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Grand jury returns not true bill in August 24, 2019 assault investigation

Today, a Multnomah County grand jury made a legal finding pursuant to Oregon law and returned a not true bill involving 22-year-old Leopold Hauser and 23-year-old Adebisi Okuneye, both of whom were accused of assaulting 34-year-old Luke Lenzner while he wore a "Make America Great Again" hat.

In this circumstance, because the grand jury returned a not true bill, under Oregon law, the court dismissed the previously filed charging document.

The information contained in the following paragraphs was obtained from the probable cause affidavit filed with the court and the police reports submitted to the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office.

This investigation started on August 24, 2019 at approximately 1 a.m. when members of the Portland Police Bureau responded to a commercial restaurant in the 3300 block of Southeast Hawthorne Boulevard in Portland, Oregon on reports of a disturbance. Upon arrival, officers located Lenzner bleeding from his nose. Lenzner told law enforcement that he was punched in the face by two unknown individuals who fled the area in a vehicle. Officers conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle that matched the description provided by Lenzner. Both Hauser and Okuneye were identified as passengers and were later identified by Lenzner as suspects.

Upon having Miranda Rights read to both Hauser and Okuneye, they agreed to speak with law enforcement shortly after being taken into custody. Hauser told police that he was at the establishment to play a show. Hauser told police that while outside the establishment, he, Okuneye and another individual saw Lenzner walk by wearing a "Make America Great Again" hat. At that point, a verbal altercation occurred.

Hauser told police that during the altercation, Lenzner and Okuneye came within close proximity and that at one point, Lenzner pushed Okuneye back. Hauser reported that he stepped in between Lenzner and Okuneye to break up the altercation. When Hauser did this, he reported Lenzner took a fighting stance. When asked by law enforcement how Lenzner got a bloodied nose, Hauser told law enforcement, "I don't know. Arms were flying everywhere." Hauser then reported he and Okuneye left the area as passengers in the van.

When interviewed by law enforcement, Okuneye said Lenzner initiated the verbal altercation, an account disputed by Lenzner. She confirmed Lenzner pushed her back but would not elaborate. She also reported to police that Hauser pulled her back from Lenzner, and that she did not know how Lenzner became injured.

Lenzner told police he was walking on the sidewalk near the bar when he was confronted by Okuneye and Hauser because they took offense to his hat. Lenzner told police when Okuneye would not back away, he pushed her back to create distance. Lenzner confirmed to police that he pushed Okuneye. He also reported that after doing so, Hauser punched him in the face with a closed fist unexpectedly. Lenzner told police that he then backed up and took a fighting stance to defend himself.

Portland Police took photos of Lenzner's nose. He refused medical attention.

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During the investigation, law enforcement spoke with Lenzner's wife who told them she was curious about how people in Portland would treat her husband because he wears a "Make America Great Again" hat. She told police that she proposed that her husband wear the hat while they walked to multiple bars throughout Portland. Lenzner's wife reported both Okuneye and Hauser punched her husband.

The Multnomah County District Attorney's Office does not prosecute individuals based on their ideologies or affiliations with political or non-political organizations. The District Attorney's Office will initiate a criminal case following a review of all available evidence and whenever legally and ethically appropriate, pursuant to state law.

The grand jury that reviewed this case, which was comprised of seven Multnomah County community members, was selected by Multnomah County's Criminal Court. This is a process set by Oregon's Constitution.

The Multnomah County District Attorney's Office has no further statement on this case.

Pursuant to Oregon law, the grand jury recordings are exempt from disclosure.

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