

Commonwealth of Virginia

STEVE DESCANO
COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY

COUNTY OF FAIRFAX
4110 CHAIN BRIDGE ROAD, ROOM 114
FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA 22030-4047

06/06/2020

CA DESCANO STATEMENT ON THE ARREST OF OFFICER TIMBERLAKE ON CHARGES OF ASSAULT AND BATTERY

Charges are a result of a use-of-force incident that occurred yesterday.

FAIRFAX COUNTY, VA – Fairfax County Commonwealth's Attorney Steve Descano released the following statement regarding the arrest of Officer Tyler Timberlake for assault and battery:

"Under my direction the Commonwealth will be pursuing three different charges of assault and battery against Officer Timberlake. As a result, he faces up to 36 months of incarceration. I can assure you that I am personally following this case closely to ensure a thorough prosecution and outcome, especially during these trying times.

We can all agree that the footage of this incident is unsettling. I want our community to know that we're pursuing appropriate charges that are in line with current law and supported by the evidence with which we've been presented. However, I also appreciate that this may not immediately reconcile our disgust with what we see.

I can tell you three important things:

First, we will seek justice in this case as we do in all cases—with our community's values front and center.

Second, I cannot overstate the value of and role that body worn cameras have played in our investigation into this matter. We are fortunate that this technology was in use in the region of the county within which this incident occurred. Without it, I fear we would have had an unfortunately narrow and distorted view of what happened in one of our own neighborhoods.

Lastly, this county—Fairfax County—is our home and we hold ourselves to a much higher standard than what we see in this video. We have an obligation to meet those standards and I have an obligation to make sure justice is served when that doesn't happen.

The people of Fairfax County can rest assured that we will not tolerate this."

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