



Councilwoman: I was threatened

Blackmon-Brace files Aug. 22 police report

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A Lancaster City Council member filed a police report last week saying she was threatened by a woman on Arch Street. Councilwoman Linda Blackmon-Brace said she was at her foundation office about 12:20 p.m. Aug. 22, when a woman parked her vehicle at Kirk's Quick Stop and walked across the street to the foundation, according to a Lancaster Police Department incident report. The foundation is at 701 E. Arch St.

Blackmon-Brace said she was outside washing political campaign signs with two other people when the woman began talking to Blackmon-Brace about an issue involving President Barack Obama campaign posters at Mandy Powers Norrell's office on Main Street, the report said.

Blackmon-Brace told police that the woman began to get loud while raising her arms and yelling profanity-laden threats toward her. "At this time, Ms. Blackmon-Brace stated (the woman) started getting closer to her with campaign posters in her hand," the report said. "Ms. Blackmon-Brace told (the woman) to drop the posters on the ground and leave. (The woman) complied and left the foundation."

No arrests were made and no charges were filed.

Related incident?

A day before – on Aug. 21 – an officer came to Norrell and Powers-Norrell LLC in response to a reported disturbance there.

The office, at 206 S. Main St., is serving as a headquarters for the Lancaster County Democratic Party.

A witness said a man called the office asking why there were no Obama posters hanging up, according to an incident report.

The witness said the man would need to speak with the campaign manager, who wasn't at the office at the time.

The man came by the office the next day, saying he wanted Obama posters hung in the windows. But the campaign manager said that wasn't possible, the report said.

The man became agitated and loud, saying he would spread rumors and "slander" Powers Norrell because of this, the report said. Norrell is a local attorney who is this year's Democratic nominee for the S.C. House 44 seat.

The campaign manager and the witness told the man to leave. He did so, while leaving the posters behind.

The campaign manager said she wondered where the man was headed, so she followed him. She said he wound up at Blackmon-Brace's foundation building on East Arch Street, the report said.

Norrell told police she didn't wish to pursue charges against the man.

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