

Marion County Prosecutor's Office



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Media Release:

January 31, 2022

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IMPD Officer Robert Lawson sentenced for reporting false information during 2019 incident with a student

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. – Marion County Prosecutor Ryan Mears announced that Robert Lawson, an IMPD Officer, has been sentenced to 363 days of probation after being convicted of multiple felony charges after an altercation with a 17-year-old student outside Shortridge High School in 2019. In November, a jury convicted Lawson of Official Misconduct (Level 6 Felony), Perjury (Level 6 Felony), and False Informing (Class B Misdemeanor). The altercation was captured on video by a third party at the scene.

Lawson's conviction stems from false statements in a sworn affidavit signed under oath about the altercation he had with the student. The statements contradicted video footage of the incident. Further, Lawson falsely reported an observation of another officer who witnessed the incident.

"The actions of this individual go against the values of our institutions and erode the public trust we are working to cultivate," said Prosecutor Mears. "The jury's verdict sent a message that this type of behavior will not be tolerated in our community."

The jury acquitted Lawson of Battery (A Misdemeanor) and was unable to reach a verdict on the charge of Obstruction of Justice (Level 6 Felony).

Questions regarding the employment status of Lawson should be directed to IMPD.