IDAHO SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT

3000 Colorado Blvd. Box 907 Idaho Springs, CO. 80452

Office 303-567-4291 /Fax 303-567-1014

www.idahospringsco.com

PRESS RELEASE, 6/07/21

On May 30 at approximately 2243 hours Idaho Springs police officers responded to a disturbance in the 3200 block of Riverside Dr. in Idaho Springs, Colorado. The officers came in to contact with a female victim who was allegedly assaulted by a male who lived in a nearby apartment. Officers attempted to contact the male suspect. The male suspect answered the door to his apartment holding a club-like object with what appeared to be teeth along the edges. There was a physical altercation between the officers and the male suspect. The male suspect was injured during the altercation with officers and was taken to St. Anthony's hospital for his injuries. The condition of the male taken to St. Anthony's is unknown at this time.

After an internal review of the incident the Idaho Springs Police Department contacted the Office of the District Attorney, 5th Judicial District (within 3 ½ days of the initial incident), and has requested a formal investigation of the incident. The Idaho Springs Police Department is working cooperatively with the Colorado Bureau of Investigation who will be conducting a separate investigation into the incident. One of the officers involved in this incident has been placed on paid administrative leave pending the outcome of an internal investigation.

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PRESS RELEASE, 07/08/21

On May 30, 2021 at approximately 2243 hours Idaho Springs police officers responded to a disturbance in the 3200 block of Riverside Dr. in Idaho Springs, Colorado. The officers came in to contact with a female who was allegedly assaulted by a male who lived in a nearby apartment. Officers attempted to contact the male suspect. The male suspect answered the door to his apartment holding a club-like object with what appeared to be teeth along the edges. There was a physical altercation between the officers and the male suspect. The male was injured during the altercation with officers and was taken to St. Anthony's hospital for treatment.

After the incident was initially reviewed, Chief Nathan Buseck of the Idaho Springs Police Department contacted the 5th Judicial District Attorney's Office and requested an independent criminal investigation of the incident be conducted regarding the actions of Officer Nicholas Hanning. This decision was based solely on the internal review process that takes place when any ISPD officer is involved in any use of force incident. The Idaho Springs Police Department continues to cooperate with the Colorado Bureau of Investigation and the District Attorney's office as the independent criminal investigation concludes. The ISPD internal investigation into this matter has been completed.

Nicholas Hanning has worked with the Idaho Springs Police Department for the last three years (hired 10/02/2017). Hanning does not have any prior sustained complaints related to the use of force while employed with ISPD. The second officer involved is Ellie Summers. Officer Summers has been with the Idaho Springs Police Department for the last two years (hired 06/24/2019) and has no prior sustained complaints related to the use of force with ISPD. The City of Idaho Springs is currently in the process of evaluating Nicholas Hanning's employment with ISPD. At this time, the City will not release further information until the personnel process for Hanning is concluded. The City projects this process will conclude in approximately one week. Officer Summers has received internal disciplinary action per departmental policy regarding a policy violation and remains employed with ISPD.

The Idaho Springs Police Department has been in contact with the Colorado Peace Officer Standards and Training commission regarding the results of the ISPD internal investigation and will provide the necessary documentation for their review.

The bodycam footage related to this incident was provided to the District Attorney's Office for the 5th Judicial District.

"We would like to extend our thoughts to the person directly involved in this incident, along with the family members that were impacted," said Idaho Springs Police Chief Nathan Buseck.

"The Idaho Springs Police Department is a proud organization that holds itself accountable and holds all employees accountable for their actions. Our agency took decisive action to address this incident which included a thorough internal investigation along with immediately requesting an outside agency perform a criminal investigation. This isolated incident is not reflective of the great work being done by the men and women of our agency who continue to work diligently alongside our citizens to prevent crime and protect our community."

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PRESS RELEASE, 07/16/21

IDAHO SPRINGS POLICE OFFICER TERMINATED AFTER USE OF FORCE INCIDENT AND INVESTIGATION

A City of Idaho Springs police officer has been terminated due to a use of force incident effective July 15, 2021. Nicholas Hanning was formally charged with 3rd Degree Assault – At Risk Adult, a class 6 felony, by the Office of the District Attorney, 5th Judicial District. He had been on administrative leave. Hanning worked with the Idaho Springs Police Department (ISPD) for the last three years (hired 10/02/2017) and during that time, had no complaints related to the use of force.

On May 30, 2021, two Idaho Springs police officers contacted a 75-year-old male at his apartment in connection with a call for service which had been made by a neighbor. The man opened the door with a sword-like object in his right hand. The officers had not identified themselves as "police" when knocking on the door. Hanning entered the man's apartment and a physical altercation, initiated by Hanning, took place. The man then followed the officers' commands to put down the weapon, walked a few steps towards the officers, and began speaking with the officers. Hanning ultimately deployed his Taser, striking the victim. The victim was not armed or holding any weapon at the time he was tased. The victim was taken to St. Anthony's Hospital for treatment.

ISPD Chief Nathan Buseck quickly initiated both a criminal investigation of the incident, to be done by an outside agency, and an internal review. Chief Buseck requested a criminal investigation be initiated by contacting the District Attorney's Office for the 5th Judicial District. The ISPD fully cooperated with the Colorado Bureau of Investigation throughout the criminal investigation. Chief Buseck also expressed his concern for the victim's condition and extended his thoughts and prayers to the victim and his family, through the victim's identified representative.

The police officers' body camera (bodycam) footage related to this incident was provided to the District Attorney's Office for the 5th Judicial District as evidence for its independent criminal investigation. The ISPD attended a hearing on July 13, 2021 at the Clear Creek County Court regarding the proper release of the bodycam footage, given very recent changes in the law. Judge Cynthia Jones heard discussion regarding the new law signed by Colorado Governor Jared Polis on July 6, 2021 (HB 21-1250). Judge Jones interpreted the new law and ordered that the proper deadline for the public release of blurred bodycam footage is no later than July 29, 2021 (blurred to obscure identity of non-officers in footage who have not consented to waive privacy rights). After the mandated blurring has been done, the 5th Judicial District Attorney's Office will be the public point of contact for the footage: https://www.da5.us/

"The Idaho Springs Police Department took immediate and decisive action by requesting that an outside agency perform a criminal investigation into the incident," said Chief Buseck.

"The actions of former Officer Hanning are not reflective of the culture of our organization. ISPD is an agency that takes great pride in how we interact with our citizens and this incident was not acceptable."

Office of the District Attorney
Fifth Judicial District

Serving Clear Creek, Eagle, Lake, and Summit Counties
Heidi S. McCollum, District Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 28, 2021

Contact: PIO, John Bryan
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Bodycam Footage of Tasing by Former Idaho Springs Police Officer Now Available

Bodycam footage of an incident involving former Idaho Springs Police Officer Nicholas Hanning was released today at https://www.da5.us/ .

Several videos of the incident and related events stem from a tasing incident at the 3200 block of Riverside Drive in Idaho Springs, around 11:00 p.m. on May 30, 2021. Two Idaho Springs police officers contacted a man at his apartment in connection with a call for service which had been made by a neighbor. Shortly after opening the door, the man was ordered to put down what was in his right hand, which was later determined to be a sword-like object. The man complied and was then given conflicting commands by the two officers: to get down on the ground; and, to come out of the apartment. A physical altercation between then Officer Hanning and the man ensued and Hanning ultimately tased the man while he was still inside his apartment. The victim was taken to St. Anthony's hospital for medical care. At the time Hanning deployed his Taser, the victim who is over the age of 70, was not armed nor holding any weapon.

During a July 13, 2021, hearing, Clear Creek County Court Judge Cynthia Jones ruled that "blurred" footage must be released to the public no later than July 29, 2021—in accordance with the new state law, House Bill 21-1250, recently signed by Colo. Gov. Jared Polis July 6, 2021. The parties discussed the new law's call for efficient release of law enforcement-type video footage, while weighing the privacy rights of victims, witnesses and defendants 'caught' on the footage during the incident, medical transport of the victim, emergency responders, etc. The 5th Judicial District Attorney's Office is now providing that footage (see links below).

At this time, the CBI investigation has been substantially completed. On July 7, 2021, Officer Hanning voluntarily turned himself in and was arrested by the Clear Creek County Sheriff's Office due to a warrant issued for the charge of 3rd Degree Assault – At Risk Adult, a class 6 felony. No other charges are being contemplated at this time. Defendant Hanning's next court date is Aug. 12, 2021, at 1:30pm.

-DA5-

ALL PERSONS CHARGED WITH CRIMES ARE PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL THE CONTRARY IS PROVEN IN A COURT OF LAW.

Office of the District Attorney
Fifth Judicial District

Serving Clear Creek, Eagle, Lake, and Summit Counties
Heidi S. McCollum, District Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Dec. 9, 2021

Contact: PIO, John Bryan
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Former Idaho Springs Police Officer Pleads Guilty to Assault Charge

Georgetown, Colo.—Former Idaho Springs Police Officer Nicholas Hanning pled guilty to a charge of: 3rd Degree Assault (Class 1 Misdemeanor) at his disposition hearing today. The guilty plea stems from his involvement in a tasing incident at the 3200 block of Riverside Drive in Idaho Springs, around 11:00 p.m. on May 30, 2021. Hanning, along with another Idaho Springs police officer, contacted a man at his apartment in connection with a call for service which had been made by a neighbor.

Shortly after opening the door, the man was ordered to put down a sword-like object that was in his right hand. The man complied and was then given conflicting commands by the two officers: to get down on the ground; and, to come out of the apartment. A physical altercation between then-Officer Hanning and the man ensued and Hanning ultimately tased the man while he was still inside his apartment. The victim, Michael Clark, was taken to St. Anthony's hospital for medical care. At the time Hanning deployed his Taser, Mr. Clark posed no threat to the officers, as he was not holding any weapon. Hanning was terminated from his employment with the Idaho Springs Police Department following his arrest in this case.

"We agree with public sentiment in this case, that police officers need to be held accountable for their actions. As part of the guilty plea entered by Defendant Hanning today, he will be stripped of his ability to ever again work in law enforcement in the State of Colorado, and will be further subject to a potential jail sentence of up to 24 months if the court deems appropriate," said Heidi McCollum, District Attorney.

Judge Cynthia Jones conditionally accepted the guilty plea of Mr. Hanning at today's hearing, and set the sentencing hearing over to Jan. 27, 2022, at 2:00 p.m.

-DA5-

ALL PERSONS CHARGED WITH CRIMES ARE PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL THE CONTRARY IS PROVEN IN A COURT OF LAW.