



HAROLD F. PRYOR
STATE ATTORNEY
SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA
BROWARD COUNTY COURTHOUSE

201 SE SIXTH STREET, WEST WING SUITE 7130, FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301-3360

PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

Contact Ms Williams at (954) 831-7228 / PRrequests@sao17.state.fl.us

Requestor : **MEDIA MEDIA**

Company :

Address :

City, State, Zip

Email:

Request Reference #: **32716**

Phone:

Fax:

Date: **6/6/2025**

Pursuant to Chapter 119, Florida Statutes, request is made for:

Request Type: **COPIES**

Record Type: **Public Records Request**

Defendant:

CtNum: **23001820CF10A**

Description : **COPY OF MEMOS**

YOU ARE ADVISED that the State Attorney's Office is not the custodian of the official court records. The records you have requested are only those in the custody of the State Attorney, subject to all legal exceptions and/or redactions. For a copy of the complete and official record and/certified copies, contact the office of Brenda Forman, Clerk of the Court, 17th Judicial Circuit of Florida, at (954) 831-6565

(For SAO use only)

Letter acknowledging request sent by _____	Date _____
Active Discovery provided by _____	Date _____
Reviewed/Redacted by _____	Date _____
Approved/Disapproved by <u>ASA</u> _____	Date <u>6/6/25</u>
File unable to be located by Unit _____	Date _____

See Notes/Exemptions/Redactions indicated below

Request Withdrawn--Date _____ SAO has no record as requested _____

SAO record was destroyed per §119.021(2)(d),

Notes/Exemptions from Public Record Disclosure (For Reviewing ASA use only)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attorney notes are not Public Record and are never subject to disclosure- confidential and exempt, Lopez v. State 696 So. 2d 725 (Fla. 1997); Valle v. State, 705 So.2d 1331 (Fla. 1997); Arbelaez v. State, 775 So. 2d 909 (Fla.2000) | <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health records => exempt, §394.4615(1), FS; §456.057, FS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Confession by Defendant on active cases=> exempt, §119.071(2)(e), FS | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal victim information in cases of sexual offense, child abuse, lewd & lascivious offense=> exempt, §119.071(2)(h), FS; §794.024 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bank account numbers, debit, charge and credit account numbers and social security numbers=>exempt, § 119.071(5)(a), FS; § 119.071(5)(b), FS; § 119.074(1)(j), 2(e), and 3 (b), F.S. | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal assets of crime victim=> exempt, §119.071(2)(i), FS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biometric ID Information=>exempt, §119.071(5)(g), FS | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Records=> exempt, §395.3025(4), FS; §395.3025(8), FS; §456.057, FS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Information revealing ID of undercover personnel of any criminal justice agency exempt, §119.071(4)(c) F.S. | <input type="checkbox"/> PSI, PTI, pre-plea, post-sentence investigative records=> exempt, §945.10(1)(b), FS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Defendant not entitled to free copy of file=> Roesch v. State, 633 So. 2d 1 (Fla. 1993) | <input type="checkbox"/> Reports of abuse of vulnerable adult=> exempt, §415.107, FS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal History Data=> exempt, §943.0525, FS | <input type="checkbox"/> Department of Children & Families Reports of child abuse=> exempt, §39.0132(4)(a), FS; §39.202, FS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Department of Corrections Records & Investigations=> exempt, §945.10, FS | <input type="checkbox"/> School records=> exempt, §1002.221, FS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Autopsy Photographs=> exempt, §406.135(1), FS | <input type="checkbox"/> Photograph of victim of sexual offense=> exempt, §119.071(2)(h) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> E.M.S. Reports=> exempt, §395.51, FS | <input type="checkbox"/> Home Addresses, etc., of current or former prosecutors, law enforcement personnel, firefighters, judges and code inspectors=> exempt, §119.071(4)(d)2, FS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Information which may identify a caller requesting or reporting "911" emergency service confidential and exempt=>exempt, §365.171(12)(a), FS | <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic Crash Report exempt for 60 days after report is filed=>exempt, §316.066(5)(a), FS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Records=>exempt, §985.04, FS | <input type="checkbox"/> Videotaped statement of minor victim of sexual battery=>exempt, §119.071(j)2.a., FS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drivers License digital imaging=> exempt, §322.142(4), FS | <input type="checkbox"/> DL and DMV records=>exempt, §119.0712(2), FS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Security video/surveillance exempt and confidential==>F.S. 119.071(3)(a) | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo/video/audio recording that depicts or records the killing of a human being=>exempt, F.S. 406.136 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy Records=>exempt, §465.017(2) | <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Tax Information=>exempt- 26 USC 6103 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Telecommunications records=>exempt, §119.071(5)(d) | <input type="checkbox"/> Witness to a murder- personal information ==>exempt §119.071(2)(m), FS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Article I Section 16 of the Florida Constitution | <input type="checkbox"/> B.W.C- exempt and confidential F.S. 119.071(2)(l)(2) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic citations => FL ST § 316.650(11) | <input type="checkbox"/> Active criminal intelligence information and active criminal investigative information ==> §119.071(2)(c)1, and §119.011(3); see also, Florida Attorney General Advisory Legal Opinion 91-74 (AGO 91-74), dated October 1, 1991 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Active criminal intelligence information and active criminal investigative information ==> §119.071(2)(c)1, §119.011(3)(a)(b), §119.011(3)(c)5, and §119.011(3)(d)2; see also, Satz v. Blankenship, 407 So.2d 396 (Fla. 4th DCA 1981);and Tribune Co. v. Public Records, 493 So.2d 480(Fla. 2nd DCA 1986) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other exemptions=> _____ |



HAROLD F. PRYOR
STATE ATTORNEY
SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA
BROWARD COUNTY COURTHOUSE
201 S.E. SIXTH STREET
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301-3360

PHONE (954) 831-6955

June 5, 2025

RE: State of Florida v. Samantha Caputo, 23-1820CF10A

State Attorney Pryor:

At your request, I am writing this brief memorandum to explain my knowledge and interaction regarding the incident involving Samantha Caputo that occurred while in the Broward County Jail on October 4, 2022. Caputo had been arrested a few hours prior for an alleged DUI and was in the process of being booked. During that DUI investigation, Caputo admitted to taking a prescribed medication and agreed to provide a breath sample and a urine sample. Her breath alcohol sample was .000. Her urine sample was positive only for the prescribed medication and the State's expert opined that Caputo would not have been legally impaired based on that result.

On April 18, 2024, ASA Taryn Stein contacted me via email, as I was out of the office. She copied me on a motion to dismiss filed by the Roderman & Johnston Law Firm related to case 23-1820CF10A. The motion to dismiss alleged "outrageous government misconduct" by the BSO detention personnel and that Caputo was using self-defense in response to a battery being committed on her through the use of excessive force. A person is allowed to resist the use of excessive force by law enforcement. *State v. Holley*, 480 So.2d 96 (Fla. 1985).

On April 22, 2024, I was able to view the relevant video footage from the jail. In my opinion, Caputo's act of tossing a cloth undergarment towards the custodial officer in response to their demand that she remove the undergarment did not justify three officers immediately assaulting and battering Caputo who was inside a jail cell type room and who was not otherwise resisting arrest, threatening to use violence, nor using violence against the officers. Her booking photo reflects a black eye that was inflicted during the battery. It was my opinion that the officers used excessive force and that the defendant's motion to dismiss should be granted for that reason.

On April 23, 2024, ASA Stein announced a nolle prosequi of the single charge of Battery LEO based on our shared review of the facts, video and law. The deviation memorandum was completed and signed on September 30, 2024. It is attached to this letter.

On April 23, 2024, I notified Chief Deputy ASA Faulk and ASAIC of PCU Julio Gonzalez of my concerns and forwarded them emails relevant to my review of the case. The case file, motion and video were forwarded to PCU for their review. My only other involvement was responding to an email inquiry from Mr. Roderman to PCU on September 9, 2024, explaining that the Clerk would have automatically sealed case 23-1820CF10A from public view after the nolle prosequi pursuant to F.S. 943.0595.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Paul R. Valcore

Paul R. Valcore, ASAIC FTU



HAROLD F. PRYOR
STATE ATTORNEY
SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA
BROWARD COUNTY COURTHOUSE
201 S.E. SIXTH STREET
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301-3360

PHONE (954) 831-6955

SENTENCING DEVIATION MEMORANDUM

TO: ASAIC, FTU
FROM: Taryn Stein
ASA, Division FO
DATE: 9/27/2024
RE: State of Florida v. Samantha Caputo
Case No. 23001820CF10A
Judge Farmer, Jr.
Charge(s): 1. Battery Law Enforcement Officer
Date of COC/Sentencing: 4/23/2024

On or about October 4, 2022, the Defendant was arrested for Driving Under the Influence. She was booked at the Main jail, pat-searched and escorted into Search Cell 2. While inside Search Cell 2, the Defendant was instructed to change into the jail issued uniform. The Deputies exited the cell to allow her time to change. She changed into the jail garb, but she refused to remove her cloth bra. After being told to remove her undergarment for the third time, she threw it at the Deputy, who became angry and a scuffle immediately ensued between the two. Other BSO personnel entered the cell to assist. It was not clear what transpired after the Deputies continued to try to subdue the Defendant because the camera angle in the cell does not capture that portion of the room, but the Defendant suffered facial bruising. The Deputy deployed BSO-issued pepper spray foam and ultimately used the BSO-issued Taser aimed at the Defendant's side, however, the taser never properly connected. The Deputy claimed that the Defendant bit her right thumb, but the video does not capture that action.

Because the Defendant's actions were not visible on video surveillance, the reaction by the Deputy at a cloth garment being tossed at her, and the DUI charge which was the basis for the arrest was not filed by the State, undersigned Counsel reviewed the case with ASAIC Paul Valcore. It was determined that there was no reasonable likelihood of conviction at a jury trial. Therefore, the State announced a Nolle Prosequi on April 23, 2024.

/s/ Taryn Stein
Taryn Stein
Assistant State Attorney

Paul R. Valcore
Digitally signed by Paul R. Valcore
Date: 2024.09.30 11:23:57 -04'00'

Paul Valcore
FTU ASAIC



HAROLD F. PRYOR
STATE ATTORNEY
SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA
BROWARD COUNTY COURTHOUSE
201 S.E. SIXTH STREET
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301-3360

PHONE (954) 831-3565

NOLLE PROSEQUI MEMORANDUM

TO: FILE

FROM: LISA WILLIAMS,
ASSISTANT STATE ATTORNEY
COUNTY COURT DIVISION

DATE: June 23, 2023

RE: State of Florida vs. Samantha J. Caputo
Case No. 22-013145MU10A
Judge: Phoebee Francois
Victim(s): State of Florida
Date of Original Charge: 10/04/2022
Original Charge(s): I. DUI

On October 4, 2022, officer Jose Guzman was conducting routine traffic enforcement when he observed that the defendant's vehicle had suddenly stopped in the middle of the roadway causing another vehicle travelling at its rear to slam its brakes and take evasive maneuvers to avoid a rear-end collision. Based on this observation, Deputy Guzman conducted a traffic stop of the defendant's vehicle. Upon making contact with the defendant, Deputy Guzman observed signs of impairment such as glossy red eyes, slurred speech, and the defendant appeared disoriented and lethargic. The defendant was asked if she had any alcoholic beverages tonight and she advised that she does not drink. The defendant advised that the medication she takes, Dextroamp - Amphetamin 20 MG, is legally prescribed to her. Based on his observations, Deputy Guzman asked the defendant if she would perform FSEs and she consented. Subsequently, Deputy Guzman determined that he had probable cause to arrest the defendant for DUI. After being handcuffed, the defendant was asked to submit to a breath test to which she consented. The defendant blew 0.00 and 0.00 respectively. Deputy Guzman concluded that the breath test did not reflect the signs of impairment observed. As a result, the defendant was asked to provide urine and she consented. The urine samples were taken to the Broward Medical Examiners' Office for testing. The urine showed positive results for Amphetamine (prescription, controlled substance).

On May 19, 2023, the undersigned ASA had a telephone conference with Dr. Lisa Reidy of the Forensic Toxicology Laboratory, Department of Pathology at University of Miami, Miller School of Medicine. Dr. Reidy advised that the type of drug found in the defendant's system was not consistent with impairment. She also advised that the defendant's prescribed medication was a stimulant and it was not consistent with the

defendant's behavior on the night of the stop.

Based upon the foregoing, the State had neither alcohol nor a quantity of a controlled substance to move forward. As a result, the undersigned ASA announced a Nolle Prosequi on the record.

I Spoke with ASAIC Margaret Carpenter
and she authorized the Nolle Prosequi.

Lisa Williams

LISA WILLIAMS
ASSISTANT STATE ATTORNEY

Margaret Carpenter
MARGARET CARPENTER
~~SENIOR~~ ASSISTANT STATE ATTORNEY in charge MTU