

NEWS SERVICE
BREAKING NEWS
SACRAMENTO PRESS CONFERENCE
4 PM MONDAY

**Civil Rights Attorney John Burris & Black Lives Matter Announce Legal
Action Being Taken Against the Rancho Cordova Police Officer Who
Brutally Assaulted
A 14-year-old Minor Child**

"The facts captured on a bystander's cell phone are especially egregious because it vividly shows the officer forcefully attacking the minor, then grabbing, punching, and tossing him to the ground." . . . "This is particularly disturbing in that the boy is slightly built, weighing no more than 120 pounds. At the same time, Deputy Fowell appears to be twice his size and heavily muscled, as evidenced by the the way the Deputy physically manhandled the minor." . . . "The officer's aggressiveness was disproportionate to any wrongful conduct by the minor, which at best was purchasing a "sweet cigar" and not giving his proper name." Civil Rights Attorney John Burris

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: John Burris (510) 928-5392
john.burris@johnburrislaw.com,

Adante Pointer (510) 469-6094
adante.pointer@johnburrislaw.com

Lee Houskeeper (415) 777-4700
Cell: (415) 654-9141
NewsService@aol.com Contact: John Burris 510 928 5392

WHAT: Press Conference Announcing Legal Action Being Taken Against the Rancho Cordova Police Officer that Brutally Assaulted the 14-year-old Child

WHERE: Sacramento County Sheriff's Office, 700 G – Street Sacramento, CA

WHEN : May 4, 2020 @ 4:00 p.m.

WHO: Oakland Attorneys John Burris and Adante Pointer along with the 14-year-old minor and Family Members, Representatives of Black Lives Matter and other Community Stakeholders

Sacramento CA--The Law Offices of John Burris, through its lawyers John Burris and Adante Pointer, filed a legal claim against the Sacramento Sheriff's Department on behalf of the 14-year-old "minor" that was recently brutally assaulted by Sacramento Sheriff Deputy Brian Fowell. Deputy Fowell is contracted out to the City of Rancho Cordova as a police officer. The claim is the first legal step toward bringing legal action for violations of the minor's civil rights as well as other misconduct. Given his young age, his Aunt Leataie Tagalo is bringing the case on his behalf.

According to Burris "The facts captured on a bystander's cell phone are especially egregious because it vividly shows the officer forcefully attacking the minor, then grabbing, punching, and tossing him to the ground." Burris goes on to state, "This is particularly disturbing in that the boy is slightly built, weighing no more than 120 pounds. At the same time, Deputy Fowell appears to be twice his size and heavily muscled, as evidenced by the way the Deputy physically manhandled the minor." Burris asserts, "The officer's aggressiveness was disproportionate to any wrongful conduct by the minor, which at best was purchasing a "sweet cigar" and not giving his proper name."

The officer's conduct physically injured the minor, who, during the incident, was frightened and clearly yelling, "what did I do." Burris was also extremely disturbed after watching the video. "You can hear Officer Fowell asking the minor 'what are you' suggesting to me racial animus, The minor ethnically is Samoan. Burris says that the cell phone video captures in real-time Officer Fowell's outrageous and bullying conduct. "But for this video, it would have been the word of a seasoned police officer against that of a 14-year-old boy. We may not have captured the essence of the officer's mean spirit, physical superiority, and lack of regard for the minor's well-being." Attorney Adante Pointer states, "Given Officer Fowell's apparent inability to maintain his cool and instead resort to violence when none was needed shows he cannot be trusted to patrol the community with a badge and a gun. He must be fired!" The minor's family and other community stakeholders will be present at the press conference

Lee Houskeeper

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(415) 777-4700

Cell: (415) 654-9141

Newsservice@aol.com

615 Burnett Avenue, Suite 2, San Francisco, CA 94131