Fight breaks out at polling place



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HIDE TRANSCRIPT

WEBVTT HERE IS JIMMIE JOHNSON WITH THE LATEST. JIMMIE: IT WAS A MATTER OF SECONDS WHEN JUPITER POLICE ARRIVED TO CALL OF A FIGHT OUTSIDE A POLLING LOCATION. WITNESSES TELL ME IT STARTED OFF A VERBAL ALTERCATION AND ESCALATED INTO FIGHT REPUBLICAN SUPPORTERS WERE PASSING OUT CAMPAIGN MATERIALS WHEN A VOTER DID NOT TAKE THEIR SOLICITING VERY WILL. CAMPAIGN PEOPLE, APPROACHING, JIMMIE: A MAN AND WOMAN EXCHANGING VERBAL BARBS. THE MAN WOULD THEN WENT INSI TO CAST HIS BALLOT. WHEN HE RETURNED, THE TWO CLASHED AGAIN. TOM: SHE'S TALKING TO SOMEBODY ELSE AND SAYS, "THAT'S LITTLE MAN. YEAH. "THAT'S LITTLE MAN" AND A DEROGATORY TERM THAT I WON'T REPEAT ON TV. DONNA: HE THEN TURNS AROUND AND SAW ME AND CAME CHARGING AT ME. TOM: AND SPRAYED ME WITH PEPPER SPRAY. AT THE POINT I WENT AFTER HER AND KNOCKED EVERYTHING OUT HER HANDS. DONNA: HE THEN THREW ME DOWN AND STARTED PUNCHING ME. JIMMIE: VOTERS WE TALKED TO WERE SHOCKED THAT THIS HAPPENED AT THEIR POLLING PLACE. >> I BELIEVE EVERYBODY HAS A RIGHT TO VOTE. THIS IS AMERICA. BY THE GRACE OF GOD WE HAVE OUR FREEDOM.

Fight breaks out at polling place

Fight broke out at Jupiter Community Center



Updated: 3:19 PM EST Nov 8, 2016

Jimmie Johnson f 🎔 🖂

Fight breaks out at polling place



WPBF 25 News crews had just pulled up to the Jupiter Community Center to talk with voters when they heard loud screams followed by police sirens.

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Jupiter police said a fight broke out between a voter and a campaign volunteer.

Witnesses said Republican supporters were passing out campaign material, and when a voter did not take their soliciting very well.

"Campaign people were approaching people walking into the building, I don't know if he got too close to her or not," said Dave Mareiniss, who had just finished voting.

Voter Tom Garrecht said he clashed with Donna Tatlici as he was leaving the polls. "She's talking to somebody else and says, 'That's a little man. Yeah. That's a little man,' and a derogatory term that I will won't repeat on TV," said Garrecht.

"He then turns around and saw me and came charging at me," said Tatlici.

"And (she) sprayed me with pepper spray. At the point I went after her and knocked everything out (of) her hands," said Garrecht.

"He then threw me down and started punching me," said Tatlici.

Voters who arrived after the election showdown shocked were surprised to hear what happened at their polling place.

"I believe that everybody has the right to vote and believe in. This is America. We happen by the grace of God. We have our opinion. It should never get to this," said voter Annette Lumetta.

Neither party was arrested at the scene, but Garrecht said Jupiter police told him that he will likely be charged with assault.