

CURRENT FACT SHEET SUMMARY OF PHOENIX POLICE RESPONSE TO SHOPLIFTING INCIDENT RESULTING IN OFFICERS BEING REMOVED FROM THE STREET AND ASSIGNED TO DESK DUTY

- Date: May 27, 2019 at approximately 11:17 a.m.
 - Location: 1600 N. 36th Street
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- On May 27, Phoenix Police received a call for assistance from the store manager to report a shoplifting inside the store.

 - During the investigation the store manager alerted the officer to a second shoplifting in progress and the people from that incident were now getting into a vehicle in the parking lot.

 - As the officer approached the vehicle, he observed female #1 drop an item before getting in the car, then the vehicle quickly reversed and drove away.

 - Moments later the vehicle stopped at McDowell Road, female #1 exited the vehicle and the car again drove away. The officer learned the female had three misdemeanor warrants for her arrest and was booked for the outstanding warrants.

 - The vehicle was located a short distance away and stopped in an apartment complex about a mile away. Officers arrested the male driver and a second female.

 - The male driver told an officer he shoplifted a package of underwear from the store and threw them out the window, and in addition he was driving on a suspended license.

 - Female individual #2 told an officer that her aunt (female #1) and child went into the store together. Female #2 also said she saw her child walk out of the store with a doll and she believed they had stolen it because they didn't have any money. Also, the female said she heard the officer in the parking lot tell the driver to stop the car several times, but he didn't.

- The store manager declined to prosecute, so no one was arrested for shoplifting.
- On June 11, Phoenix Police was made aware of video taken by residents at the apartment complex showing extremely offensive and unprofessional language and actions by officers during the arrests. That same day, Police Chief Jeri Williams requested the officers be removed from the street and assigned to desk duty while an investigation takes place.
- On June 14, the Police Department provided to the media the police report of the original call to the local business on May 27, 2019. On the same day, Chief Williams shared a videotaped message with the community expressing how disturbing the video was, her expectations of employees, the need to give due diligence for the investigation and her support of the men and women of the department who faithfully protect and serve the community.