

I went to the Harris Teeter at Barracks Road and bought cookie dough and ice cream for my sorority's philanthropy event, as well as another club's philanthropy. Two of my roommates were with me and they purchased some basic grocery items as well.

After entering my car to go back to our apartment we were approached by what I now know were a number of undercover ABC agents. They were showing unidentifiable badges after they approached us, but we became frightened, as they were not in anything close to a uniform. I couldn't put my windows down unless I started my car, and when I started my car they began yelling to not move the car, not to start the car. They began trying to break the windows. My roommates and I were now terrified. We called 911, as we have been taught to do if you were ever unsure of the validity of people saying they are law enforcement. I then began to try to pull away. One of the men then drew a gun in plain view of all three of us. Our panic heightened. We felt we had to get out of the immediate surroundings and were going to drive to the police station. Eventually the 911 operator confirmed they were legitimate. I stopped at the stop light just outside the parking lot at which time an unmarked car pulled in front of me. I was arrested.

As the facts clearly show we did not possess or purchase any alcoholic beverages. I would like to state, not that it should matter, I personally do not, nor have I ever consumed alcohol.

This has been an extremely trying experience and one that has called into question what I value most: my integrity, honor and character. It is something to this day I cannot understand or believe has come to this point. Cookie dough and ice cream for a fundraiser should not put you through an extremely degrading night and afternoon in jail, appearing in court, posting bond, having to pay an attorney, missing school, social and family functions, not allowed to leave the state, causing you endless nights of no sleep, effecting your school work and final exams, wondering if you would be dismissed from school, wondering how this would damage your reputation and ability to get a job, all while waiting on pins and needles to see what the Commonwealth is going to offer you.

Today I was afraid that I would have to trade some of what I value most in my life to make this nightmare go away and try to get back to normal. Thankfully the charges were completely dropped, and on paper I have been exonerated. The reality of the matter is what I mentioned previously as having experienced and that is not just forgotten by today's results.

To end on a positive thought I would like to thank the University and members of the Deans Office who have been very supportive of both my family and me during this incident; I appreciate this fact very much.

Thank you - Elizabeth K. Daly