



MARION COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Media Release

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PRINCIPAL ARRESTED FOR AGGRAVATED CHILD ABUSE AND FALSE IMPRISONMENT

MARION COUNTY, Florida [Monday, May 13, 2024] - On Saturday, May 11, 2024, Deputy Bailey of the Marion County Sheriff's Office arrested Dontay Akeem Prophet (DOB: 03/27/1991) for Aggravated Child Abuse and False Imprisonment of a Child Under 13 Years of Age.

The arrest follows an incident that occurred on Friday, May 10, 2024, at Destiny Leadership Academy on N. US Highway 441. Deputy Bailey responded to a call for service regarding a physical disturbance between a student and the principal. During the investigation, surveillance footage from the classroom was obtained, revealing Prophet preventing the child from leaving the room for over 40 minutes. Surveillance footage captured him grabbing the victim, restraining him on the ground, and employing a choke hold. Prophet can be seen on camera using a charging cable to strike the child, causing the child to fall and sustain injuries. Additionally, Prophet twisted the child's ankle, slapped the child in the face, and subjected him to further physical abuse.

Upon questioning by Deputy Bailey, Prophet claimed the altercation was an attempt to prevent harm to the child. However, the evidence clearly contradicted this assertion. Prophet was subsequently arrested and transported to the Marion County Jail, where he is being held without bond.

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Sheriff Billy Woods
Sheriff of Marion County