



KEY WEST POLICE DEPT.

1604 N. ROOSEVELT BLVD.

Key West, FL, 33040

(305) 809-1000

Draft

Response to Resistance EVT-00000898-1

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Primary Officer: Malsheimer, Karl (3388)

Overview

Event Information

Reporting

A RESPONSE TO RESISTANCE REPORT WILL BE COMPLETED BY THE SUPERVISOR FOR (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

- ☒ A response through the use of non-lethal weapons
- ☐ Applies weaponless physical force of strikes, kicks, or "take-downs"
- ☐ Discharge of firearm in the line of duty, off-duty or on-duty (other than for training, maintenance or ballistics testing)
- ☐ When any person complains of injury as a result of the application of force
- ☐ When any person sustains an apparent substantial or fatal injury as a result of the application of force

Event Details

INCIDENT ID 0125003278	DATE 06/14/2025	TIME 10:09
LOCATION Thomas Street (Virginia Street), Key West FL 33040		
INCIDENT TYPE S34 - Trespass/Unwanted Person		
OTHER AGENCIES INVOLVED? N - No		

Persons

Zalite, Christopher John

Person Role

ROLE Subject

Person Details

LAST NAME Zalite		FIRST NAME Christopher		MIDDLE NAME John		SUFFIX
DOB 09/13/1993		AGE 31	SEX M	RACE W	ETHNICITY Not Hispanic or Latino	
HEIGHT 5' 8"	WEIGHT 155	CLOTHING TYPE Loose / Hanging				

Identifying Documents

Document

ID TYPE Driver's License

Persons (continued)

Zalite, Christopher John (continued)

ISSUING STATE Florida	
ID NUMBER Z621-282-06-500-0	
EXPIRATION DATE 09/13/2032	CLASS CLASS E
RESTRICTIONS	

Contact

Address

ADDRESS TYPE H - Home
LOCATION 5537 College Rd, Key West FL 33040

Phone Number

PHONE NUMBER TYPE Home	PHONE NUMBER
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E-Mail

Response to Resistance Circumstances

DID YOU OBSERVE THE SUBJECT? Yes		
APPEARED TO BE		
<input type="checkbox"/> Emotionally/Mentally disturbed	<input type="checkbox"/> Intoxicated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> Under the influence of controlled substance		
SUBJECT ARRESTED Yes		

Officers

Bernatova, Andrea (4193)

Officer Details

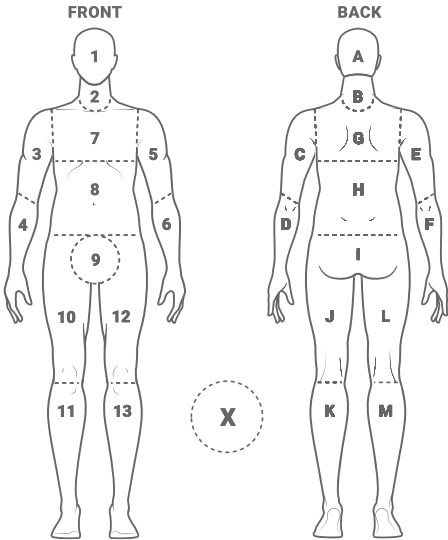
ROLE Involved	OFFICER / EMPLOYEE Bernatova, Andrea (4193)	POSITION Officer	DIVISION Day Patrol Division
PATROL SHIFT Alpha Day Shift		EMPLOYEE YEARS OF SERVICE 3.5	
UNIFORMED OR PLAIN CLOTHES Uniformed		EMPLOYEE WAS ON DUTY On Duty	

EMPLOYEE RACE White	EMPLOYEE ETHNICITY Not Hispanic or Latino	EMPLOYEE SEX Female
EMPLOYEE AGE 40	EMPLOYEE HEIGHT 5' 7"	EMPLOYEE WEIGHT 148

Officers (continued)

Bernatova, Andrea (4193) (continued)

INJURIES No
BODY WORN CAMERA (BWC) ACTIVATED DURING INCIDENT <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes



Tellier, Jeremy (3544)

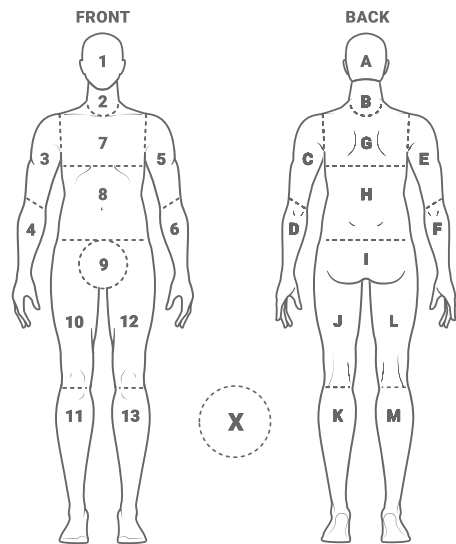
Officer Details

ROLE Involved	OFFICER / EMPLOYEE Tellier, Jeremy (3544)	POSITION Officer	DIVISION Day Patrol Division
PATROL SHIFT Alpha Day Shift		EMPLOYEE YEARS OF SERVICE 12.5	
UNIFORMED OR PLAIN CLOTHES Uniformed		EMPLOYEE WAS ON DUTY On Duty	

EMPLOYEE RACE White	EMPLOYEE ETHNICITY Not Hispanic or Latino	EMPLOYEE SEX Male
EMPLOYEE AGE 45	EMPLOYEE HEIGHT 5' 7"	EMPLOYEE WEIGHT 150
INJURIES No		
BODY WORN CAMERA (BWC) ACTIVATED DURING INCIDENT <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes		

Officers (continued)

Tellier, Jeremy (3544) (continued)



Response Action

Response Action

FORCE USED AGAINST P - Person		
PERSON FORCE USED AGAINST Zalite, Christopher John		
RESISTANCE LEVEL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Active <input type="checkbox"/> Aggressive <input type="checkbox"/> Deadly Force <input type="checkbox"/> Passive		
EXPLANATION OF RESISTANCE LEVEL Subject was being lawfully detained and walked away from officers, contrary to commands. Subject pulled away from officers and held onto fixed objects to actively resist arrest.		

Force

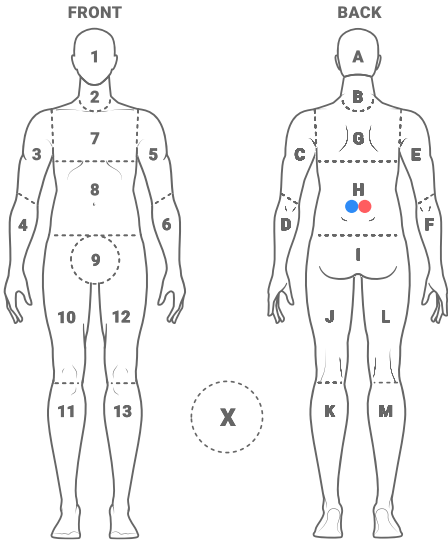
Force

INVOLVED OFFICER Tellier, Jeremy (3544)	FORCE TYPE TASER CEW
DISTANCE BETWEEN OFFICER AND SUBJECT (FT) 5	NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS 2
CEW MODEL TASER 7	CEW ACTION Probes Deployed
SERIAL NUMBER X400180NP	BAY Bay 1
CARTRIDGE TYPE TASER 7	CARTRIDGE SERIAL NUMBER X483K5DK6
PROBE SEPARATION (INCH) 6	TOTAL DISCHARGE TIME DELIVERED (SECONDS) 5

Response Action (continued)

Response Action

DID PROBES PENETRATE SKIN? Yes	PROBES REMOVED BY (NAME) Officer Beeman
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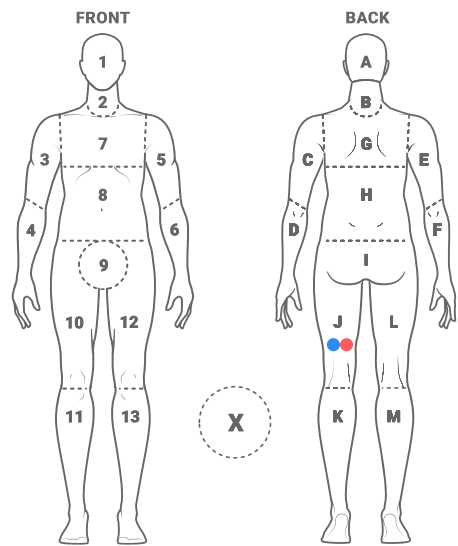


Force Location

BODY REGION Lower Back	DETAILED LOCATION Lower Back (Unspecified)
NUMBER OF IMPACTS 1	INJURY SUSTAINED FROM DIRECT FORCE Evident
TREATED Yes	TREATED BY EMT/Paramedic on scene
INJURY DETAILS Probe puncture marks.	PHOTOGRAPHED Yes
INVOLVED OFFICER Tellier, Jeremey (3544)	FORCE TYPE TASER CEW
DISTANCE BETWEEN OFFICER AND SUBJECT (FT) 5	NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS 1
CEW MODEL TASER 7	CEW ACTION Probes Deployed
SERIAL NUMBER X400180NP	BAY Bay 2
CARTRIDGE TYPE TASER 7	CARTRIDGE SERIAL NUMBER X493K6E2V
PROBE SEPARATION (INCH) 6	TOTAL DISCHARGE TIME DELIVERED (SECONDS) 5
DID PROBES PENETRATE SKIN? Yes	PROBES REMOVED BY (NAME) Officer Beeman

Response Action (continued)

Response Action



Force Location

BODY REGION Left Back Thigh	DETAILED LOCATION Left Back Thigh (Unspecified)
NUMBER OF IMPACTS 1	INJURY SUSTAINED FROM DIRECT FORCE Evident
TREATED Yes	TREATED BY EMT/Paramedic on scene
INJURY DETAILS Probe puncture marks.	PHOTOGRAPHED Yes

Related Injuries

Investigation

Investigation Details

Report Information

OFFENSE/INCIDENT REPORT AND/OR WARRANT AFFIDAVIT MUST INCLUDE

☒ All details of the arrest

☒ All necessary criminal elements

☒ Detailed description of injury complaints and/or observed injuries

☒ Details articulating the subject's words, mannerisms and actions that justify the Response to Resistance

☒ Details outlining the Response to Resistance utilized by each officer

☒ Details outlining the decontamination, first aid or medical treatment provided to the officer and/or subject

Investigation (continued)

Investigation Details

Narrative

NARRATIVE OF INCIDENT

See Officer Johnson's original report below:

On Saturday, June 14, 2025, at approximately 0934 hours, I (Officer Johnson) responded to 1127 Thomas St Unit 1 in reference to a trespasser. The resident of the property, Anne Baumann (victim) reported that she was watching a man, unknown to her (Later identified as Christopher Zalite), trespassing on her porch. Anne Baumann was not present and was watching through her security camera recording.

I responded to Anne Baumann at her place of employment. Officer Tellier and Bernatova responded to 1127 Thomas St. I met with Anne Baumann. Anne Baumann showed me the security camera recordings.

The camera recording showed a man, Christopher Zalite, enter past two closed gates to access the porch of her property. Christopher Zalite then covered the security camera with a shirt. Christopher Zalite removed the shirt and grabbed a closed folding chair stored on the edge of the porch. Christopher Zalite used a chair to sit on the porch. Christopher Zalite then left the property. Christopher Zalite left the area and returned a short time later. Christopher Zalite entered the porch again past the two gates. Christopher Zalite banged on the door and left the porch. Christopher Zalite presented both middle fingers to the camera from the sidewalk. Christopher Zalite threw an object down the side walk. Christopher Zalite then could be heard striking Anne Baumann's car just behind a pillar. Christopher Zalite left the property again on a three wheeled bicycle.

Anne Baumann stated that she does not know Christopher Zalite. Anne Baumann did not give Christopher Zalite permission to be on the property. Anne Baumann wishes to press charges.

I issued a BOLO of the suspect, Christopher Zalite, from a picture of the security camera footage. Officer Bernatova and Officer Tellier located a man matching the description a block away from the victim residence. Christopher Zalite displayed active physical resistance to the officers and tried to get away from them. Officer Bernatova stated that Christopher Zalite refused to obey verbal commands. Officer Bernatova stated that when she grabbed Christopher Zalite he pulled away and tried to walk away. Officer Bernatova stated that Christopher Zalite grabbed a hold of a fence and refused to let go and put his hands behind his back after being ordered to do so. Officer Tellier deployed a Tazer on Christopher Zalite due to the active physical resistance. Officer Tellier arrested Christopher Zalite and identified him. Officer Tellier advised that there was no damage to Anne Baumann's car. See Officer Tellier and Bernatova's supplemental report.

I responded to the scene and wanted to give Christopher Zalite an opportunity to explain why he was on the property. I read Christopher Zalite his Miranda rights and he refused to talk.

I placed Christopher Zalite under arrest and transported him to Monroe County Detention Center.

Victims Rights pamphlet issued. Incident recorded on BWC.

Charges:

1 Count:

Trespass FSS. 810.08 2a

The Defendant, Christopher Zalite, who without being licensed, authorized, or invited, willfully entered and remained in a structure.

Investigation (continued)

Investigation Details

1 Count:

Resist Officer without Violence 843.02

The defendant, Christopher Zalite, did resist, obstruct, and oppose a fully uniformed police officer in the lawful execution of a legal duty without doing violence to the officer.

See Officer Bernatova's supplemental report below:

On June 14, 2025, at approximately 1008 hours, I, Ofc. Bernatova, responded to 1127 Thomas Street, Unit 1, in reference to a male subject on the victim's property.

Victim/reporting party (Anne Baumann) told KYPD Dispatch, that there was a male on her front porch, who covered her ring camera with his shirt, left, returned to her porch, kicked her car, and left again.

Ofc. Johnson was meeting with the reporting party at a different location at her work, while Ofc. Tellier responded to 1127 Thomas Street to assess the damage to the victim's property.

On my way to 1127 Thomas Street, I heard Ofc. Johnson saying over the radio, that victim wished to pursue charges against the male. Ofc. Johnson also sent a very clear picture of the male suspect from the ring video and advised he was seen leaving the scene riding a tricycle.

Upon my arrival, I started canvassing the area for the suspect.

I was driving Northbound on Thomas Street and as I approached the intersection with Virginia Street, I saw the male riding a tricycle Westbound on Virginia Street. The male was matching the description and the photograph sent by Ofc. Johnson. I stopped my patrol vehicle and turned on its emergency lights, which activated my front in-car camera as well as my body-worn camera.

I exited the patrol car and approached the male who continued to ride his tricycle South on Thomas Street – towards the victim's residence.

I ordered the male to stop, and he did. The male (later identified as Christopher Zalite) told me something intelligible about being a colonel's son. I asked him if that gave him permission to enter someone else's property. Zalite said it was his property and someone else was trespassing on government housing. I tried to clarify these statements with Zalite, but he just sighted and said he did not have to answer any questions.

Ofc. Tellier arrived at my location, and I asked Zalite to get off the tricycle, Zalite hesitated so I repeated the request and grabbed Zalite's left wrist, upon which Zalite yanked his arm away and started walking away from me towards Virginia Street. I followed Zalite and ordered him to stop, upon which Zalite turned around and spread his arms wide so I could not get ahold of them, saying "tase me or you are not going to.". Zalite turned his back to me and grabbed the wooden fence with his both arms. I gave multiple loud verbal commands to Zalite to stop and to stop resisting, while trying to get ahold of his wrists to detain him.

Ofc. Tellier gave Zalite two loud verbal commands to put his hands behind his back, but Zalite kept holding onto the fence. I heard Ofc. Tellier deployed his taser and Zalite dropped down on his knees, keeping his arms close to his chest. I had a hold on one of Zalite's arms, but he was still squirming

Investigation (continued)

Investigation Details

and started to stand back up. That was when I heard Ofc. Tellier deployed a second set of probes, causing Zalite to go back to ground and lie on his back. Zalite then complied with lawful orders, rolled onto his chest and with Ofc. Tellier's assistance, I handcuffed him behind his back.

At the time of this incident, I was on duty as a law enforcement officer, in full Key West Police Department uniform identifiable by silver police badge above my left breast and two police patches on both of my shoulders, driving a marked police vehicle with Police decals on both sides, flashing emergency lights, and I introduced myself to Zalite as a member of Key West Police Department.

Sgt. Malsheimer and Key West Rescue responded to the location per protocol.

Zalite was transported to Monroe County Detention Center by Ofc. Johnson.

See Officer Tellier's supplemental below:

On 06/14/2025 at 0937 hours I, (Ofc. J. Tellier) responded to 1127 Unit 1 Thomas Street in reference to a trespasser. The KWPD had been to the residence already that day looking for a white male with a ponytail, who was trespassing on the resident's porch, and covering her security cameras. The resident was not home but could see the male using her porch ring camera. She told dispatchers that the male covered her camera with his t-shirt at one point. She also stated the male hit her vehicle. Ofc. M. Johnson was in route to the resident's location (not at 1127 Thomas Street) and I responded to the house.

Upon my arrival, there was no one on the porch. I checked the resident's vehicle for damage but found none. I was advised that the male rode a tricycle from the scene. The description was a white male with a ponytail, wearing a shirt with a skull on it, riding a tricycle. Ofc. A. Bernatova advised she was in the area and looking for the male. Ofc. M. Johnson stated over channel one that the resident wanted to press charges for trespassing, and that if the male was located, he was to be taken into custody.

Ofc. A. Bernatova advised she located the male a block away from the home. I got into my patrol car and drove to the location.

As I was pulling up in my patrol car, I saw Ofc. A. Bernatova reach for the male's left arm while he was still sitting on the tricycle. He shook his left hand, evading her attempted to grab him for handcuffing. The male stood up and began to walk away from the tricycle, disregarding Ofc. A. Bernatova's commands.

I got out of my patrol car and ran to where Ofc. Bernatova had the male pinned up against a white picket fence. She was attempting to get his left hand behind his back. His muscles were tensed and he was using his right hand to hold onto the fence for leverage. I had already unholstered my taser while running. I turn the taser on, pointed it at the male and ordered him to put his hands behind his back twice. I tried to pry his right hand from holding onto the fence with my left hand.

At this point the male was actively resisting two police officers who were attempting to take him into custody. I deployed my taser from approximately 5 feet away. The probes hit the male on the right abdominal area, and he fell to the gravel on his back. He kept his hand close to his chest, refusing to follow the commands to put his hands behind his back. He rolled onto his stomach and began to stand up, with Ofc. A. Bernatova on his back. I deployed the taser a second time, from approximately 5 feet away. The probes hit the male in the left thigh. He fell back to the gravel, and stopped resisting our efforts to secure him. We rolled him onto his belly, and Ofc. A. Bernatova handcuffed him. I searched the male for weapons or contraband, and found a keychain collection in one pocket and a vape pen in the other. I asked for his name and date of birth. The male identified himself as Christopher John Zalite with a date of birth of 09/13/1993. While searching Zalite, the probes in his left thigh were dangling from his shorts, not needing to be pulled out. After the first deployment, I advised that a taser was deployed. After Zalite was in custody Ofc. A. Bernatova requested a supervisor respond to our location. Ofc. M. Brablc responded to the scene and stood by with Zalite and Ofc. A. Bernatova, while I verified Zalite's identity in my patrol car. I took photos of the probe hits on Zalite and provided them to Sgt. Malsheimer, who responded to the scene. My BWC and dashcam recorded my time on this case. For further details, see Ofc. M. Johnson's arrest affidavit.

Investigation (continued)

Investigation Details

Supervisor's Inquiry

NOTIFIED DATE 06/14/2025	NOTIFIED TIME 10:09
DID SUPERVISOR RESPOND TO THE SCENE Yes	DID SUPERVISOR WATCH ALL RELEVANT VIDEOS ASSOCIATED WITH THE RESPONSE TO Yes
DID SUPERVISOR MEET WITH THE OFFICER(S)? Yes	
DURING SUPERVISOR'S REVIEW DID YOU FIND AN POTENTIAL POLICY VIOLATIONS OR TRAINING ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH THE INCIDENT? No	
WAS SUPERVISOR ABLE TO LOCATE ANY INDEPENDENT WITNESSES? No	

Supervisor Comments

SUPERVISOR Malsheimer, Karl (3388)	RANK Sergeant	REVIEW DATE 06/14/2025
COMMENTS		

Professional Standards Division

Reviewer

REVIEWER Dean, Jeffrey (3386)	RANK Lieutenant	REVIEW DATE 06/17/2025
COMMENTS		
DID THE REVIEW OF THIS INCIDENT CONCLUDE THAT THE RESPONSE TO RESISTANCE WAS IN COMPLIANCE WITH DEPARTMENTAL POLICY? Yes		