**Alleged Victims Say Cops Harassed Them**

**17 Officers Indicted On Federal Charges**

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**DETROIT --** One of the alleged victims involved in the indictment of 17 Detroit police officers said it was frustrating to be constantly harassed by police and arrested on false charges.

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| **Video** |
| [http://images.ibsys.com/2003/0619/2281873_120X90.jpg](http://www.clickondetroit.com/video/2281904/index.html)[http://www.clickondetroit.com/sh/images/ibs_icon/post/video.gifU.S. Attorney Announces Federal Charges Against Officers](http://www.clickondetroit.com/video/2281904/index.html)[http://www.clickondetroit.com/sh/images/ibs_icon/post/video.gifCouple Says Indicted Officers Harassed Them](http://www.clickondetroit.com/video/2283173/index.html) |

The man said he is happy these cops are finally getting what they deserve.

The officers from the Third and Fourth precincts were in federal court Thursday to face charges including conspiracy, obstruction of justice, robbery, planting evidence and possession of a stolen firearm, according to Local 4 reports. The charges stem from a two-year investigation by the FBI.

Two of the victims who said the officers violated their civil rights spoke to Local 4 Thursday.

Natecia Stanley said she felt violated when officers searched her apartment. She said nothing was there.

"I feel really violated because they were searching my babies," Stanley said.

Stanley is mentioned in the indictment along with her boyfriend Clifton White as two of the people the officers allegedly searched illegally. The officers didn't find anything, but White went to jail anyway, Local 4 reported. He said officers falsified reports saying he had dropped a bag with cocaine.

White's name is in the indictment at least three times. He said Officer William Melendez -- a.k.a. Robocop -- was out to get him.

"Melendez had a personal vendetta against me for something," White said.

White said the officer planted drugs and guns on him.

"I just took him to court and fought it," White said. "I won by the grace of God."

The worst allegation cites an incident when two officers dangled Michael Holt outside a second-story window and tightened a noose around his neck, Local 4 reported.

White and Stanley (pictured, right) said they are glad the cops are being treated as they should be: as criminals.

The couple testified before the federal grand jury that indicted the 17 officers, Local 4 reported.

Formal arraignments for the officers are expected Friday.

One of the officers involved also spoke to Local 4 Thursday. Officer Mark Diaz of the Third Precinct said the charges are not true. He told Local 4's Roger Weber that he would not be walking next to him if they were true.

Detroit Police Chief Jerry Oliver said despite the bad press, this is proof that the department is willing to clean itself up.

"A real slap, I think, to the profession and to the Police Department," Chief Jerry Oliver said. "But on the other hand it speaks volumes about our willingness to work very hard to return the credibility and the prominence of the Detroit Police Department."

Local 4 has learned that the following officers were named in the indictment:

William Melendez
Thomas Turkaly
Matthew Zani
Ricardo Villarruel
Jeffrey Weiss
John McLeod
Troy Bradley
John Watkins
Christopher Ruiz
Denny Borg
Timothy Gilbert
James Coss
Mark Diaz
Stephen Petroff
Jerrod Willis
Nicole Rich
Chris Guinn

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