



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
FOR LINCOLN COUNTY
225 WEST OLIVE STREET, ROOM 100
NEWPORT, OREGON 97365
541-265-4145, FAX 541-265-3461
www.co.lincoln.or.us/da/

JONATHAN CABLE
District Attorney
BRIAN GARDNER
Chief Deputy District Attorney

Press Release:

7/6/2020

The Lincoln County District Attorneys office was made aware of a disturbing incident involving several individuals that occurred on the beach in Lincoln City on July 4, 2020. The individuals involved do not reside in Lincoln County. It included the use of illegal fireworks, taunting of police officers, and ended with the suspects yelling racial slurs. In order to prove a Bias Crime under ORS 166.155 or 166.165, several criteria must be met. Unfortunately using racist or derogatory language is not in itself criminal under Oregon law. There must be offensive physical contact, destruction of property, or threat of serious physical injury to prove Criminal Bias. Thankfully, the quick intervention of the Lincoln City Police officers prevented those things from occurring. We will file the appropriate charges we can prove under the law. The suspects are not in custody due to the Lincoln County Jail's policy related to Covid 19, which has limited the number of charges for which a suspect can be incarcerated pretrial.

Prosecutors from the Lincoln County District Attorney's office were in communication with the officers on the night this occurred. It should be noted that the Lincoln City Police were cheered and applauded by numerous witnesses and did a great job in keeping the victims safe. Our office has spoken to the victims several times since this incident.

The behavior alleged will not be tolerated in this community and should not be anywhere.


Jonathan H. Cable

Lincoln County District Attorney