



# Oak Brook Police Department

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Glen Ellyn Woman Sentenced After Pleading Guilty to Attempting to File a False Police Report**

**Oak Brook, IL— February 23, 2015.** Sarena Dower, a resident of Glen Ellyn, has pled guilty to Attempt Disorderly Conduct for filing a false complaint with the Oak Brook Police Department.

On September 1, 2014 at approximately 8:11PM Sarena Dower was arrested for operating a motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license. Dower was transported to the police department where she was cited and released.

Dower subsequently filed a complaint with the police department alleging the officer utilized excessive force. In her complaint, Dower stated that after she exited her vehicle the officer pushed her to the ground in front of her four year old daughter and boyfriend. Additionally, she stated that while at the police department the officer pushed her into a wall. Dower alleged she was mistreated by the officer as a result of her race.

The Oak Brook Police Department completed a thorough internal investigation, to include a review of the in-car video recording as well as a review of all video recordings within the police department. Based on the investigation and the video recordings it is clear the alleged behavior did not occur. The complaint was closed as "Unfounded".

On October 16, 2014, the Oak Brook Department appeared before the Honorable Judge MacKay and obtained a warrant for "Attempt Disorderly Conduct" in that Dower filed a false complaint.

The warrant was served on October 22, 2014 and Dower was released after posting \$250 bond.

On February 10, 2015 Sarena Dower appeared before the Honorable Judge Mitton and entered a plea of guilty. Dower was sentenced to pay a fine of \$497, complete forty (40) hours of community service and write a letter of apology to the arresting officer.

"It is vital we investigate every complaint to insure the integrity of our department. It is also equally important that we protect our officers from false accusations so that their rights are protected as well." said Chief James Kruger. "I appreciate Ms. Dower's statement of contrition

and hope it serves as an example to others that may feel it advantageous to allege false complaints on a police officer.”



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