



File a Complaint

Please be advised that you will be contacted regarding your information/complaint within fourteen working days. Generally, that contact will be a letter sent to the address that you have provided. If you do not receive a letter, or are not otherwise contacted after fourteen working days, please contact us at 312.745.3594.

Complaint Report

Your personal information

Complaint ID : OPS-8861  
 Name : RALPH BRASETH  
 Race : WHITE  
 Address : 260 E CHESTNUT STREET Apt# 3405  
 CHICAGO, IL 60611  
 Sex : MALE  
 Age : 53

Your contact information

Best time to contact : 07:30 PM  
 Primary Contact Phone Number : (662) 832-8686  
 E-mail Address : rbraseth@gmail.com  
 Home Phone Number : (312) 915-6859

Your Injury Information

Were you injured in this incident? NO

Please describe the injury :

Did you need medical attention? NO

Hospital/Medical Center :

Please describe the medical treatment :

Information about the incident

Description of the incident :

I AM A CREDENTIALLED CHICAGO JOURNALIST AND A JOURNALISM PROFESSOR AT LOYOLA UNIVERSITY. A CHICAGO POLICE OFFICER ILLEGALLY ERASED MY VIDEO FILES. THIS ACT IS NOT ONLY ILLEGAL, BUT UNCONSTITUTIONAL. IN ADDITION TO THIS COMPLAINT, IT IS MY INTENTION TO SEEK CML LEGAL ACTION. AT ABOUT 9:00 P.M. ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2011, I WAS IN THE RED LINE SUBWAY STOP AT CHICAGO AND STATE STREET VIDEOTAPING TWO PLAIN CLOTHES CTA POLICE OFFICERS ARREST A YOUNG BLACK MALE FOR JUMPING THE TURNSTILE. IT WAS A TEXTBOOK ARREST. VERY PROFESSIONAL. ABSOLUTELY BY THE BOOK. HOWEVER, WHEN ONE OF THE OFFICERS SAW ME VIDEOTAPING (I WAS ABOUT 40 FEET AWAY ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE TURNSTILE, IF YOU ARE FACING THE SUBWAY OFFICE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE TURNSTILES, I WAS 10 FEET TO THE LEFT AND CLOSE TO THE WALL) THE OFFICER APPROACHED ME AND TOLD ME TO TURN OFF THE CAMERA. HE GRABBED BY RIGHT ARM AND TWISTED IT BEHIND MY BACK (AGAIN, TEXT BOOK ARREST, NO REAL PAIN). I IDENTIFIED MYSELF AS A JOURNALIST. I ASKED WHY I WAS HANDCUFFED AND HE SAID I WAS OBSTRUCTING AN INVESTIGATION. I WAS TAKEN TO THE SQUAD CAR IN CUFFS WHICH WAS PARKED ON NORTH STATE STREET 40 FEET FROM CHICAGO AVENUE. I REMAINED CUFFED IN THE BACK SEAT OF THE POLICE CAR FOR ABOUT 20 MINUTES WHILE THEY SEARCHED AND TALKED TO THE YOUNG MAN THEY ARRESTED, AT WHICH POINT, THE POLICE OFFICER WHO PUT IN HANDCUFFS GOT IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT AND PROCEEDED TO ASK ME QUESTIONS REGARDING MY PURPOSE IN VIDEOTAPING AND HE EXPRESSED HIS STRONG FEELINGS THAT IT WAS ILLEGAL TO VIDEOTAPE POLICE DURING AN ARREST. AFTER CHECKING MY NAME FOR A POSSIBLE RECORD, I WAS LET OUT OF THE POLICE CAR AND THE HANDCUFFS WERE REMOVED. AGAIN, THIS ACTION WAS BY THE BOOK AND ABSOLUTELY PROFESSIONAL. AT THAT POINT, THE POLICE OFFICER WHO HANDCUFFED ME ASKED FOR MY KODAK FLIP CAMERA. HE FOUND THE CLIP OF THE ARREST AND ERASED IT. THIS WAS WITNESSED BY HIS PARTNER AND MYSELF. THE CTA VIDEO CAMERA TAPED THE ENTIRE EVENT AND NEEDS TO BE PRESERVED.

Location of the incident

Street Number :  
 Building Name :

Direction :  
 Floor :

Street Name :  
 Unit :

Apt No. :

Location Description : Red Line Subway Stop at Chicago and State. The entire event was recorded on the CTA video cameras and must be preserved.

Incident Date and Time Date : 11/12/2011 Time : 09:00 PM

Evidence Video Evidence : YES Audio Evidence : NO

Information about the police officers

Police officer #1 Last Name : UNKOWN First Name : UNKNOWN Star No. : 0000 Rank : UNKNOWN Assigned Unit : UNKNOWN On Duty : NO Sex : MALE Race : WHITE Officer Description : OFFICER #2. 6'3", 225 POUNDS, WEARING A GREY SWEATSHIRT WITH WHITE WRITING ON THE FRONT OF IT. Police Vehicle Beat Number : Unknown Vehicle Number : 000 License Plate : 0000 Vehicle Description : CTA POLICE CAR.

Police officer #2 Last Name : UNKNOWN First Name : UNKNOWN Star No. : 000 Rank : UNKNOWN Assigned Unit : UNKNOWN On Duty : NO Sex : MALE Race : WHITE Officer Description : WHITE, 5'9", 185-190, DARK HAIR, SHORTER THAN A CREW CUT, BUT NOT SHAVED. Police Vehicle Beat Number : 00 Vehicle Number : 00 License Plate : 00 Vehicle Description : MARKED POLICE CAR

Information about victims and witnesses

Victim #1 personal information Last Name : BRASETH First Name : RALPH Sex : MALE Race : WHITE Age : 53 Contact Phone(662) Number: 832-8686

Victim #1 injury information Was the victim injured in this incident? NO Please describe the injury : Did the victim need medical attention? NO Hospital/Medical Center : Please describe the medical treatment :

Victim #2 personal information Last Name : FEMALE First Name : UNKNOWN Sex : FEMALE Race : BLACK Age : Contact Phone(000) Number: 000-0000

Victim #2 injury information Was the victim injured in this incident? NO Please describe the injury : Did the victim need medical attention? NO Hospital/Medical Center : Please describe the medical treatment :