Line of Duty Injuries Keep Officer Off the Job

A Highland Police officer remains off the job, recovering from injuries suffered during an altercation earlier this month in the Doniphan County Community. Brian Hagen has the story: It happened March 6th, when Officer Arthur Buckingham was attempting to make an arrest on the campus of Highland Community College.

Buckingham had handcuffed the suspect, identified as 19-year-old Antonio Clayter, a former college student, inside a dorm room.

According to Highland Police Chief Brandon Whetstine, Buckingham's injuries came when Clayter tried to escape, allegedly attempting at one point in the scuffle to grab the officer's gun(Play Audio :32 seconds)

Clayter, from Atchison, had previously been removed from the College after eluding campus security the previous week after they attempted to take him into custody on suspicion of allegedly possessing marijuana. At that time, apparently visiting his girlfriend's dorm room, Clayter escaped by jumping through a window.

Clayter, on the night of the altercation with Officer Buckingham, had apparently returned to the campus, again to visit 18-year-old girlfriend Callie Orlene Percival, while accompanied by friend Jonathan Ogletree, also of Atchison.

Percival, of Pawnee City, Nebraska, was arrested for obstructing official duty, apparently attempting to gather Clayter's belongings as he was being arrested.

She was also charged with battery, connected to an alleged altercation she had, at that same time, with the assisting campus security officer.

Percival is a volleyball player at the college, attending Highland on a volleyball scholarship. Ogletree, meanwhile was arrested on a warrant when he attempted to visit Clayter at the Sheriff's office, in Troy, on March 12th.

Ogletree faces charges of felony obstruction, along with misdemeanor battery, arising from the alleged altercation he had with the campus security officer.

As for officer Buckingham, Chief Whetstine says he continues to suffer from his fractured left shoulder(Play Audio :11 seconds)

Clayter, meanwhile, faces a laundry list of charges including aggravated battery on a law enforcement officer, aggravated escape from custody, as well as drug charges.

All totaled, he is charged with seven felonies and one misdemeanor.