



Hamilton County Sheriff's Office

Chattanooga, TN

Incident Report # 22-028265

Report Entered 09/20/2022 10:30:00

Incident Event

Address: 4320 Bennett Road, EAST RIDGE, TN 37412

Date Reported 09/20/22

Incident Start 09/20/22 1025

Incident End

Offenses

UCR	Discription	Code
90C	DISORDERLY CONDUCT -	90C
90Z	RESISTING STOP, FRISK, HALT, ARREST OR SEARCH - M MISDEMEANOR	39-16-602
13B	ASSAULT SIMPLE - M MISDEMEANOR	13B



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Narrative

22-028265 (East Ridge High SRD)

Entered by Deputy T. McRae (2917)

On 9/20/2022 at around 1000 hours while working East Ridge High school as the assigned School Resource Deputy I was contacted over the school radio by the gym coach, Mr. Murley, along with the coach contacting administration to come to the gym to assist with an issue that he was having with a student, later identified as Tauris Sledge, and how he was being aggressive towards Mr. Murley. Once arrived in the gym Mr. Murley stated that he had planned out a lesson with his students to complete by playing kickball against the other gym teacher's class but Mr. Sledge refused to participate by stating he was not feeling well but when it was free time Mr. Sledge decided that he would participate in basketball. Mr. Murley stated he went to Mr. Sledge and asked why he was now playing basketball instead of still sitting down if he did not feel well. Mr. Murley stated that Mr. Sledge became agitated and started getting very angry and "puffing out his chest" in an aggressive manner calling Mr. Murley racist and other names while he was trying to talk to him causing the entire gym classes to turn their attention towards them. Mr. Murley asked the assistant principal, Mr. Perry, the dean of students, Mr. Graham, and me to stand by while he spoke with Mr. Sledge about why he refused to participate in the assignment and explain to him why he cannot participate in free time at this time. During their conversation they were both getting angry but Mr. Sledge kept raising his voice louder and louder causing the attention of all students and staff to turn towards him again and that I told Mr. Sledge to chill out and to lower his voice because he was being too loud. Mr. Murley and Mr. Sledge continued their conversation and Mr. Sledge continued to be loud. Mr. Sledge started walking away and was still being disruptive so I placed my left hand on the side of his shoulder so I could pull him to the side and explain to him why his tone of voice can get him in trouble and I was going to attempt to talk to him and get him calmed down so an arrest would not have to happen for disorderly conduct. Once I placed my hand on Mr. Sledge's shoulder he bladed off towards me in an aggressive stance and stated "you have 5 seconds to get your hand off of me". I then became defensive towards him due to him doing that because I felt as if he was going to attempt to assault me considering he was already angry, clenching his fists, and yelling at Mr. Murley. Once Mr. Sledge said that to me I told him to back up because he then stepped up to get closer to me which also made me feel as if he was ready to assault me. Mr. Sledge then walked away and I advised him several times to stop and to come back to me but he refused to listen to my commands and continued onto the bleachers where he placed his backpack on his back and sat down. I then gave Mr. Sledge several lawful orders to stand up and place his hands behind his back but he refused to do so. I then attempted to grab his arm to stand him up and place him into custody and that is when Mr. Sledge started fighting with me to resist arrest. I tried several times to gain control of Mr. Sledge with the least amount of force necessary and without us both falling down the bleachers causing any injuries to us but Mr. Sledge continued to resist. I then grabbed Mr. Sledge by his dreadlocks and pulled him to the ground where he continued to still resist the lawful order of stop resisting and putting his hands behind his back. I then grabbed Mr. Sledge by the backpack and placed him onto the second level of the gym floor where it was a more flat surface to attempt the arrest. I then tried to remove the backpack of Mr. Sledge multiple times so his hands could properly be placed behind his back for proper handcuffing but he refused to remove it and stated if I would let him go he would take it off. I let Mr. Sledge go a total of three times giving him the chance to comply but he still refused to do comply with my commands. I gave Mr. Sledge a final command of take the backpack off and he still refused so I then took out my department issued pepper spray and sprayed Mr. Sledge in the facial area to gain pain compliance. Mr. Sledge then fell to the ground putting his arms underneath his body stating "I can't breathe the pepper spray is hurting me". I then advised Mr. Perry to notify the school nurse to come to the scene for evaluation while I still attempted to get his hands behind his back. Mr. Sledge still refused to put his hands behind his back and I attempted to remove them from underneath him with my hands but he kept them there and would not let me remove them. I then attempted to use my department issued PR-24 to pry his hands out from underneath him but it was not working. Once the nurse arrived on scene I advised Mr. Sledge to sit up so the nurse could speak with him. I tried to sit Mr. Sledge up so he could face the nurse but he still refused for a short time but eventually did sit up. I asked Mr. Sledge to take off the backpack and to stand up so we could go and decontaminate him from the pepper spray but he refused to do so even when the nurse was advising him to. I notified dispatch to send East Ridge Police to the school because Mr. Sledge was on the phone with family at different times during the incident. Once Mr. Sledge's father arrived on scene I explained to him the situation and he helped get Mr. Sledge onto his feet and take him to the locker room in the gym with an East Ridge Officer to get decontaminated while I spoke with Mr. Perry outside of the room about another incident that took place during that. Once Mr. Sledge was decontaminated he was placed into handcuffs without any more incidents and transported to 7609 Standifer Gap Road to the Hamilton County Jail due to him being 18 years old. I then took Mr. Sledge into the intake area of the jail and started asking him the questions on the paperwork about medical status and when asked if he needed emergency medical attention he stated "yes when you were using the stick on me prying my arm I think you broke it". I then had the jail staff call the nurse assigned to the jail to the intake area to evaluate Mr. Sledge. Once the nurse was finished evaluating him she advised me that nothing was broken that it was probably sore and hurting from me attempting to use the PR-24 to unlock his hands underneath his body and place them behind his back. The jail nurse advised that he did not need immediate medical attention and that she would give him something for pain once she spoke to him after he was booked. Nothing further to report.



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Officer

REPORTING

McRae, Tyler 2917hs

APPROVING

Mullins, Michael 2387hs



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Suspect(s)

1 Sledge, Tauris L

Age: 18	Race: BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN	Residency: R
Sex: M	Hair: BLACK	Ethnicity: NOT HISPANIC OR LATINO

Related Offenses