

Signal 35	Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office Incident Report Narrative Sheet		ISB Case # 17867
Page 1	of 2	N.O.P.D. Item Number I-37517-20	
		Description	
<p><b>ARRESTED SUBJECT:</b> Andrew Dixon (B/M, DOB 11/27/1985, F#2499788)  <b>CHARGES:</b> RS 14:37, relative to Aggravated Assault (2 counts)  RS 14:35, relative to Simple Battery</p> <p>Agent Brandan Jackson, a member of the Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office (OPSO), assigned to the Investigative Services Bureau (ISB), respectfully submits the following report relative to the arrest of inmate Andrew Dixon (B/M, DOB 11/27/1985, F#2499788) for violation of Aggravated Assault (2 Counts) and Simple Battery.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>NARRATIVE</b></p> <p>On Thursday, August 20, 2020, the agent was instructed to investigate a battery, which occurred in the Orleans Justice Center (OJC). The agent was informed this incident took place OJC pod 1A, involving an inmate identified as Andrew Dixon and several OJC staff members. After receiving this information, the agent immediately proceeded to this location to investigate.</p> <p><b>STATEMENT OF SERGEANT DWI'SHANA SMITH:</b></p> <p>On Thursday, August 20, 2020, the agent received a statement provided by Sergeant Smith. Sergeant Smith stated on Monday, July 20, 2020, deputies responded to back up call on pod 1-A in regards to a physical altercation involving inmates Dwayne Tassin (B/M DOB 5-28-1988 Folder# 2492476) and Andrew Dixon (B/M DOB 11-27-1985 Folder# 2499788). Deputies entered the tier and separated both inmates, then escorted them to OJC Medical for treatment. After being treated by medical, inmate Dixon was escorted back to pod 1-A and was instructed to return to his assigned cell. Inmate Dixon then requested to use the phone, and his request was denied for the time being by Sergeant Smith due to the state of the tier following the altercation. Inmate Dixon refused to lock down in his cell after being instructed by OJC staff to do so multiple times. Captain Hugh Blatcher, who is also a member of the OPSO, assigned to OJC, then attempted to speak with inmate Dixon, who continued to refuse to cooperate. As more deputies arrived on the pod, verbal commands to lock down were given, and inmate Dixon became irate and began yelling obscenities towards staff. Inmate Dixon then armed himself with a plastic chair and attempted to evade restraint by attacking OJC staff with the chair, specifically Deputies Anthony Ruffin and Elijah Chapman, who are both also members of the OPSO, assigned to OJC.</p> <p>Due to the time elapsed from the incident date to the agent being informed and instructed to investigate, the victim of the initial altercation, inmate Tassin, had already been released from OPSO custody and was unavailable to make a statement regarding the incident.</p> <p>The agent was able to obtain the recorded surveillance video of the altercation and review it. The video showed that inmates Dixon and Tassin were involved in a verbal altercation that escalated into a physical confrontation when Dixon struck Tassin with a closed fist. The two fought briefly until deputies arrived on the tier as backup and separated them, then escorted them off the tier.</p> <p>During this investigation, Deputies Anthony Ruffin and Elijah Chapman, who are both members of the OPSO, assigned to OJC, were both unavailable for recorded statements due to quarantine measures for exposure to the Covid-19 virus. The agent was able to obtain written statements from both deputies regarding the incident.</p>			
Reporting Officer Agent B. Jackson	Badge 1522	Reporting Officer Badge	N.O.P.D. Access Number

Signal 35	Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office Incident Report Narrative Sheet	ISB Case # 17867
Page of 2 2		N.O.P.D. Item Number I-37517-20
Description		

**STATEMENT OF DEPUTY ANTHONY RUFFIN:**

Deputy Ruffin stated he proceeded to the 1-A tier in response to a backup call, and upon arrival, he observed inmate Dixon being very combative towards staff. Captain Blatcher than gave inmate Dixon commands to lock down in his cell, but Dixon refused. Inmate Dixon then picked up a plastic chair from the dayroom area, and proceeded to charge towards OJC staff, and he was sprayed with Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) spray in order to detain him. Inmate Dixon then proceeded towards the pod door and fell to the ground. Inmate Dixon was then quickly handcuffed.

**STATEMENT OF DEPUTY ELIJAH CHAPMAN:**

Deputy Chapman stated he also responded to the tier A-1 backup call due to inmate Dixon refusing to lock down in his cell. Captain Blatcher spoke with inmate Dixon, but Dixon continued to be uncooperative, then became irate. Inmate Dixon then picked up a chair and attempted to strike the deputies with it. OC spray was deployed to assist in gaining control of the inmate, and the chair was thrown. Inmate Dixon was then restrained and escorted to OJC Medical for decontamination.

**STATEMENT OF INMATE ANDREW DIXON:**

Agent Jackson then attempted to conduct an audio/video recorded interview with inmate Dixon. Before the interview could be conducted, inmate Dixon refused to cooperate with this investigation.

The agent then reviewed the OPSO video surveillance cameras from the location of the incident in question. Surveillance shows Inmate Dixon striking inmate Tassin in the face area with a closed fist, which led to a physical altercation. After returning from medical, inmate Dixon is seen refusing to lock down. OJC staff then arrives on the tier and attempt to speak to inmate Dixon as the inmate ties an orange cloth on his face. Inmate Dixon then proceeds to arm himself with a plastic chair from the dayroom area and hold the chair up in an aggressive manner. Inmate Dixon then proceeds to swing the chair towards Deputy Ruffin, then throws the chair towards Deputy Chapman. (OC) spray was then deployed in an attempt to gain control of inmate Dixon. Inmate Dixon then proceeded to run towards the pod door, where he laid on the floor and tucked his arms underneath his body. Inmate Dixon was later restrained successfully by deputies.

**SUMMARY**

As a result of this investigation, inmate Dixon was informed he will be placed under arrest for violation of Louisiana Revised Statutes (LA.RS) 14:37, relative to Aggravated Assault (2 counts) for the incident involving the deputies, and 14:35, relative to Simple Battery for the altercation involving inmate Tassin. Inmate Dixon was booked accordingly at the OJC Intake and Processing Center (IPC) under New Orleans Police Department item I-37517-20.

A copy of any relevant paperwork or media will be attached and made part of this report. Any further information obtained will result in a supplemental report being submitted.

**\*THE OFFICE OF THE HONORABLE DISTRICT ATTORNEY TO BE CONSULTED\***

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Signal	Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office Incident Report Narrative Sheet		ISB Case #
Page      of			N.O.P.D. Item Number
		Description	
Reporting Officer	Badge	Reporting Officer	Badge N.O.P.D. Access Number

Signal	Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office Incident Report Narrative Sheet		ISB Case #
Page      of			N.O.P.D. Item Number
		Description	
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Signal	Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office Incident Report Narrative Sheet		ISB Case #
Page      of			N.O.P.D. Item Number
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Page      of			N.O.P.D. Item Number
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