



Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office

NEWS RELEASE

David A. Clarke Jr.
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 13, 2015

County Children's Center Corrections Officer Arrested for Battery of Juvenile Inmate



Milwaukee, WI – Sheriff David Clarke Jr. was advised yesterday that a juvenile at the Milwaukee County Children's Center was beaten on Friday by a county juvenile-corrections officer. Videotape of the incident was obtained and clearly depicts the county corrections officer beating a 15-year-old juvenile inmate in an unprovoked attack.

The county corrections officer, Sanjay Adell, age 38, stated that the juvenile had taken up a threatening stance, which the video clearly shows he did not. The juvenile suffered significant swelling to his mouth, left side of his face and right eye, along with cuts inside his mouth.

The county juvenile-corrections officer has a previous criminal history. The Milwaukee County Juvenile Justice Center is run by Director Tom Wanta who reports to Hector Colon, who, in turn, ultimately reports to County Executive Chris Abele. Any disciplinary decision on the county correctional officer has to be conducted by Hector Colon. The Sheriff's Office has no employment jurisdiction in this case. Any further questions regarding the status of this employee should be referred to Tom Wanta (414-257-7712), Hector Colon (414-289-6877), or County Executive Chris Abele (414-278-4211).

Sheriff Clarke said, "Why they would hire someone with a criminal history such as his for a sensitive position involving the public trust? This is the result of the misguided idea of "banning the box," which does not allow people making employment decisions to look into criminal history prior to employment."

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Upon a search of the corrections officer's belongings, a loaded handgun was found inside his backpack, which he had brought into the secure part of the facility.

He was placed under arrest and booked into the Milwaukee County Jail pending the charging conference. The case will be reviewed by the District Attorney's Office for felony Misconduct in Public Office, felony Physical Abuse of a Child, and misdemeanor Carrying a Firearm into a Public Building.

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