



GAINESVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE



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Thursday, March 28, 2024
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

News Release

Gainesville Police Department Releases Body Camera Footage of Incident Involving Police K9

Gainesville, FL - The Gainesville Police Department (GPD) is releasing body camera footage of an incident involving a police K9 that resulted in the mistaken apprehension and K9 bite of an individual. The release of this footage comes following an internal review conducted by the department.

In the early morning hours of March 23, 2024, officers responded to a call regarding a felony domestic violence incident. The suspect was known to officers as a multiple time convicted violent felony offender, on felony probation, and wearing a court ordered ankle monitor. The suspect was inside of a residence and refusing to come outside. The officers had probable cause to make an arrest on this individual for violent felony charges. In this circumstance, Florida State Statute mandates a physical arrest of individuals responsible for this type of crime. Officers attempted to persuade the suspect to come out peacefully, however, the suspect broke out a sliding glass door and fled. Due to the severity of the charges, Officers pursued the suspect on foot. The suspect evaded officers and per department policy, a tactical perimeter was set up and additional resources were brought to the scene including a K9 team. With the information of the incident, the shift commander authorized the use of the K9 which was an approved use by GPD Policy. At approximately 3:08 a.m., loud public address system announcements were made by the K9 handler, instructing the suspect he was under arrest and to surrender to the police. After receiving no response, a k9 track of the suspect ensued. At 3:26 a.m. in the area of 3131 NW 13th Street, the K9 located a part of the ankle monitor belonging to the suspect alongside of the building. The K9 then led officers around the corner to the front of the same building and located discarded clothing and additional pieces of the ankle monitor belonging to the suspect. The track continued into a fenced-in yard and Officers followed the leashed K9 to the rear of the building. The track led to a nearby individual inside bushes who was wearing similar color clothing as the suspect. Officers gave immediate commands and the K9 engaged on the subject's leg. It was determined that this individual was not the suspect. The K9 was immediately withdrawn and officers provided comfort until EMS had arrived.

Gainesville Police Department PO Box 1250, Gainesville, FL 32627

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Viewers are advised that the body camera footage contains sensitive material, and discretion is advised.

[Click here to Download Video](#)

The victim was treated by healthcare professionals at a local hospital. After her release, follow up support and resources were offered to the victim in order to aid in her recovery.

The suspect in this case was identified as Dovico Miles Jr. Miles surrendered to the Alachua County Jail on March 27, 2024, and was charged with Felony Domestic Battery– Repeat Offender. Miles is currently being held on a no bond status at the Alachua County Jail.

GPD continues their commitment to transparency and accountability. A preliminary internal review of the incident revealed that K9 policy and deployment protocols were followed.

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