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Crime Blog

City Council approves \$500,000 settlement for motorcyclist whose beating was caught on police dash-cam



Matt Peterson

Published: May 23, 2012 11:25 am

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The Dallas City Council today voted to pay \$500,000 to settle a federal civil rights lawsuit in the alleged beating by police officers of a motorcyclist who fled from them.

The September 2010 chase involving motorcyclist Andrew Collins was captured on the dashboard cameras of the responding officers, Paul Bauer, Henry Duetsch and Kevin Randolph, all of whom were fired after the incident.

The City Council approved the settlement this morning without discussion. A city attorney has declined to comment on the case.

“It was a good resolution to a bad situation,” said Collins’ attorney, Don Tittle. “It was an acknowledgment from the city that Mr. Collins’ civil rights had been seriously violated.”

Criminal charges are pending against the three former officers. An attorney for Randolph said the city was settling for “political reasons”

About this Blog

Criminal justice reporters, editors and invited guests provide news and analysis impacting Dallas-area police, courts, fire and other public safety issues and entities. Readers are encouraged to join the conversation.



and maintained his client’s innocence.

Read an account of the 2010 incident from staff writer Tanya Eiserer after the jump and watch raw video of the chase from NBC5 below (warning, it includes some profane language):



View more videos at: <http://nbcdfw.com>.

According to police, Bauer and Randolph spotted Collins riding his motorcycle on a South Dallas sidewalk. He fled from them. A police sergeant ordered the officers not to give chase, but they ignored the order, authorities have said.

The chase ended a short distance later when a patrol car clipped Collins’ motorcycle. An offense report written by Randolph did not indicate that the squad car had hit Collins. Instead, it stated that the officers simply found him “wrecked out.”

According to the lawsuit, Collins dropped to the ground and spread his arms and legs and was not resisting when officers tried to take him into custody.

Dash-cam footage showed Randolph striking Collins at least four times with his baton and Bauer hitting him with his fists and knee. The officers accused Collins of resisting arrest and said they hit him to get him under control.

A short time later, Duetsch arrived at the scene. Another car’s video showed Duetsch adjusting a camera, allegedly in an effort to conceal a portion of the arrest.

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