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DA's Office to Charge Police Officer with Battery

Today, the Clark County District Attorney's Office charged Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Officer Richard Scavone with one count of misdemeanor Battery.

On January 6, 2015, at approximately 5:00 am, in the area of Tropicana and I-15, Officer Scavone identified a woman who was loitering, apparently for the purpose of prostitution. He pulled his patrol vehicle near her and told her that she was loitering and needed to move along. She responded by throwing her cup of coffee over her shoulder, not in the direction of the officer, and refused to leave the area. Officer Scavone exited his vehicle and approached the woman.

While detaining the female, Officer Scavone used force and violence against her, which was not justified or required for purposes of his investigation. As a result, the Clark County District Attorney's Office is charging Officer Scavone with one count of misdemeanor Battery for the unlawful use of force.

"My office has reviewed the available evidence and believes that the charge of Battery is appropriate, in light of the circumstances," said District Attorney Steve Wolfson. "Police officers deal with a wide variety of situations, and the vast majority handle themselves in a professional and appropriate manner. For those who take it too far, there are consequences".