

Ken Thompson District Attorney

DISTRICT ATTORNEY KINGS COUNTY 350 JAY STREET BROOKLYN, NY 11201-2908 (718) 250-2000 WWW.BROOKLYNDA.ORG

Press Office 718-250-2300

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Two Police Officers Indicted For Assaulting Teenager During Arrest In Crown Heights Captured on Video Tape

One Officer Allegedly Struck A 16-Year-Old Boy In The Mouth With His Gun Allegedly Breaking His Teeth While Another Officer Allegedly Punched Him in the Face

Brooklyn District Attorney Ken Thompson today announced that two New York City Police Department officers have been charged with assaulting a 16-year-old boy during a recent arrest in Crown Heights. A video surveillance camera captured one officer allegedly striking the teen in the mouth with his gun, allegedly breaking his teeth, and the other officer allegedly punching him in the face with his fist.

District Attorney Thompson said, "By beating a 16-year old boy with their gun and fist after he raised his hands apparently to surrender, these police officers not only violated his rights but also trampled on their sworn oath to serve, protect and uphold the law. We must all adhere to the rule of law, which applies to everyone, including police officers, as this indictment makes crystal clear."

District Attorney Thompson identified the defendants as Police Officers David Afanador, 33, and Tyrane Isaac, 36. Officer Afanador is charged with second-degree assault, a felony, and fourth-degree criminal possession of a weapon and official misconduct, both misdemeanors. Officer Isaac is charged with third-degree assault and official misconduct, both misdemeanors.

The defendants surrendered today and were arraigned before Brooklyn Supreme Court Justice Danny Chun. They were released without bail and ordered to return to court on December 8, 2014. If convicted, Officer Afanador faces up to seven years in prison and Officer Isaac faces up to a year in jail.

According to the investigation, at about 2:20 a.m., on August 29, 2014, in the vicinity of 1311 St. John's Place in Crown Heights, the defendants were with another officer on patrol in an unmarked police car as part of an anti-crime unit from the 77th Precinct when they allegedly saw Kahreem Tribble toss a bag of marijuana and flee.

Video from a nearby surveillance camera recorded Officer Isaac pursuing Tribble on foot, as he is seen running away from the police officers, then stopping and turning to face Officer Isaac. At that time, the video shows Officer Isaac swinging a fist at Tribble's head as he places his empty hands in the air and falls back against a storefront gate. Officer Afanador then runs up to the teen with his service weapon drawn and allegedly strikes the teen in the mouth with his gun. Shortly thereafter, Officer Isaac is captured on video allegedly punching the teen several times in the face while he was on the ground defenseless.

Officer Afanador was then recorded locating and retrieving a bag of marijuana that Tribble allegedly tossed before running away, approaching the teen with the bag and allegedly striking him in the face with it. Tribble was arrested for marijuana possession and disorderly conduct.

According to the investigation, Tribble allegedly suffered broken teeth when Officer Alfanador allegedly struck him in the mouth with his service weapon and injury to his face when Officer Isaac allegedly beat him with his fist.

The case was investigated by detectives assigned to the New York City Police Department's Internal Affairs Bureau, under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner of Internal Affairs Joseph Reznick.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Marc Fliedner, Chief of the District Attorney's Civil Rights Bureau, under the supervision of William E. Schaeffer, Chief of the District Attorney's Investigations Division.

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Indictments are accusatory instruments and not proof of a defendant's guilt.