

FORENSIC EXERCISE

CLIENT:

Jonathan Lopez, Age 15

CHARGE:

Transfer of a Controlled Substance - Marijuana

POLICE REPORT NARRATIVE:**School Resource Officer Adams' Report**

On September 11 of this year, someone reported to Biloxi High's principal on an anonymous tip line that a male was trying to sell small bags of green plant substance that appeared to be marijuana under the bleachers in the gym. Thirty minutes later, accompanied by the school principal and the PE teacher, SRO Adams approached a teenage black student, later identified by the Principal as Jonathan Lopez (R-1), age 15, while he stood near the gym bleachers. As they approached, R-1 was in a close conversation with another student (S-2). They both had their bodies positioned so that no one could see what they were doing with their hands. S-2 quickly walked away from R-1 before the SRO and Principal reached the bleachers. R-1 appeared to throw something under the bleachers as the SRO and teachers approached.

As SRO Adams made contact with R-1, he told him to empty the contents of his pockets. Jonathan complied. He had four 5-dollar bills and five 1-dollar bills of U.S. currency in the right pocket of a school gym uniform jacket. After the taking money, SRO Adams told Jonathan to sit on the lowest level of the bleachers. SRO Adams then went under the bleachers and retrieved a small ziplock bag of green plant-like substance that appeared to be marijuana from the area where R-1 had thrown something. SRO Adams then told Jonathan that he was investigating the drug problem that had been reported at the school recently, and that, given Jonathan's presence by the bleachers and the bag of green plant substance, he may know something about it. Jonathan replied, "I don't know anything about selling no drugs in this school." The Principal reminded Jonathan that no one had mentioned that he was selling drugs; they were only asking if he knew about other drugs in the gym. To which Jonathan replied, "It's not mine. The money's not mine either. This is not my jacket. I borrowed it from a friend, because I forgot mine." Based on SRO Adams' training and experience with narcotics, he recognized the small bills of U.S. currency were consistent with sale of narcotics. SRO Adams conducted a field test on the green substance which produced a positive reaction for THC, the chemical in marijuana. He arrested Jonathan for Possession with Intent to Deliver-Marijuana.

Jonathan was transported to the Biloxi Police Department and turned over to Officer Bowser for processing. Upon processing the evidence, Ofc. Bowser recorded the weight of the green substance as 9.72 grams. A search of Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics Records shows R-1 has citation for possession of marijuana (less than 30 grams) from January 2019.

CHAIN OF CUSTODY:

- Drugs: from the floor to Officer SRO Adams to officer Bowser to evidence bag to evidence locker.
- Money: from R-1 to SRO Adams to Ofc. Bowser to evidence bag to evidence locker.