

**Mr. Tormey Gets Charges
Dismissed Against a
Young Man Accused of Punching
A Middle-aged Woman
During a Dispute in a Parking Lot**

On October 9, 2024, a young man, J.A., was arrested and charged with assault for punching a middle-aged woman in the face, causing her a serious eye injury with significant bleeding. The woman said that the young man punched her after she criticized him for recklessly driving his car into a supermarket parking lot and hastily pulling into an empty parking space.

The young man said he pulled into a space, exited his car, and proceeded towards the supermarket when the woman started yelling and cursing at him. Unsure of why the woman was behaving this way, the young man responded by giving her a hand gesture. The woman grew even angrier and cursed louder at the young man. She then claimed that the young man spat at her just before walking towards the store entrance.

Enraged, the woman drove her car at the young man but stopped short before contacting him. He again turned to her, and the two people exchanged words just before the young man turned and walked away.

Suddenly, the woman jumped out of the car, and ran towards the young man. The woman claimed that as she approached the young man to ask him why he was acting this way, the young man punched her in the face, knocking her to the ground.

A store employee called the police, who arrested the young man within minutes of their arrival at the scene.

After his arrest, J.A. hired Mr. Tormey, who immediately went to work investigating the case, obtaining all video footage of the incident in the parking lot as well as the police body-worn camera footage. After reviewing all the recordings, Mr. Tormey determined that there was an independent eyewitness who told the police that J.A. was innocent and was merely defending himself after the woman struck him several times. The prosecution never disclosed this witness to the defense.

Mr. Tormey then showed the prosecution that he had discovered the independent eyewitness who exculpated the young man. Upon learning of Mr. Tormey's discovery, the prosecution agreed to dismiss the case against the young J.A.

Mr. Tormey's dogged investigative skills and his understanding of the requirements imposed on the prosecution, resulted in an innocent man being set free.