



City of Edmonds News Release

Edmonds Police Department ~ 250 5th Avenue North

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 6, 2024

To: Media

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WOMAN ARRESTED FOR ASSAULT AGAINST POLITICAL SUPPORTERS

The 82-year-old woman was booked for a Hate Crime and Assault

(Edmonds - WA)

An Edmonds woman was arrested Monday (11/4) afternoon for a Hate Crime after assaulting two women who were rallying in support of a conservative political figure near 100th Avenue West and Edmonds Way. During the incident, the suspect indicated the race of the victims, and their political beliefs were the catalyst for her approaching and yelling at them about their views before the assault. The suspect was booked into the Snohomish County Jail.

Officers were called to the scene just before 1:00pm for a report of an assault. Officers arrived to find multiple community members supporting a specific political figure. They also observed the suspect engaging with these supporters. When officers contacted the suspect, she stated that she could not understand why people of color would support this particular candidate. The suspect was very animated and even attempted to push an officer while demonstrating how she had acted.

Officers interviewed a 55-year-old female victim from Edmonds victim who stated that the suspect had gotten into her face as she was rallying in support of her chosen candidate. The suspect commented on the victim's attire and skin color before the suspect pushed the victim and punched her in the chin. A second victim, a 66-year-old Edmonds woman, intervened and stepped between the suspect and the first victim. The suspect responded by punching her as well. Officers also interviewed multiple witnesses to the incident. Neither victim suffered significant injury nor required medical treatment.

Investigating officers established probable cause for a Hate Crime arrest under RCW 9A.36.080. The suspect continued to show no remorse for the incident and the potential to continue her behavior toward others. A patrol supervisor approved the suspect's booking into the Snohomish County Jail.

Chief Bennett: *"The constitution protects peaceful rallies in our community, and community members should never be met with violence while exercising those rights. Our officers properly determined that this was more than just an assault and arrested the suspect for the appropriate charge."*

Mayor Rosen: *"I'm disheartened that this violence has occurred in our community. Elections are an important part of society, and freedom of expression is the foundation on which democracy is built. Community members peacefully showing political support should not be subject to hateful violence. I'm thankful there were no serious injuries, and the suspect was held accountable."*

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