS WE WALKED UP THE STEPS AND ONTO THE PORCH AREA A MAN WEARING A WHITE BUNNY RABBIT SUIT LATER IDENTIFIED AS WILLIAM [REDACTED] BARTHEL JR. WAS STANDING ON THE PORCH AREA HOLING A "FUCK BIDEN" SIGN AND HOLDING HIS PHONE UP AS IF HE WAS VIDEO RECORDING US AS WE WALKED BY. I DIDN'T HEAR MR. BARTHEL SAY ANYTHING. WE WALKED INTO CITY HALL WHERE WE WERE MEET BY THE INTERIM CITY ADMINISTRATOR TOMMY HOLCOMBE. I WITNESSED TWO CITY EMPLOYEES BEHIND THE COUNTER HELPING TWO PERSONS STANDING AT THE COUNTER AND ANOTHER PERSON SITTING IN A CHAIR WAITING IN THE LOBBY. I EXPLAINED THAT THE TWO SUBJECTS THAT WERE ON TRESPASS NOTICE WAS ADVISED TO STAY OFF THE PROPERTY AND THEY WERE DOING SO. DURING THIS TIME MR. BARTHEL WAS STANDING DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF THE ENTRANCE DOOR TO CITY HALL. HE WAS FACING TOWARD THE DOORS HOLDING HIS SIGN WITH IT FACING TOWARD THE INSIDE OF CITY HALL. HE WAS CONTINUING TO SHOW THAT HE WAS VIDEO RECODING ON HIS PHONE.

AFTER A PERIOD OF TIME WITH NO CONTACT WITH MR. BARTHEL HE PROPPED HIS SIGN UP OUTSIDE AND WALKED INTO THE LOBBY OF CITY HALL. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I OBSERVED THE PERSONS INSIDE THAT WAS TRYING TO CONDUCT BUSINESS WITH THE CITY EMPLOYEES FACIAL EXPRESSIONS CHANGE AND APPEARED TO BE MORE NERVOUS THAN BEFORE.

AT THIS TIME [REDACTED]

AS OFFICERS ATTEMPTED TO DETAIN MR. BARTHEL [REDACTED] WITH THE CONTINUED ESCALATION OF THE DISTURBANCE OFFICERS ATTEMPTED TO ARREST MR. BARTHEL. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ONCE ON THE GROUND OFFICERS WERE ABLE TO HANDCUFF HIM. DUE TO FEELING HOW MUCH MR. BARTHEL WAS SWEATING I OFFERED TO HELP GET HIS BUNNY RABBIT SUIT OFF. HE STATED NO THAT IT WAS HIS SKIN. MR. BARTHEL SAID HE WAS THIRSTY SO OFFICERS ASSISTED MR. BARTHEL IN DRINKING SOME WATER.

SINCE MR. BARTHEL SEEMED TO HAVE CALMED DOWN AND MORE OFFICERS WERE ON SCENE OFFICERS ATTEMPTED TO ESCORT HIM OUT OF CITY HALL. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AFTER A FEW MINUTES MR. BARTHEL CALMED BACK DOWN. OFFICERS WERE ABLE TO ESCORT MR. BARTHEL OUT A BACK ENTRANCE THAT HAD A RAMP INSTEAD OF STEPS FOR EVERYONES SAFETY.

ONCE AT THE JAIL MR. BARTHEL WAS STILL PROVIDING HIS NAME AS WHITE RABBIT. A SHORT TIME LATER MR. BARTHEL PROVIDED HIS LEGAL NAME, WILLIAM [REDACTED] BARTHEL JR.