

JUVENILE CONFIDENTIAL

Cornell Police Dept



Incident #: 22CO00722

Reporting Officer: Glenn Rehberg - COPD

Report Time: 09/07/2022 09:54:19

Incident

Incident Nature
Juvenile related cases

Address
708 BRIDGE ST; CORNELL MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL; 1
CORNELL, Wisconsin 54732

Occurred From
09/07/2022 09:54:15

Occurred To
09/07/2022 09:54:15

Received By
Eric Walters

How Received
Officer Report

Contact
210

Disposition
Closed Case

Miscellaneous Entry

Disposition Date
09/09/2022

Cleared

Judicial Status

Cleared Date

Clearance
Report Taken

Cargo Theft Related

CORNELL HIGH SCHOOL

Complainant

Address
708 BRIDGE ST
CORNELL WI 54732

Phone
(715)861-6947

DOB

Sex

Race

Responding Officer(s)
Glenn Rehberg - COPD

Persons

GADKE, ROBERT J
Father

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

ELLIOTT, DAVID R
Witness

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

CORNELL HIGH SCHOOL
Complainant

Address Phone DOB
708 BRIDGE ST (715)861-6947
CORNELL Wisconsin 54732
Race Sex Ethnicity
Height Weight
0

Narratives

Original Narrative

09/08/2022 12:10:10

INITIAL INFORMATION:

On 9/7/22 at approximately the time shown Cornell Police Department received a direct-dialed call from Dave Elliott, who requested I respond to the high school for an unspecified emergency. I responded and notified dispatch of an unspecified complaint at the high school.

SCENE EVENTS PRIOR TO ARRIVAL:

Upon arrival at the high school office I encountered Principal Elliott and an adult male later verbally identified as Robert Gadke, the father of juvenile [REDACTED] (known to me from prior professional contacts). Elliott informed me that [REDACTED] was exhibiting extreme behavior issues. I knew that [REDACTED] had previously led school staff on chases around the school, destroyed his own personal property while outside the school, refused to speak to me regarding the incident, and had even reportedly made death threats. [REDACTED]

Elliott told me that earlier this morning [REDACTED] had left class and again tried to lead staff on a chase around the school. Elliott said three staff members had made separate attempts to bring [REDACTED] back into compliance with school behavior expectations, but all had been unsuccessful. As a result, Elliott had contacted [REDACTED] parents, and Robert had come to the school to retrieve [REDACTED]. However, [REDACTED] continued to be non-compliant and refused to accompany Robert in leaving the school. Eventually Robert was able to capture [REDACTED] and bring him to the office, but [REDACTED] remained non-compliant. Elliott said Robert was increasingly frustrated and angry at [REDACTED] behavior and thought I might be able to provide assistance. About the time this was being contemplated, [REDACTED] barricaded himself in the office area's conference room, placing furniture against the door to prevent entry to [REDACTED] position.

POLICE ACTIONS:

After Elliott explained what had happened prior to my arrival, he requested assistance in removing [REDACTED] from the conference room and turning him over to Robert. As Elliott explained that all available school interventions had failed or would be ineffective, I explained that I could assist. However, my intervention would be as a result of official police involvement for delinquent behavior--

specifically, Disorderly Conduct--committed by [REDACTED], and not as part of school discipline. I spoke to Robert briefly and said I would assist by taking [REDACTED] into custody and then escort him to Robert's vehicle. I briefly coached Robert on how we could both safely escort [REDACTED] through a straight-arm hold, palm backwards, while walking [REDACTED] to the vehicle.

I saw Principal Elliott direct [REDACTED] to open the door, and then try to push the door open. Elliott was unable to gain entry and [REDACTED] did not comply with Elliott's directions. I then went to the conference room door and called out to [REDACTED]. I was in full police uniform and visible through the door's window, backlit by the fully-lit office area. I could hear [REDACTED] negatively responding to my entreaties, but couldn't make out his exact words. I explained that his actions were on a path to force me to act in police authority, which could have negative repercussions for which [REDACTED] would be responsible. He said he wasn't responsible in any way for what I did. He refused to remove the barricade or approach the door to allow us to communicate any more effectively. I used my flashlight to examine how he'd barricaded the door, as the lights in the conference room were turned off and there were no other windows or entrances. I saw that [REDACTED] had placed at least two chairs directly against the door, and the conference table against those two chairs. [REDACTED] was seated in another chair on the far side of the table with his feet braced to hold the table against the chairs by the door, with his back against other items to give himself support in his efforts to hold the door shut.

I turned the door handle to release the latch mechanism and then repeatedly shouldered the door, hard. After about 4-6 hard impacts I had pushed the barricade back far enough that I was able to squeeze through the resulting door opening. I turned on the conference room's lights, re-organized the chairs to allow me to enter the room. I saw [REDACTED] move from his chair at the end of the conference table to underneath the conference table, pulling the table over him so he wasn't easily accessible.

I sat down in a chair slightly away from the conference table in another attempt to de-escalate the situation. I tried to engage [REDACTED] in conversation about what was happening. [REDACTED] was not receptive. He would only say that his own behavior was the responsibility of the history teacher, who'd accused [REDACTED] of swearing when [REDACTED] said he had not sworn. I pointed out the incongruity between [REDACTED] belief that his history teacher was responsible for [REDACTED] behavior, but [REDACTED] was not responsible for actions I was forced to take as a result.

[REDACTED]. I did not find [REDACTED] accusation against Robert to be credible, as Robert had previously expressed that [REDACTED] needed accountability but felt he was unable to use corporal punishment due to Wisconsin statutes. When I tried to persuade [REDACTED] to go home with his father, [REDACTED] repeatedly asked where home was, [REDACTED]

I repeatedly asked [REDACTED] to come out from under the table. I pointed out that he was again intentionally creating a situation that forced a police response. He refused to come out. I therefore knelt down and pulled him from under the table, being careful to only pull as hard as necessary to bring him to me. He complained that I had broken his arm, which I was certain was untrue due to the care and angle at which I had pulled him. I then invited Robert over and we helped [REDACTED] to his feet. [REDACTED] initially tried to obstruct by refusing to stand, but when we both supported him under his shoulder with his arm to the back, he found it more comfortable to bear his own weight.

Robert and I escorted [REDACTED] out of the office and to Robert's vehicle parked on Bridge Street near the main entrance. Robert had previously gone to the vehicle and activated the child safety locks in the rear seating area to prevent [REDACTED] from getting out of the vehicle. [REDACTED] was seated in the rear passenger seat and promptly began tossing everything he could out of the vehicle, including a car seat, papers, and other miscellaneous items. After all the items in easy reach had been thrown out despite Robert's quite stern directions to stop doing so, [REDACTED] looked around for more items. Robert made his best effort to try to leave, but he was unable to do so. I tried to not further intervene, but when [REDACTED] put his own arm out of the vehicle's window and tried to roll up the window on it, it was clear that [REDACTED] continued to refuse to act at all rationally and it would be unsafe for Robert to try to drive the vehicle with [REDACTED] unrestrained behind him.

I therefore informed Elliott and Robert that I was detaining [REDACTED] in temporary custody to protect him (and Robert) from likely dangers if [REDACTED] was permitted to further interfere with the vehicle or Robert's attempt to take him home. I guided [REDACTED] out of the vehicle, and when [REDACTED] tried to pull his arm away from me, I guided [REDACTED] to a prone position on the grass next to the vehicle. Little force was required to prone him out, with me basically holding an arm while slowly pushing [REDACTED] to the ground. I placed [REDACTED] left arm behind his back to secure him while giving him directions, but [REDACTED] protested that he was being "raped." I calmly replied that he wouldn't say that if he knew what it meant, and gave directions to him on how we were going to my squad car. I then helped him to his feet, securely grasped him by his bicep, and walked him to my squad car. [REDACTED] was not handcuffed at any time during my contact with him.

At my squad car I patted [REDACTED] down, finding nothing in his pockets. I then seated him in the rear seat of the squad car, and drove the car to the front of the school to where Robert's vehicle had been parked. I also activated the squad car video recording system, including the rear seat's camera.

[REDACTED]

I transported [REDACTED] to his residence, following Robert. When we arrived I again spoke to Robert in between our vehicles. Robert again complained that the entire juvenile system was broken. I empathized and he understood that law enforcement had no other options available. I welcomed Robert to release [REDACTED] from the back seat of the squad, but when Robert tried to do so, [REDACTED] remained uncooperative and wouldn't get out. I came over and directed [REDACTED]s out. [REDACTED] then stood in the driveway while I departed.

Later in the day Elliott emailed his statement to me. I downloaded it into the case folder.

[REDACTED]

Case closed.

Chief Rehberg