

POLICE RACIAL HARASSMENT DOWNTOWN ?

Summary of an Santa Cruz indymedia story at <https://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2014/08/21/18760436.php>

This is a summary of Yannidies Brown's account. CSO Bradley Barnett accosted Yannidies Brown, Rogiers Brown's sister, Rogiers and Yannides' fiancée Christopher Wuerfel—all African-American—in the parking lot near Cathcart and Cedar 9 AM on Thursday August 21st. Yannidies notes that abusive epithets were followed by a false arrest and brutality.

“[SCPD CSO] Bradly Barnett, approached my brother Rogiers telling him that he needs to 'get the fuck out of the parking lot' and 'I'm going to write you a ticket.' Yannidies writes she protested because her brother's cigarette was unlit, but Barnett then said he was going to arrest her brothers' “black ass”.

Soon afterwards another SCPD officer, Armando Aguilar, approached us and told her brother he was being detained for walking away from a “no smoking” ticket. Barnett then grew closer to Rogiers and said "get the fuck out of my city punk. I will mess you up."

In the course of the arrest, the police threw him to the ground. Yannidies says, “A First Alarm officer, Jason Vogley, and Barnett punched Rogiers three times and elbowed him in the face, cracking his glasses and making his face bruise.” A third officer, Jose Garcia pushed Yannidies preventing her from reclaiming her belongings. Police “supervisor” Sgt. John Bush initially declined to identify himself as the supervisor. The officers rudely refused to state what the charges against Rogiers were, She later learned by phone from her brother in jail that he was charged with “resisting arrest” and “aggravated battery on an officer.” Her boyfriend also arrested was charged with “obstruction of justice” and “resisting arrest”.

Some choppy video clips and a longer account are available on-line [see address above].

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