

Don't You DARE Scare A Police Officer!

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'Last Friday, the Encintas station of the San Diego County Sheriff's Department wrote another chapter in the annals of law enforcement overkill by dispatching an eight-man force, augmented by a helicopter, to deal with a spurious noise complaint prompted by a congressional fund-raising party in nearby Cardiff.

According to guests, the reception for candidate Francine Busby — which attracted about thirty people, most of them comfortably into middle age and none of them particularly boisterous by nature — was interrupted by “a vulgar person shouting obscenities from behind the bushes.” Someone, most likely the heckler in question, called in a noise complaint.

The Sheriff's Office dispatched the large force under the command of Deputy Marshall Abbott, who has been with the force for about two years and, as we'll see, displays the perverse eagerness to escalate a confrontation that is a persistent trait among younger law enforcement personnel.

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