

Berks County District Attorney

Arrest at Walmart – Berkshire Boulevard, Wyomissing

DETAILS OF INCIDENT:

On July 21, 2020, the Berks County District Attorney's Office was contacted in regard to an arrest by the Wyomissing Police Department which took place on July 20, 2020. This office has conducted an independent review of the incident which took place at Walmart located at 1135 Berkshire Boulevard in Wyomissing. We have determined that the Wyomissing Police acted appropriately while arresting Stanley Gaston Gracius.

On July 20, 2020, the Wyomissing Police were dispatched to Walmart for an individual who was riding a bicycle through the store, playing loud music and yelling profanities at other shoppers. This individual was asked to leave the store by the store manager but refused to do so. When the Wyomissing Police arrived at the store, the store manager reported to the Wyomissing Police that the male was in the store and was paying for a bicycle. She informed the Wyomissing Police that this individual was riding the bicycle through the store, weaving back and forth in the aisles, hitting some shopping carts and almost hitting other shoppers. Again, she told the male to leave but he refused saying "You're not going to tell me what to do."

The defendant was detained by the Wyomissing Police and at all times during the encounter, the Wyomissing Police showed restraint, acted professionally, and did a good job deescalating the situation with the defendant, Stanley Gracius. Mr. Gracius did not in any manner abide by the requests of not only the store manager of Walmart, but also the requests of the officers themselves.

Based on our review of this incident, the officers of the Wyomissing Police Department acted appropriately when they arrested this individual who was causing a disturbance in the Walmart store. The defendant was charged with Aggravated Assault, Simple Assault, Disarming Law Enforcement Officer, Resisting Arrest, Defiant Trespass and Disorderly Conduct. The defendant has a prior criminal history involving a similar incident from 2014 when he pled guilty to disarming law enforcement and criminal trespass