

Cop charged with resisting arrest testifies

BY DARRAN SIMON

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A Nassau police officer testified yesterday that a fellow officer stopped her in a shopping center parking lot, accused her of impeding his investigation and cursed at her after she showed her identification.

Dolores Sharpe, 53, acknowledged cursing back at the officer on Nov. 29, 2013, in West Hempstead while off-duty. She told jurors in First District Court in Hempstead, where she is on trial on charges of resisting arrest and harassment, that the officer then called her a “[expletive] moron,” outside a Dollar Tree. But she ignored him, she said, and walked into the store to shop for weather stripping.

Soon afterward, the same officer pulled her over, another Nassau officer grabbed her, handcuffed her and called her a female dog, she said.

“I felt that I was being very disrespected. I felt that I was being belittled,” said Sharpe. “I felt . . . victimized.”

Sharpe, who is African-American, was the victim of “racial animus” shown by two white cops, her attorney Frederick Brewington of Hempstead has said.

The 20-year police veteran said she didn’t know the officer



Nassau Officer Dolores Sharpe was the victim of “racial animus,” her lawyer said.

ers and later learned Officer Charles Volpe had first stopped her, with his partner Victor Gladitz.

Assistant District Attorney Jared Chester has said Sharpe shouted and cursed and “flailed” at the men, and at first refused to show her police ID.

Volpe had testified he and Sharpe exchanged words, and he alerted Gladitz and pulled

Sharpe over to see if she was impersonating a cop.

He said he grabbed Sharpe’s ID, which broke off a chain, to check it, and she raised the chain in a “swinging motion” to Gladitz’s face, he said.

Sharpe said Volpe pulled his patrol car next to her as she tried to park that day. He told her she was “blocking or obstructing his view from his in-

vestigation,” but didn’t elaborate, she testified.

“All I am trying to do is park,” she testified that she told him.

But Volpe called out to her as she walked into the store. “Yo, you,” he said, summoning her to his patrol car, she testified.

“Next time you see a police officer, you need to move out of the way,” Sharpe quoted Volpe as saying. Sharpe said

she showed her identification and offered to assist.

That’s when Volpe cursed at her, and she at him, she said. “That’s why you get no respect. You [expletive] moron,” Sharpe said Volpe said.

Sharpe said after she shopped, she left the lot and saw a same patrol car coming toward her with flashing lights.

“As soon as I reached the entrance of the parking lot, the car came right almost on top of me,” said Sharpe, who didn’t think she was the target.

Sharpe said she was “a bit irritated because I felt he was following me,” and walked toward Volpe, again identifying herself as a police officer. She said Volpe told her he didn’t believe she was an officer. Gladitz then “forcibly grabbed” her arm and pushed her against the car, she said.

Volpe grabbed the identification out of her hand, snapping the chain and Gladitz forced her hands out of her pocket, she said.

Under cross-examination from prosecutor Theresa Tebbett, Sharpe acknowledged she got out of her car and walked toward Volpe when he stopped her. “So you’re stopped by a marked police car, you immediately get out of your car and approach the officer,” Tebbett said.

“Yes,” Sharpe said.

The trial continues today.

HOWARD SCHNAPP