



OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
4800 Broad River Road
Columbia, South Carolina 29210
Telephone (803) 896-9100 Fax (803) 896-8482

April 21, 2016

INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

TO: File 53321

FROM: Investigator Kevin Crumpton
Investigator Yolanda Reid
Investigator Billy Ray Warren
Investigator Jason Williams

RE: Burglary 1st
Malicious Injury to Real Property
Escape
Assault with Intent to Commit Sexual Conduct 1st Degree

COUNTY: Richland

INTRODUCTION

On February 26, 2016, around 8:11p.m., several juveniles committed at the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice (SCDJJ) Broad River Road Complex (BRRC) took part in a sequence of disruptive events that lasted nearly three (3) hours. As a result of the magnitude of the disturbance, several SCDJJ security staff, administration staff, police officers and investigators were required to come to BRRC to assist with getting the situation under control. To investigate the numerous incidents carried out

during this event, Chief Investigator Dececo Sampay-Johnson assigned Investigators Crumpton, Reid, Warren and Williams to conduct the investigation.

SUMMARY

On the night of February 26th, 2016, many of the juveniles housed in the BRRC Cypress Unit began to engage in disruptive and riotous behavior. The incident was captured in a SCDJJ [event report](#). At the onset of the disruption, presumably an unknown juvenile or juveniles, obstructed the majority of the surveillance cameras by smearing an unidentified substance over the lenses. After the surveillance camera was compromised, several juveniles engaged in the destruction of state property located in the building. The confirmed juveniles involved were (3 juveniles names removed). They were observed by Juvenile Specialist Angel Williams, breaking several panes of glass from windows and doors and destroying security equipment integrated into the building, as evidenced by her voluntary written [statement](#). One juvenile was also identified by staff, from surveillance video obtained, igniting toilet paper and paper towels near the back entrance of Cypress Unit. The estimated damages provided by SCDJJ Maintenance totaled [\\$16,000.00 to \\$18,000.00](#). At some point, nineteen (19) of the twenty-four (24) juveniles, housed in Cypress Unit, left the Unit and entered the main property of BRRC without permission. As a result of their confirmed involvement in the disturbance in Cypress Unit, (3 juveniles) were each charged with Malicious Injury to Property and one juvenile was additionally charged with Attempt to Burn.

After leaving Cypress Unit, one juvenile, managed to escape from BRRC by crawling through an unsecured drainage pipe. After escaping, this juvenile went to the Dollar Tree on Broad River Road where his mother works. Shortly after arriving at Dollar Tree, his mother called 9-1-1 and reported his being there. According to a [statement](#) obtained from SCDJJ Police Officer James Smith, he responded to the Dollar Tree and returned this juvenile to BRRC. Investigator Billy Ray Warren interviewed juvenile, who in return provided a voluntary written [statement](#) confessing that he had escaped out of a drainage pipe shortly after exiting Cypress Unit. An additional arrest [warrant](#) for Escape

was obtained for this juvenile, and he was subsequently booked at Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center.

During the disturbance, at least five (5) of the juveniles left Cypress Unit and went to the Girls Transition Home on Willow Lane Campus at BRRRC. (These 5) gained entry into the home by breaking out windows. The damages caused by these juveniles during this incident are estimated to be [\\$7,700.00 to \\$8,900.00](#). While inside the home, (2 juveniles) assaulted a female juvenile, the female juvenile provided a voluntary written [statement](#) to that affect. Also while inside the home, one of the 2 juveniles also assaulted a different female juvenile whom also provided a voluntary written [statement](#). Juvenile Specialists (JS) Jekeria Henderson provided a voluntary written [statement](#) detailing her account of being assaulted by a juvenile during this incident. DJJ Police Officer Dana Scott provided a voluntary written [statement](#) providing that (these 5 juveniles) threw broken glass at her from inside the home when she responded to the incident. Additionally, DJJ Police Officer Essence Jordan provided a voluntary written [statement](#) that one juvenile threw broken glass at her from inside the Transition Home while she was responding to this incident. [Pictures](#) depicting damages to the Transition Home were obtained by Investigator Reid on February 27th, 2016.

For their involvement in the incident at the Transition Home, (4 juveniles) were charged and arrested for Burglary 1st Degree, Malicious Injury to Real Property, and Assault and Battery 1st Degree against DJJ Police Officer Dana Scott. Additionally (3 juveniles) were charged and arrested for Criminal Sexual Conduct 1st Degree. One juvenile received an additional charge and was arrested for [Assault and Battery 1st Degree](#) against DJJ Police Officer Essence Jordan. And another was charged with Assault and Battery 1st Degree against JS Jekeria Henderson, Burglary 1st Degree, and Malicious Injury to Real Property.

Also on that night, three (3) juveniles were witnessed occupying DJJ Police Officer Dana Scott's personal vehicle, a 2106 Chevrolet Cruze. The 2106 Chevrolet Cruze is valued at [\\$13977.00 to \\$15987.00 by Kelly Blue Book](#). A known juvenile was seen

operating the Chevrolet while (two other juveniles) occupied the front passenger and rear seats respectively. This occurrence is evidenced by voluntarily written statements provided by the following DJJ staff, [Kenneth James](#), [Kendrick Holland](#) and [Dana Scott](#). It is unknown as to who procured the keys to the vehicle, which according to the owner, where secured in the nearby Office of Inspector General Annex building. Witnesses said as they approached the vehicle, the driving juvenile placed the vehicle in reverse and backed into DJJ Police Officer Essence Jordan's personal vehicle. The juvenile driver then placed the vehicle into drive and attempted to run over Kenneth James, who had to jump out of the way to avoid being struck, as evidenced in the aforementioned statement provided by James. This juvenile then drove the vehicle over a curb into a grassy area where the vehicle became stuck on some mulch and bushes. Juvenile was then apprehended by DJJ staff.

On the same night, several juveniles entered Birchwood High School through a classroom window and ransacked the school causing approximately [\\$10,300.00](#) in damages. JS Kendrick Holland was interviewed and provided a voluntary written [statement](#) identifying seven (7) of the juveniles after reviewing the camera surveillance footage obtained from the incident. Those juveniles were charged with Malicious Injury to Personal Property over \$10,000 dollars and Burglary 2nd (violent). Of the items damaged were a Xerox Copier and two (2) computer monitors. [Pictures](#) of the damages were obtained by Investigator Reid on February 27, 2016.

As the disturbance neared an end, there were some juveniles who had not yet been apprehended. Those remaining out of place juveniles were spotted on top of Magnolia Unit and eventually were talked down by DJJ staff. Once those juveniles were secured, the campus was deemed secured.

It should be noted that attempts were made to interview all of the juveniles involved in the events of February 26th, 2016,. All of them refused to cooperate. They refused to provide statements or speak with investigators with the exception of the one juvenile who escaped.

Judicial Review

This series of events was reviewed Richland County Solicitor's Luck Campbell, Dan Goldberg and Eden Hendrick who advised SCDJJ Investigators on applicable charges for the individuals involved. Warrants were obtained from Judge Mel Mauer as advised.

Exhibits:

Video surveillance footage