



Around 11:30 am. on June 6th, 2020, officers with the Nacogdoches Police Department responded to a report of a disturbance at a protest that was occurring in the 100 block of W. Main St, the Nacogdoches County Courthouse. The disturbance was between the occupants of a passing vehicle and a few of the protest participants. The occupants of the vehicle also reported the encounter at the police station. When officers arrived there was no longer a disturbance, and officers took witness statements and gathered evidence to determine what transpired during the incident.

UPDATE as of June 10, 2020:

The Nacogdoches Police Department has actively investigated this case, and all known videos, pictures, and witness statements were reviewed by investigators. The case has been forwarded to the Nacogdoches County Attorney's office in order to allow prosecutors to give an unbiased review of witness statements, video footage, and all other evidence. This action was taken to determine appropriate charges without perceived bias given the nature of the protest and the case's high-profile nature.

Understandably, the Nacogdoches Police department has received multiple inquiries regarding this case and we are committed to releasing any information that can be released to the media and the public once determinations regarding appropriate action have been made by the County Attorney's Office.

The practice of deferring to the prosecutor's office is best-practice in instances such as this. When there are multiple perspectives to an incident, the facts are gathered and presented to the appropriate prosecutorial office. This practice becomes especially true when citizens across the community have expressed valid concerns surrounding an event. The Nacogdoches Police Department acknowledges those who have respectfully and peacefully expressed their thoughts across the community regarding societal issues on a nationwide scale.

The Nacogdoches Police department is dedicated to serving all of our Nacogdoches community with integrity and respect. In the coming weeks, the City of Nacogdoches plans to not only be fully transparent regarding this particular case, but also to share and converse with concerned citizens regarding the Nacogdoches Police Department's culture, training, best practices, and hiring procedures. The Nacogdoches Police Department is committed to fostering a two-way dialogue with any and all citizens and will continue to encourage these discussions to ensure the Nacogdoches community continues to grow together.

