

Dwire, Linda

05/18/54

2018-13800

Defendant

Date of Birth

Agency Case #

Rifle Police Department

10/01/2018 @ 1349 Hrs

Arresting Agency

Arrest Number

Date/Time of Arrest

I observed the female at the entrance. She matched the clothing description that was given to dispatch. The female was talking to a City Market Employee. The female was later identified as Linda Dwire DOB 05/18/54. As I was approaching Dwire, I could hear part of the conversation she was having with the City Market employee. Dwire was clearly upset. She kept moving her hands up and down in a fast manner and was yelling. I heard Dwire say something to the effect of:

- This is what is wrong with our country
- They should not be speaking Spanish here
- She was offended that they were speaking Spanish to each other

As I walked up to Linda, she continued yelling about people speaking Spanish in here. I told Linda I needed to speak with her. Linda looked at me and ignored me as she continued to speak with the City Market employee. I told Linda I needed her attention. Linda looked at me again and said she didn't want to talk to me and that she needed to leave. I told Linda she was not free to go because I was investigating a disturbance and someone had pointed her out as causing it. I asked Linda for her identification.

Linda said she was leaving and turned around and began to walk away from me. I told Linda to stop and that she was not free to go. Linda ignored my command to stop. I grabbed Linda's arms to keep her from leaving. Linda began pulling away from me. I pulled Linda back towards me and handcuffed her from behind her back. I again told Linda that she was not free to go and that she needed to calm down. I told Linda I needed to conduct an investigation and that until that was complete she was not free to go. Linda stated she would comply and not leave. After Linda was a little more relaxed, I removed the handcuffs from her wrists.

Linda stated she would tell me what happened. Linda stated in effect the following:

- There were two women who were speaking Spanish and she found it offensive.
- She asked what was wrong with our country when people don't have the respect to speak English.
- She said she went up to two ladies and asked if they lived in the United States and if they liked living here.
- The ladies responded that they did.
- Linda told them to speak English, and be an American.
- Another female stepped in and began yelling at Linda telling her she did not have the right to talk to these women like this and that she was harassing those Hispanic women.
- Linda said she did not even raise her voice at the ladies.
- Linda went on to say that she was offended because when you speak another language you divide yourself. She stated that it gives her the idea that they want to bring their country here and want her to conform to their country,
- Linda stated she was just exercising her freedom of speech and that she didn't say it in a loud voice.

- Linda said that she wanted to move to another part of the country were people think like her.
- Linda said she had a problem with the younger generation that comes here and have no respect for this country and that they don't want to be American.
- Linda said mentioned being overrun by people that come here and have a chip on their shoulders.

To the best of my knowledge, Linda did not know the two ladies before her encounter with them today. Both ladies did not initiate any contact with Linda.

After Speaking with Linda, I went inside the store and met with both of the Hispanic females Linda interacted with. The females were identified as Fabiola Velasquez DOB 10/07/1987 and Isabel Nava Marin DOB 07/28/1978. I learned the following from Isabel and Fabiola.

- They were shopping at City Market.
- While in the store, they were having a conversation in an aisle.
- A female (Linda) approached them and began asking whether they lived in this country.
- Linda then got in their face and started yelling at them telling them not to speak Spanish and to get out of her country.
- Isabel stated that she started walking away from Linda because she was being very aggressive and she was afraid she was going to hurt her.
- Isabel stated that Linda began following her, yelling at her for speaking Spanish.
- Isabel and Fabiola stated that while Linda was insulting them, another female walked up and stood up for them and called Police.
- Fabiola had two young children with her at the time of the incident.

The fourth female involved in the incident was identified as Kamira Trent DOB 06/01/1988. Kamira was the reporting party. Officer McNeal and I spoke with Kamira. Kamira wrote a statement explaining the following:

- She was walking to the back of the store by frozen food when she heard a woman loudly telling someone else that they couldn't speak Spanish in her country.
- She looked to her left and saw Linda standing between two Hispanic ladies (Isabel and Fabiola)
- Linda was inches away from one of the ladies' face, with her finger in their face.
- Linda was still telling them not to speak Spanish, only English in her country.
- Kamira stepped in-between Linda and one of the ladies as Linda was telling them not to turn their back on her.
- Kamira told Linda that she couldn't talk to people that way because it was uncalled for and hateful
- Linda turned to Kamira and pointed her finger in Kamira's face, telling her "you are what's wrong with our Country and why it's going to die"
- Kamira told Linda to get out of her face and to leave. Linda got louder and so did Kamira.

- Linda continued to yell at Kamira as Kamira was calling in to make a report.

Fabiola recorded part of the incident on video. I viewed the video, which corroborates Kamira's statements as to the events that occurred toward the end of their contact. The video shows Linda getting in Kamira's face, pointing her finger.



After interviewing the involved parties, Officer McNeal took Linda into custody by handcuffing her behind her back. Linda was later transported and booked into the Garfield County Jail.

After the incident, I spoke with Fabiola and Isabel. They were both still shaken up by the incident and were crying. Isabel stated she was scared and that she didn't feel comfortable going back to the store.

Snap shot of video showing Linda pointing her finger at Kamira and Kamira pushing her hand away.

