



Rod Underhill, District Attorney
1021 SW Fourth Avenue, Room 600
Portland, OR 97204-1193
Phone: 503-988-3162 Fax: 503-988-3643
www.mcda.us

September 30, 2019

Deshawn D. Seamster charged with assaulting a police officer at Portland International Airport

Today, Multnomah County District Attorney Rod Underhill announced the filing of a six-count charging document against 31-year-old Deshawn D. Seamster who allegedly assaulted an on-duty Port of Portland Police officer at Portland International Airport. During the alleged assault, the firearm in Seamster's possession discharged, which resulted in him suffering a non-life threatening hand injury.

Law enforcement arrested Seamster on Friday September 27, 2019 in the 7000 block of Northeast Airport Way in Portland, Oregon.

Seamster is charged with one count of unlawful use of a weapon with a firearm enhancement, one count of being a felon in possession of a firearm, one count of assaulting a public safety officer, one count of interfering with a police officer, one count of resisting arrest, and one count of disorderly conduct in the second degree.

This investigation started when an officer assigned to the Port of Portland Police Department contacted an adult male, later identified as Seamster, near baggage claim pick up number seven on the lower level of Portland International Airport, according to court documents.

Court documents state that Seamster is seen on surveillance video standing up after being contacted by the officer, pivoting his body away from the officer and reaching into his pocket. The officer attempted to turn Seamster toward him, but Seamster pulled away from the officer and ran into the glass revolving door that leads to the airport's exterior. The officer chased Seamster into the revolving door where there was a struggle between both individuals, according to court documents.

The surveillance video shows a baggage handler walking by the revolving door on the sidewalk as the struggle unfolded, according to court documents. The person is seen on video reacting to a loud sound, later determined to be a gunshot. Both Seamster and the officer exited the revolving door and the officer was able to take Seamster to the ground. According to court documents, the baggage handler assisted the officer holding Seamster down, who was described as resisting arrest.

Video shows the officer grabbing an object, later determined to be a firearm, from Seamster's hand, according to court document. The officer pushed the gun towards a garbage can where it was later recovered as evidence.

The baggage handler reported that while holding Seamster down, he observed Seamster holding the firearm in his right hand, according to court documents.

According to court documents, during the struggle inside the revolving door, a single round from the firearm was discharged. Paramedics transported Seamster to an area hospital where he was treated for a gunshot wound to his left hand.

On scene, law enforcement observed the slide of the firearm was locked open with a bullet casing stuck in the ejection port, according to court documents. Law enforcement located a bullet hole in the glass revolving door.

The officer involved in this incident suffered an injury to his left hand and to his back, according to court documents. The officer did not suffer a gunshot wound.

Like in all criminal and civil matters, electronic copies of court documents, which are not subject to a protective order, are available to the public through the Oregon eCourt Information (OECI) system.

No additional information can be released by the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office at this time pursuant to the Oregon State Professional Rules of Conduct.

A charging document is only an accusation of a crime. Seamster is innocent unless and until proven guilty.

#MCDA#