

Rialto Police Department

128 N. Willow Ave. Rialto, CA 92376 (909) 820-2578



PRESS RELEASE

Date: May 07, 2018

Incident: Report of In-progress Residential Burglary

Location: 2600 Block of West Loma Vista Dr., Rialto, CA 92376

Synopsis:

On Monday April 30, 2018, at 1236 PM, Rialto Police officers were dispatched to a call from a reporting party advising of a possible in progress residential burglary at a residence in the 2600 Block of West Loma Vista Dr., Rialto, CA. The reporting party identified several people taking suitcases from the residence and loading into a vehicle that was backed into the driveway. The reporting party did not recognize the vehicle or the people as neighbors, or the homeowner. Officers responded to the location and immediately established a perimeter while the people drove away, Officers stopped the vehicle and established contact with the occupants. One of the occupants identified herself as Donisha Prendergast, and granddaughter of singer / song writer Bob Marley.

During the course of the 22-minute encounter, police officers determined the people were Airbnb renters and were at the residence as guests. Through reasonable inquiry officers learned the residence was an unlicensed Airbnb in the City of Rialto. At no time during the encounter did officers use any form of restraints with the involved people and actually allowed them to exit their vehicle and assist officers in locating the owner of the unlicensed Airbnb to confirm there had been no crime committed. The people were immediately released without incident and the officers cleared the call at 1308 PM.

On May 7, 2018, the Rialto Police Department was served with notification of pending legal action on behalf of Donisha Prendergast, and 2 other people involved in the encounter, indentified as Komi-Oluwa Olafimihan and Kelly Fyffee Marshall. Due to this pending litigation, the department is now limited on its response, but is preserving all evidence of the call and officer interaction. The Rialto Police Department was pioneer in the Nation's implementation of Axon body worn officer cameras. A review of departmental records, including officer body worn cameras properly documented officer interaction during the encounter. The Rialto Police Department has learned some people named in this press release posted the encounter on social media outlets. With the

accurate and unedited Axon body coverage, along with the edited social media video postings, the Rialto Police Department is confident officers treated the involved individuals with dignity, respect and professionalism.

The Rialto Police Department takes every complaint of misconduct seriously and investigates thoroughly. In this matter, officers followed departmental policies and procedures in handling this reported in-progress residential burglary call and we are very appreciative of the cooperation shown by its residents and visitors.

Press inquiries can be directed to Lieutenant Dean Hardin, at (909) 820-2634 or dhardin@rialtopd.com