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**BRAZOS COUNTY JURY ACQUITS MAN OF
*EVADING ARREST OR DETENTION IN A VEHICLE***

[BRYAN, TEXAS]— ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 13, 2021, A BRAZOS COUNTY JURY ACQUITTED AARON PIPON OF *EVADING ARREST OR DETENTION WITH A VEHICLE*, A THIRD-DEGREE FELONY. PIPON WAS DEFENDED BY DEFENSE LAWYERS FRED MEDINA AND RICK DAVIS IN 2 ½ DAY JURY TRIAL IN THE 85TH DISTRICT COURT.



ON MAY 10, 2019, PIPON WAS DRIVING NORTH BOUND ON TEXAS AVENUE NEXT TO TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY AND FLIPPED OFF ANOTHER DRIVER WHO MADE HIM MAD. AT THE TIME, PIPON DID NOT REALIZE THAT THE OTHER DRIVER, WILLIAM SNELL, WAS AN OFF-DUTY COLLEGE STATION POLICE OFFICER. SNELL, WHO WAS DRIVING HIS PERSONAL DODGE PICK UP TRUCK, TESTIFIED THAT HE SHOWED PIPON HIS BADGE WHILE THEIR TWO VEHICLES WERE DRIVING NEXT TO EACH OTHER FOR A TIME ON TEXAS AVENUE.

SNELL THEN FOLLOWED PIPON WHO HAD TURNED EASTBOUND ON UNIVERSITY DRIVE. SNELL TESTIFIED THAT HE CALLED DISPATCH TO REPORT THE EVENT AND CONTINUED TO FOLLOW PIPON BY ABOUT FOUR TO FIVE CAR LENGTHS.

WHEN PIPON STOPPED AT A TRAFFIC LIGHT AT THE INTERSECTION OF

GLENHAVEN DRIVE AND UNIVERISITY DRIVE TO TURN LEFT, SNELL, WHO WAS STOPPED AT THE SAME TRAFFIC LIGHT, PUT HIS TRUCK IN PARK, WALKED UP TO PIPON AND POUNDED ON HIS WINDOW. SNELL TESTIFIED THAT HE TRIED TO BREAK PIPON'S WINDOW. AT THE TIME, SNELL WAS WEARING A CSPD POLO STYLE SHIRT WITH A "COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT" LOGO ON IT. WHEN ASKED WHY HE GOT OUT OF HIS TRUCK AND BLOCKED TRAFFIC, SNELL SAID HE DID SO BECAUSE OF "EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES."

AFTER THE LIGHT TURNED GREEN A FEW SECONDS LATER, PIPON TURNED NORTH ON GLENHAVEN DRIVE NEAR CHEDDAR'S. HE THEN SOUGHT REFUGE IN A NEARBY RESTAURANT.

ALTHOUGH TRAFFIC CAMERA FOOTAGE SHOWED A MARKED PATROL CAR DRIVING NEARBY, OFFICER SNELL WENT BACK TO HIS OFFICE TO GET ASSISTANCE. WHEN SNELL AND HIS PARTNER CAME INTO THE RESTAURANT, PIPON HAD ALREADY LEFT THROUGH THE BACK DOOR TO BE PICKED UP BY HIS GIRLFRIEND. WHEN THE OFFICERS ARRESTED PIPON, HE PROTESTED AND SAID "WHO WAS I EVADING?" PIPON SAID THAT HE DID NOT KNOW THAT SNELL WAS A POLICE OFFICER UNTIL HE WAS ARRESTED.

PIPON STATED "I AM SO THANKFUL THAT THE JURY FOUND ME NOT GUILTY. I FLIPPED OFF ANOTHER DRIVER THAT MADE ME MAD. I HAD NO IDEA THAT HE WAS AN OFF-DUTY POLICE OFFICER UNTIL I WAS ARRESTED. THIS HAS BEEN A HARD LEARNING EXPERIENCE FOR ME. I SHOULD NOT HAVE LET MY EMOTIONS GET THE BETTER OF ME. I WILL NEVER CONDUCT MYSELF THAT WAY WHILE DRIVING AGAIN."

RICK DAVIS, ONE OF PIPON'S DEFENSE LAWYERS, SAID, "WE THOUGHT THAT IT WAS VERY UNWISE FOR OFFICER SNELL TO TRY AND DETAIN PERSON USING HIS PERSONAL VEHICLE AND WHILE WEARING A CSPD POLO SHIRT THAT DOESN'T EVEN SAY 'POLICE'; THE LOGO READS 'COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT.'"

CO-COUNSEL, FRED MEDINA, SAID "TODAY, JUSTICE WAS SERVED. THE JURY TOOK THEIR JOB SERIOUSLY. THE STOUT DEFENSE WAS THE RESULT OF A LOT OF TEAMWORK."

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