

Key West Police Department

Case 25006152

Printed on February 18, 2026

Status	Approved
Report Type	Patrol
Primary Officer	Steven Anderson
Investigator	None
Reported At	12/13/25 22:22
Incident Date	12/13/25 22:22 - 12/13/25 23:41
Incident Code	S36B : Battery
Location	ANGELA / DUVAL ST, KEY WEST, FL 33040
Zone	Zone 2
Beat	B2
Disposition	4. Cleared as Arrest
Disposition Date/Time	12/14/25 00:39
Review for Gang Activity	None
Asst Officers	
Hansell, Kathryn; Lopez, Jorge	

Offense Information

Offense	BATTERY; TOUCH OR STRIKE
Statute	784.03-1a1
NIBRS Code	13B - Simple Assault
Counts	1
Offense Details	Completed
Date	Between 12/13/25 and 12/13/25
Include In NIBRS	Yes
Completed	Yes
Details	Offender(s) Used Alcohol
Bias Motivation	None (no bias)
Location	Highway/Road/Alley/Street/Sidewalk
Entry Forced	No
Forces Used	Other
Offense	RESIST / OBSTRUCT OFFICER W/O VIOLENCE
Statute	843.02
NIBRS Code	90Z - All Other Offenses
Counts	1
Offense Details	Completed
Date	Between 12/13/25 and 12/13/25
Include In NIBRS	Yes
Completed	Yes
Details	Offender(s) Used Alcohol
Bias Motivation	None (no bias)
Location	Highway/Road/Alley/Street/Sidewalk
Entry Forced	No

Arrestee

ABELSETH, JESSE DAVID

Male, DOB 1/11/94

1145 GILMORE DR UNIT A
KEY WEST, FL 33040784.03-1a1 - BATTERY; TOUCH OR STRIKE -
Completed
843.02 - RESIST / OBSTRUCT OFFICER W/O
VIOLENCE - Completed**Offender**

ABELSETH, JESSE DAVID

Male, DOB 1/11/94

1145 GILMORE DR UNIT A
KEY WEST, FL 33040784.03-1a1 - BATTERY; TOUCH OR STRIKE -
Completed
843.02 - RESIST / OBSTRUCT OFFICER W/O
VIOLENCE - Completed**Victim**

ABELSETH, ADA VALENTINA

Female, DOB 1/20/99

1145A GILMORE DR
KEY WEST, FL 33040

(703) 559-0806 Cell

784.03-1a1 - BATTERY; TOUCH OR STRIKE -
Completed**FLORIDA, STATE OF**

Unknown, DOB 7/15/00

843.02 - RESIST / OBSTRUCT OFFICER W/O
VIOLENCE - Completed**Witness**

KUNKLE, CHRISTOPHER NOLAN

Male, DOB 4/8/93

1901 S ROOSEVELT BLVD APT 104W
KEY WEST, FL 33040784.03-1a1 - BATTERY; TOUCH OR STRIKE -
Completed**Other**

ABELSETH, ADA VALENTINA

Female, DOB 1/20/99

1145A GILMORE DR
KEY WEST, FL 33040

(703) 559-0806 Cell

Other: 843.02 - RESIST / OBSTRUCT OFFICER W/O
VIOLENCE - Completed**FLORIDA, STATE OF**

Unknown, DOB 7/15/00

Other: 784.03-1a1 - BATTERY; TOUCH OR STRIKE -
Completed**KUNKLE, CHRISTOPHER NOLAN**

Male, DOB 4/8/93

1901 S ROOSEVELT BLVD APT 104W
KEY WEST, FL 33040Other: 843.02 - RESIST / OBSTRUCT OFFICER W/O
VIOLENCE - Completed**Original Narrative By Steven Anderson, 12/14/25 03:08**

On 12/13/2025, at approximately 2222 hours I, Ofc. S. Anderson and Ofc. J. Lopez were flagged down by a male at the intersection of Angela Street and Duval Street. The male expressed his concern about a situation taking place down the street. The male pointed at the direction of the incident and described his concern for a female's safety that he heard calling for help. I immediately responded to the area where the male reported the incident.

At Kaya Island Eats (address 618 Duval, entrance off Angela) I observed a distressed female (Ada Abelseth, identified by her Florida driver's license) standing next to a male on the sidewalk. The male (self-identified as Chris Kunkle) informed me that Ada had been fighting with another male until he and additional people intervened. Kunkle told me the male she was fighting with had left the area. Kunkle provided a description of the male's clothing and described his appearance as "Military looking male." I observed dirt on Ada's knees and a tear in the lower right side of her garment. The above-mentioned observations were consistent with what Kunkle had witnessed. These observations were captured with my body worn camera 4561, Ofc. Lopez's body worn camera 3722.

While checking on Ada's wellbeing and getting her recollection of the reported fight she reported that alcohol was involved and the male she had been fighting with was her husband of two years. Ofc. Lopez asked Ada what led to the fight between them that evening. Ada avoided being forthright with any details after this point. She also diverted from the truth of where the couple resides and the interactions between the couple leading to and during their reported fight. Ada stated her husband began arguing with her and her husband tried to take her cellphone away from her. Despite the fact Ada stated her husband did not hit her or touch her, Ada made the statement that the reason her dress tore was the result of her husband trying to get her cellphone away from her. Ofc. Lopez asked if she had knowledge of where her husband had gone. She said he took a taxi back to their hotel. When asked what hotel they were staying at, Ada was unable to provide the name. Their licenses later confirmed local addresses.

While gathering information from Ada, I observed a male standing on the sidewalk approximately 10 feet away from us. I acknowledged the male standing on the sidewalk matched the description Kunkle provided me with. I approached the male mentioned above and asked who he was. The male was using a cellphone, and it appeared as if he was actively talking to someone as he was seen holding his cellphone near his ear. The male kept holding a cellphone and clearly ignored my question.

Ofc. Lopez identified himself as a police officer and informed the male we were conducting an investigation. The male was given verbal commands by Ofc. J. Lopez to put the cellphone down at this time. The male was captured with our body worn cameras disregarding Ofc. Lopez's verbal commands and turning his body away from where we were standing. For officer safety, Ofc. Lopez instructed the male to place the cellphone down as it was unknown who he was talking to and prevent the event of someone or other people responding to our location. The male was told by Ofc. Lopez to place the cellphone down or he was going to remove it from him. Ofc. Lopez asked the male if he had made himself clear to which point the male kept ignoring us. Ofc. Lopez walked up to the male and the male placed his cellphone inside his pocket and at this time it was unknown if the male had any weapons on him. Ofc. Lopez grabbed the male's left wrist and instructed him to place his hands behind his back. While I grabbed the male's right wrist, the male pulled his left arm away from Ofc. Lopez and disregarded Ofc. Lopez's verbal commands. The male continued pulling his left arm towards the front side of his body and began tensing up. At this time Ofc. Lopez escorted the male to the ground. The male landed on the ground, facing down. The male continued pulling his left arm towards the front as if he was attempting to place his left arm underneath his body. Ofc. Lopez pulled the male's left arm behind his back while I held his right wrist. Ofc. Lopez placed handcuffs on the male and then assisted him by rolling his body to a recovery position. The male was placed in a seated position on the ground. Ofc. Lopez informed Key West communications the male was under custody and requested a supervisor for the response to resistance documentation. Ofc. Lopez requested Key West communications to dispatch Key West Fire Rescue to have the male assessed as well. Ofc. Lopez asked the male if he had hurt or had any injuries to which he advised of an abrasion on his left knee sustained from actively resisting.

The male was relocated to a bench where he sat while we waited for Key West Fire Rescue response. Key West Fire Rescue paramedics responded, and they were unable to assess the male and left the scene shortly after.

The male was identified as Jesse Abelseth by his Florida driver's license.

Ada was provided with a Victim's Rights Brochure by Ofc. K. Hansell, who was talking with her at the time. Ofc. K. Hansell conducted a Domestic Violence Lethality Assessment. Based on the answers provided, Ada was not in a potentially lethal situation. Ofc. K. Hansell attempted to photograph Ada's tore dress and dirt on her legs. However, Ada

did not allow Ofc. K. Hansell to take photographs. Despite the fact photographs were not taken, the above-mentioned details were captured with our body worn cameras while Ofc. Lopez used his flashlight to get it recorded.

Ofc. Lopez and I then escorted Jessie to the front hood of our patrol vehicle where he was searched by us. Our front Fleet Axon Camera was activated. Jessie was placed in the rear passenger seat of our patrol vehicle.

I transported Jesse to the Lower Keys Medical Center for medical clearance. Sgt. M. Del Valle responded to the Lower Keys Medical Center and spoke with Jessie. Jessie was medically cleared and discharged shortly after. I then transported Jessie to the Monroe County Detention Center. Our in-car Fleet Axon Camera remained activated during transport.

Based on the facts and evidence, Jesse Abelseth did actually and intentionally forcefully touch Ada when he was attempting to remove her cell phone from her possession. The damage to her garment was a result of their fight which was corroborated by her own statement and Chris Kunkle's recounting of the events. Ada and Jesse have been married for two years, and they have children in common. Jesse Abelseth did commit domestic battery as defined by F.S.S. 741.28. Contrary to F.S.S. 784.03

Based on the facts and evidence, Jessie Abelseth did knowingly and willfully disregard our instructions while we actively performed our duties as police officers during a domestic battery investigation. Ofc. Lopez and I attempted to place Jessie under arrest, and he actively began resisting by pulling away his left arm from Ofc. Lopez. Ofc. Lopez and I were wearing our class B uniform with the Key West Police Insignia on our sleeves. Contrary to F.S.S. 843.02

Supplemental Narrative By Kathryn Hansell, 12/13/25 23:27

On 12/13/2025 at approximately 2220 hours I, Officer K. Hansell heard Officer Lopez call over COMM1 that he would be out at the intersection of Angela St and Duval St with a suspicious incident. A short time later I heard him call out that he had a male in custody, needed rescue for the male with injuries to his knees and also a supervisor for a use of force.

I drove from the park n ride located at 300 Grinnell St to the intersection of Angela St and Duval St where the officers had been out with the suspicious incident. Upon arriving I saw that a male was seated on a bench with Officer Lopez and Anderson standing with him. As I exited my marked patrol vehicle I observed Officer Gruba standing with a female who was visibly upset. I walked to Officers Lopez and Anderson and assisted them as they searched the male and placed him in the back seat of Officer Lopez's marked patrol vehicle.

I heard the female start to loudly tell Officer Gruba that she just wanted to know what was going on. I walked over to where the female and Officer Gruba were and Officer Gruba walked away so that the female would calm down. I also had Officer Anderson ask me if I could try to get photos of the female's knees as they had dirt on them and her dress that was ripped at the bottom on her right side. The female did not want me taking photos of her so I stopped and asked the female her name. She answered Ada and I told her she could call me Katy.

We spoke about the Florida State Statute (FSS) and why the male was being arrested. Ada confirmed that the male involved was her husband to me as we spoke. As I spoke to Ada I observed an approximate 2 inch tear in Ada's dress on her right side near the pocket. Ada stated that her husband (the arrestee) had grabbed at her phone and ripped her dress.

I also spoke with Ada in reference to the threat assessment per FSS and KWPD policy. Ada answered all the questions with a no and stated she did not want to speak to a victim's advocate about the incident. I gave the assessment to Officer Anderson before he and Officer Lopez left the scene. I also provided Ada with the victim's pamphlet with the report number before leaving the scene.

My BWC was activated and downloaded for review. I was able to take one photo of the victim before she told me to stop. The photo was downloaded for review per KWPD policy and procedure.

NFA/NFI