



Salisbury Police Department
699 W. Salisbury Parkway
Salisbury, MD 21801
(410) 548-3165



45th

PRESS RELEASE

March 10, 2020 (12:05 p.m.)
(Assault with a Handgun- ARREST)

UPDATE: October 27, 2020

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A Salisbury Police officer has been arrested and charged for a crime that occurred while off duty.

On December 17, 2019 Salisbury Police Department officials received a citizen's complaint that accused Officer Ronald Brown of an alleged assault that was said to have occurred in Delaware. Upon receiving the complaint, the Salisbury Police Department immediately made contact with the Delaware State Police, who initiated a criminal investigation into the matter. The Salisbury Police Department in turn, began an internal investigation into the matter and placed Officer Brown on an administrative paid suspended status.

The investigation revealed that the 39 year old victim and Officer Brown were acquaintances and have known one another for a period of time. On or about October 23, 2019, Officer Brown invited the victim to his residence in an effort to discuss some motor vehicle work that the victim had not completed. While the victim was at Officer Brown's residence, a verbal confrontation occurred and ultimately resulted in Officer Brown displaying a handgun and threatening the victim. The victim ultimately contacted the Salisbury Police Department to file a complaint against Officer Brown.

From December 17, 2019 through the week of March 02, 2020, the Delaware State Police conducted the criminal investigation. On Monday, March 09, 2020 the investigation was presented to a grand jury in Georgetown, DE. Upon hearing the facts of the investigation, the grand jury handed down an indictment from the Superior Court of the State of Delaware, charging Officer Brown with aggravated menacing and possession of a firearm during the commission of a felony.

On March 10, 2020 Officer Brown turned himself in to the Delaware State Police and he was served with the criminal indictment. Officer Brown was transported to the Superior Court of Delaware for an initial appearance hearing. On Tuesday, March 10, 2020 Officer Brown has been placed in an unpaid suspended status with the Salisbury Police Department pending the completion of an ongoing internal investigation.

This criminal investigation is ongoing and the Salisbury Police Department requests any media inquiries to be directed to the Delaware State Police. If you have any information concerning this ongoing criminal investigation, we encourage you to contact the Delaware State Police (Troop 4) at (302) 856-5850.



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On Tuesday, October 20, 2020 Ronald Brown resigned from the Salisbury Police Department. As a result of the above investigation conducted by the Delaware State Police, on Monday, October 26, 2020 Mr. Brown entered a guilty plea to a felony count of aggravating menacing in the State of Delaware. Mr. Brown received a five year sentence that was suspended pending successful completion of one year supervised probation.

“Mr. Brown was afforded his due process under the law, and was found guilty of a felony offense,” said Chief Barbara Duncan. “While this agency can’t control the actions of our employees in their off time, it goes without saying that we expect them to uphold the very same standards of integrity and trust off the clock as we do on the clock. What happened in this case is absolutely unacceptable, and it’s antithetical to what the SPD stands for. I wish Mr. Brown the best.”

The Salisbury Police Department would like to thank the Delaware State Police and the Delaware Attorney General’s Office for their professional handling of this investigation.

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Lieutenant Ryan Koerner