

Black Police Officer Claims She Was Falsely Arrested by Two White Officers on Long Island

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Officer Dolores Sharpe is a 19-year veteran of the Nassau County Police Department, but that didn't prevent her from being racially profiled by her fellow white officers.

On Nov. 29, Sharpe said she was improperly charged with resisting arrest by two white officers from her own department. Sharpe said she identified herself during the confrontation while she was shopping in West Hempstead, Long Island, but she feels she was targeted because she is black.

"I have been wrongfully charged and falsely arrested, requiring me to defend against allegations that are based on prejudice coming from my own police force," Sharpe said during a press conference at her attorney's Long Island office.

From NBC New York:

Sharpe's attorney claims the off-duty officer was shopping for weather stripping at a "dollar store" last Friday afternoon when a uniformed officer confronted her in a parking lot. Attorney Fred Brewington said the officer began verbally berating the woman, saying that where she parked had blocked his view of something he was watching for an undisclosed investigation.

The attorney claimed the officer was "using all types of curse words and making comments to her that I can't repeat."

The woman eventually went into the store and when she returned she was again confronted by the uniformed cop. Sharpe eventually left the parking lot, but was pulled over by him about two blocks away. Another officer joined the first one at that point, and that is where she was taken into custody and brought to a precinct house and later given a summons charging her with resisting arrest.

She is due in court Jan. 9.

She said she was informed while being arrested that she was immediately suspended without pay. Sharpe is assigned to an office that screens prospective police applicants.

"I have been terribly disappointed by the Nassau County Police Department, to whom I have dedicated two decades of my work life," Sharpe told reporters.

The Nassau County Police Department said they were not allowed to release any statements due to the ongoing investigation.