

City of Richmond, California  
 Community Police Review Commission  
**PUBLIC CASE SUMMARY**

Case #	Date Received	Date Completed
2020-7 (Castellanos)	9/11/2020	2/3/2021

**CATEGORY OF CONDUCT:** (check one)

Unnecessary Force	Racial Bias
<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>

**FINDING OF FACT:** (brief summary of complaint and investigation)

On May 31, 2020, Richmond Police Sergeant A responded to a motorist who flagged him down to report graffiti vandalism by two male Latino youth at MacDonald Avenue and 20th Street. Upon seeing the patrol car, the youth fled across the street and into Castellano’s residence, as Sgt. A pursued them in his car and then on foot. Sgt. A observed what appeared to be a handgun in the youth’s pocket. Castellanos responded to Sgt. A’s arrival at her residence by physically pushing him away from her door and trying to interfere with his questioning of her son. When Officer B arrived and began walking toward Sgt. A and Castellanos, she quickly walked toward Katz, yelling in Spanish, met him just off the curb, and put her hands on Officer B’s body, trying to prevent him from getting to Sgt. A. Officer B pushed Castellanos back with the side of his baton, and continued advancing onto the curb. Castellanos was pushed by Officer B’s baton onto the curb, then fell to the left and backward against a car, next to Sgt. A and her son. Officer B then grabbed Castellanos by the wrist and tried to pull her away from the car she was resting against, while she struggled against his grip. Officer B spun Castellanos around by her wrist in an 180-degree arc, until her back side slammed against the hood of a car parked immediately behind the other car at the curb. Officer B then pulled Castellanos by the wrist off the car, pulled her wrist behind her back and cuffed it. Office C assisted by trying to get Castellanos’ other wrist behind her back, and eventually succeeded. During the time Officer B and C were trying to cuff Castellanos, she resisted their efforts. Once cuffed, Officers B and C took Castellanos to a patrol car and put her in the rear. She was transported to the police station, cited and released.

Castellanos alleged that the officers used excessive force and racially abused her during this incident. There was no evidence of racially abusive behavior by RPD officers during this incident. The evidence showed that Castellanos offered ongoing and consistent resistance to her own detention, as well as interference with the attempt to detain and question her son. Therefore, the Commission finds that Castellanos’ significant resistance to arrest made escalation of force to the level used reasonable.

**RECOMMENDED FINDINGS:** (check one)

<u>SUSTAINED</u>	<u>NOT-SUSTAINED</u>	<u>UNFOUNDED</u>	<u>EXONERATED</u>
			<u>X</u>