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PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY POLICE OFFICER DARRYL WORMUTH SENTENCED ON SECOND-DEGREE ASSAULT AND MISCONDUCT IN OFFICE

UPPER MARLBORO, MD – Today, a Prince George's County judge sentenced Corporal Darryl Wormuth to five years and suspend all but 45 days.

This stems from an incident that occurred on October 20, 2020, in which Corporal Wormuth violently grabbed a 17-year-old boy around the neck and hit him with an open hand in that area while he was in handcuffs. The victim was compliant and being escorted by another officer who had taken him into custody. The incident was captured on a police helicopter video. On May 2, 2023, 45-year-old Wormuth was convicted of second-degree assault and misconduct in office.

During the sentencing hearing, prosecutors presented racist text messages from Cpl. Wormuth to several chat groups and community members as examples of his character.

“This case is about unnecessary force used against an innocent and compliant victim,” said State's Attorney Aisha Braveboy. “The victim was with friends when he was assaulted by Corporal Wormuth. But the bottom line is that Cpl. Wormuth has been held accountable for his actions today. It is truly worrisome when an officer, who takes an oath to protect and serve the community, commits a crime like this. At the same time, I applaud the brave officers who understood that Cpl. Wormuth's actions were criminal. They came forward to report his actions and subsequently testified against him. I also want to thank and acknowledge the Chief of our Public Integrity Unit, Joel Patterson, for his dedication and hard work on this case. I created that unit when I took office in 2019 to handle cases just like this and they have done so successfully time and time again.” Wormuth has been with the police department since 2007 and is currently suspended.

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