



F & M's Bumbling Security Made 15+ Mistakes on One Arrest!

NewsLanc asked a retired ranking police officer to critique the performance of Franklin & Marshall's private security force's response to a call from the residence of college president John Fry concerning alleged trespassers. Below is a list of their reckless unprofessionalism:

1. Unsafe response – should have been Code 1 or Code 2, certainly not Code 3 (lights, siren, screeching tires – endangers other citizens and officers).

2. Over response – just a trespass – 6 officers? Two should have been enough (even one) – more could have been called if needed for back up. With six officers on scene, who was protecting the rest of the campus?

3. If situation was “hot” – first on-scene officer should have gone to the house to protect victims and ascertain their safety well-being, then make arrest. Officers always protect the victims first – good police work will catch the perpetrators later.

4. Christiaan Hart Nibbrig should never have been arrested (handcuffed, transported to F&M Security). At most, he should have been stopped, identity ascertained, and released on scene.

5. Ron Harper, Jr.'s camera should not have been ordered to be turned off – would the F&M cops order Tom Brokaw's cameraman to turn off his camera?

6. Even if Harper had provoked the cops, that is no reason to escalate. Private public Service

Officers (PSO) should be trained professionals, able to handle provocation without overreaction.

7. Why didn't PSO request involvement of Lancaster Police Department?

8. *NewsLanc* questions that this was a legal arrest because it was not on campus and not protecting children/old person, which seem to be the limits set for special police by statute.

9. Harper should not have been manhandled. Even if he had resisted, he should have been charged with resisting arrest.

10. Harper should not have been injured. There were too many officers there to allow this to happen. Even if he were being a loud mouth (which the video shows was not the case), it would be no reason to shove him to the ground or allow him to be hurt. The officers are there to protect everyone – both victims and perpetrators. It was a failure that Harper was hurt.

11. Harper should not have been patted down/searched 3 times. One touch of the genitals is enough. If there wasn't a weapon there the first time, it would not be there the second or third time.

12. Improper charges filed by F&M on citations demonstrate lack of knowledge of proper police procedures –raising further questions about nature of their training.

(Continued on back)

13. Fry should have minimally ordered suspension of Sergeant on scene. (I'd have fired him.) Full investigation should have been announced and be ongoing – if not completed by now.

14. There was no reason for Harper and Hart Nibbrig to be held for two hours for processing. This is an excessive amount of time to get basic information. (Hart Nibbrig should never have been arrested, detained, transported...F&M could not explain why he was arrested – this is likely a false arrest.)

15. Treatment by Public Service Officers seems to be inflicting humiliation rather than fair, impartial treatment. (Can PSO's – who are not civil servants –

be fair and impartial, or will they always be on the side of the college?)

16. Harper probably should not have been transported. A citation for Disorderly Conduct could have been issued at the scene. A summons for Defiant Trespass should have been filed.

17. Is holding cell authorized under statute?

18. Does F&M think it can grab anyone and throw them in a holding cell without valid reason and issue Defiant Trespass letter to justify their arrest?

19. *Sunday News* / Gil Smart had it wrong: defiant trespass is a Misdemeanor #1 and not a summary offense as reported.

A Priceless Gift from a Fading Generation

They gathered for the gala opening of the Pennsylvania Music Academy in tuxedos and their fanciest dresses, but devoid of ostentation. Their average age approached 70.

This was Old Lancaster (in age, race and ethnicity) at its best, gathered together for a joyous evening of celebration of something that Lancaster throughout the ages has fooled itself about ... having world class achievements ... but this time knowing that for close to \$30 million dollars it had at last made its mark.

Within seconds of famed violinist Arnold Steinhardt performing “Chaconne” by J. S. Bach, it was clear that what the wife and husband team of Frances Veri and Michael Jamanis had set out to do had been perfectly achieved: Acoustical quality that would seldom be equaled and perhaps never surpassed anyplace else in the world!

The sound was so audible and so pure that even an observer raised on classical music and surrounded by able violinists playing the finest of instruments was uncertain whether the music was amplified. (It wasn't.)

A last minute design change placed a glass

dome over what was to have been a roof top garden. The wisdom of the decision – despite the high cost which was representative of every aspect of the facility – was apparent as the 300 plus enjoyed a late night dinner amidst accolades bestowed by dignitaries upon Veri and Jamanis, and bows taken by some who had made especially noteworthy contributions of talent and money to make the Academy possible.

What was celebrated Wednesday night was not so much the culmination of the seven year dream of Veri and Jamanis and members of the Board, remembered or still with us, but the cornerstone of a future campus that, with continued support of government and individuals, can transfer Lancaster City into one of the foremost music campuses and cultural centers in the country.

Unlike what will likely follow in another year with the opening of another extravaganza – that one of questionable utility – there were no discordant murmurs here, no alienated part of the community noticeable by its absence.

Wednesday night, we could all be proud to be from Lancaster.

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