

Sean T. Brandenburg
Chief of Police



Key West
POLICE DEPARTMENT

TO: Citizens Review Board
FROM: Sergeant Joseph A. Stockton, Professional Standards
DATE: May 8, 2023
RE: 23-001 Thomas Response

In reference to your request for video(s) involving Mr. Knorr's complaint, a link has been sent to the Citizen's Review Board Email (CRB@Cityofkeywest-fl.gov).

Based on my research into this incident, I do not believe there to be any violation of KWPD policy or Florida state statute by Officer F. Betz or Officer J. Ramos-Martinez.

The complainant is correct in regard to the witness not being able to definitively identify Mr. Daniel W. Thomas as the suspect. The Body Worn Camera footage shows Officer F. Betz and Officer J. Ramos-Martinez not arresting Mr. Daniel W. Thomas during their first encounter because of this.

Later that day, Officer F. Betz and Officer J. Ramos-Martinez returned to the store to speak with the store owner, who was different from the witness on scene. It is at this time the owner was able to provide other angles of video surveillance footage and positively identify Mr. Daniel W. Thomas as the suspect.

On January 5, 2023, Officer J. Ramos-Martinez took the newly gathered information, applied for an arrest warrant, and presented it to the Honorable Judge Mark Wilson. The Honorable Judge Mark Wilson found there was sufficient evidence / probable cause to grant an arrest warrant for Mr. Daniel W. Thomas based on the facts presented by Officer J. Ramos-Martinez.

On January 30, 2023, while on routine patrol, Officer J. Ramos-Martinez recognized Mr. Daniel W. Thomas from his previous encounter and placed him under arrest for the outstanding warrant.

Mr. Daniel W. Thomas' claim of a false arrest is an issue to bring forth with the Honorable Judge Mark Wilson, as he signed a warrant for the arrest of Mr. Daniel W. Thomas.

If the board has any questions regarding this complaint, please feel free to contact me.



RESPECT - INTEGRITY - FAIRNESS - SERVICE

Key West Police Department 1604 N. Roosevelt Blvd. Key West, FL 33040 (305) 809-1111
www.keywestcity.com

