

## **Official Complaint: Submitted by Gavin Seim**

To: Boise Idaho Police Department Internal Affairs Division - BPD\_IA@cityofboise.org  
Regarding: Officer, Lori Sperry of the Boise ID PD, badge number 10253.

**Time: Tuesday Oct 8th at around 9:15 PM**

**Location: 43.604479,-116.283624**

### **Account:**

During a road trip from Washington, my family and I stopped briefly in Boise Idaho. I was parked at the Boise Cabelas parking lot and saw officer Sperry stopping a vehicle, which then pulled into the Stinker Station nearby. I walked over stood near the curb and in the open about 60-70 feet away from the contact and observed, filming the stop with my phone.

Sperry saw me and motioned for me to come over. I indicated my desire to stay where I was. She approached and demanded I remove my hands from my pocket and that I give identification. I declined to offer ID as per my legal rights. The encounter continues as Sperry demands I move my hands away from my body. At some point my left hand was in my pocket. I did remove my hand from my pocket out of cooperation. At some point I likely set my hand back near or into my pocket.

Following this, Sperry grips me firmly, reaching out and taking hold of my arm, pulling it away from my body. I tell her not to touch me and she releases her grip. She further states she wants to pat me down, which I decline. She indicates that I need to move to a more distant from the scene, over to the front of the store. I explained that I was a very reasonable distance. I offer to move back a little further. But it seems she was not satisfied with that, so I simply stay put.

Soon an officer Green appears, parking his patrol car in the roadway near my position. He comes to stand guard next to me as Sperry returns to the stop she had left waiting. I chatted a little with Green, who while cold and not a great representative of the protecting and serving the BPD is supposed to offer, was calm and remained composed throughout the encounter.

When Sperry finished the stop, she returned and confronted me again. We talked a bit and she left soon after. A video recording of the entire encounter from start to finish can be found here... <http://youtu.be/20kSGn1EVxQ>

### **Complaint:**

In no way did I impede the officers ability to do her duty. Nor did I behave in a threatening or overt manner. Officer Sperry acted without professional courtesy to myself or the driver she had stopped. She attempted to state that I must relinquish identification to her and threatened me with illegal detainment.

Further, Sperry assaulted me in taking hold of my arm. Had I acted in the same aggressive manner towards the officer, I would likely be charged with a crime. Her behavior crossed from unprofessional to criminal. Later in the video she even states that she has the right to take hold of me in such a fashion, further indicating a complete lack of respect for law and justice which exhibits a disturbing lack of training and accountability in the Boise PD.

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Officer Sperry appears unqualified to work on patrol duty - She is not properly trained in dealing with people and lacks the most basic understanding of critical communications skills. She does not respect the laws she swore to uphold and her behavior is a danger to herself and the people she is meant to serve.

It is my recommendation that Officer Sperry receive disciplinary action, as she fails to exhibit a competent understanding of how to "protect and serve" rather than "harass and collect". It is also my recommendation that all Boise police officers receive training based on this incident and be properly educated regarding their oath, the United States Constitution, the laws of the State of Idaho and the rights of the people who employ them.

As Benjamin Franklin wisely said - *"Those who would give up essential liberty to purchase a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety"*.

Safety is not tyranny. Serving is not intimidation. Protecting is not harassment. Yet this seems to be the tone taken by some of your officers. Officers that behave like criminals should fully expect to be treated as such. Mutual cooperation requires mutual respect and mutual honor.

For further guidelines see the Bill of Rights, United States Constitution. In the future I expect your officers to know the laws that We The People have placed upon them and to follow said laws, as well as their oaths, with diligence.

Sincerely, Gavin Seim, Ephrata WA

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