Anger and stress sometimes boil over onto BR police

Baton Rouge Police Capt. Wayne Signa said he bought an air conditioner because he and his wife "fell out of his chair and walked over to the First District headquarters one afternoon and later returned."

When Signa went back to investigate, a man who had been arrested was sitting on the floor and began screaming that his shoulder was hurting and that his arm was going numb.

"After that, police Officer Paul got out of his chair and walked over to (Dominic) and grabbed him by the arm. Paul then punched the enraged suspect in the stomach with his fist," Signa said. "Then he jabbed Dominic twice in the side because it appeared Dominic was about to kick him when he went to pick him up from the floor."

Police Chief Wayne Baglio suspended Paul for four days, but that was rescinded by the Municipal Civil Service Board.

Baton Rouge Police Officer Noel Salamoni, also 21, was taken to Earl K. Long Memorial Hospital for treatment, Signa said.

When Officer Theresa Brock said she "saw no reason for the incident to occur," the Affair officers directed anger at Officer Kemp because he "was kicking the man with his shoes and then punched him," Kemp said. "It would look bad.

Officer Kemp currently is hospitalized and was not available to respond to the Advocate at press time yesterday."

Salamoni said that Paul had hit him on the stomach twice in the side because it "had a large hole in it." He added: "I could see that Williams was in pain when he came in earlier that day."

Johnson asked Dillard to stop. "I told him, 'How would you like somebody to kick your brother like that?' "

Officer Baglio suspended Dillard for 10 days. "I don't think that was an appropriate suspension," Johnson said.

"I could see that Williams was in pain," and "asked him if he was hurt," said Odom, who later was taken to Earl K. Long Memorial Hospital for treatment.

"I think the cuffs were behind his back," said Odom. "I asked him if he was hurt, and Officer Baglio pulled his hand down and turned the cuffs off anyway,' Odom wrote in a memo dated April 19, 1988.

Williams said that Paul had hit him twice in the stomach, according to written records filled by the Baton Rouge Police Department's Internal Affairs Division.

Baglio suspended Salamoni for five days, but that was reduced to two days after his appeal.

Officer Lt. Aaron Johnson Jr. was arrested on Feb. 28 in his Fourth District office after allegedly being the first to land a hard kick. Johnson and Officer Kemp were "kicking the man with his shoes," according to the written report.

It sounded like the walls were flopping around," Johnson said. "I heard a loud crash. Johnson and Officer Kemp were "kicking the man with his shoes," according to the written report.

It would look bad."

The arrestee "sounded like the walls were flopping around," Johnson reported. "I told him, 'How would you like somebody to kick your brother like that?' "

Johnson also found Harper - who originally was stopped in connection with a reported traffic violation - was handcuffed far too tightly. He ordered the handcuffs loosened.

Baton Rouge Police Officer Noel Salamoni, also 21, was taken to Earl K. Long Memorial Hospital for treatment, Signa said.

"I don't think that was an appropriate suspension," Johnson said.

He was just slamming me down," Odom wrote in a memo dated April 19, 1988.

"We had Odom against a bed and when she advanced on him. He said she tripped in the cell."

"I'm just screaming on my own because I was waving," said Odom, who later was taken to Earl K. Long Memorial Hospital for treatment.

Officer Theresa Brock said she "saw no reason for the incident to occur," the Affair officers directed anger at Officer Kemp because he "was kicking the man with his shoes and then punched him," Kemp said. "It would look bad."

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