

# Experts discuss how to handle defiant high school students

Associated Press

COLUMBIA, S.C. — How should adults respond when a teenager defies her teacher?

## WHEN SHOULD OFFICERS INTERVENE?

Police officers are commonly brought into public schools nowadays to maintain safety and deter illegal behavior. But the School Resource Officers' Association says school districts should first agree not to involve officers in classroom discipline.

The Richland County Sheriff's Department has a "memorandum of understanding" delineating when officers should be involved, but the district has declined to make it public, so it's not clear whether Senior Deputy Ben Fields was asked to cross a line at Spring Valley High School.

Sheriff Leon Lott, who fired Fields after seeing the videos, told The Associated Press on Thursday that his deputy should not have

been summoned in this case.

"It would be totally different if she were threatening the safety and security of the classroom," Lott said, "but she was just exhibiting defiant behavior and being disrespectful to the teacher ... The role of an SRO is not a disciplinarian. We're there to keep the peace and make sure people don't break laws," Lott added.

## WHAT ELSE CAN EDUCATORS DO?

The girl broke a school rule by using her cellphone in class, but the teacher could have spoken to her quietly, even when she refused to surrender it, rather than delay the lesson for everyone else, said Geoff Alpert, a University of South Carolina professor and expert on police violence.

Lott suggested another possibility: "Completely ignore her. She was the one who was suffering."

Delaying consequences can be effective, said Larry Thompson, a former Kansas teacher who

consults with schools.

"Time often helps the brain get out of the fight mode," Thompson said. "The old model of classroom management does not fit the new model of what our kids need."

Even when the girl refused to leave her seat, Alpert wonders, "Why didn't they call a school counselor? She's not doing anything to hurt anyone. She's just being disruptive."

Attorney Todd Rutherford questions why the deputy was "brought into a classroom to deal with a student who was sitting quietly, simply not wanting to leave class." He represents both the girl in question as well as another student who challenged her treatment. Both are charged with "disturbing schools," a misdemeanor punishable by up to 90 days in jail and a \$1,000 fine.

## WHAT ELSE MIGHT THE OFFICER HAVE DONE?

Touching a student should always be an officer's last resort, Thompson said. "Physical contact

is the very last piece that we ever want to have to do."

Removing other students from the room is something both Alpert and the sheriff suggested, but Alpert said it could cause other problems.

"That gives her power in front of all of her friends," Alpert said. "It's a horrible message. Worse than that, what are you going to do to, leave that cop and the little girl in the room alone?"

Physically confronting her was "probably avoidable" said Pete Strom, a former U.S. Attorney in South Carolina. "When he saw that she was not going to react, is there another way to do this? Could you get another resource officer in? Could you just let the thing de-escalate? Wait until she's after class instead of getting everybody into this confrontation?"

The officer had "so many options available," Rutherford said. "The first is to say, 'She's not bothering anybody.' The second's to say, 'Ma'am, are you going to

sit quietly and listen?' and she says yes. The third one is, if she absolutely refused to get up and she's causing a problem and he wants to get her up, there are pressure points, grabbing her under her arm, wrist lock, there are a number of things that can be done, none of which include telling the student next to her to move so he can flip her desk over, slam her and toss her across the room."

## SHOULD THE LAW CHANGE?

Lott believes society should re-evaluate the role of police in schools, because officers are there to enforce laws, and one law criminalizes classroom misbehavior.

"We have a bad law in South Carolina called 'disturbing schools,'" Lott said. "If an administrator or teacher did ask the officer to intervene, most likely the officer is going to do it. Generally, they're going to do what they've been asked to do because they've been placed in the school."

# WOLVES: Final decision rests on Nov. 9 meeting

Continued from 1A

species protections.

"There's no logical way you could define this as a species that's recovered," Weiss said.

Weiss was one of the stakeholders who helped develop Oregon's Wolf Conservation and Management Plan in 2005, which calls for ODFW to consider delisting wolves after reaching a population objective of four breeding pairs in Eastern Oregon for three consecutive years. That objective was reached in January.

The final decision now rests with the Fish and Wildlife Commission, which meets Monday, Nov. 9 in Salem. Public comments will be accepted through 5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 6.

The Oregon Endangered Species Act allows the commission to delist a species if it satisfies five criteria: the species is not in danger of extinction; the species ability to reproduce is not in danger; most populations are not actively losing habitat; the species and habitat are not being overused; and existing state

or federal programs are enough to protect the species moving forward.

About 42 percent of Oregon land is considered potential wolf range, according to ODFW. Wolves currently occupy 12.4 percent of that area, and are expanding at an annual rate of 860 square miles.

Russ Morgan, ODFW wolf program coordinator, said delisting wolves would not immediately change how wolves are managed under the Wolf Plan, but allows the plan to "continue to work into the future."

Todd Nash, wolf committee chairman for the Oregon Cattlemen's Association, said ranchers welcome ODFW's recommendation and hope the commission follows through with delisting. Ranchers have long argued for greater flexibility for managing wolves around livestock — namely, the ability to kill wolves that make a habit of preying on sheep and cattle.

Delisting doesn't get them there yet, Nash said, but does take away another tool for environmental groups to sue in case a kill order is later issued by the department.

The frustration of ranchers is only escalating as wolves grow in numbers, Nash said.

"We have bent over backwards to do the nonlethal (deterrents)," Nash said. "At some point, we all have to be people of our word."

ODFW's Wildlife Diversity Plan stipulates that delisting an endangered species must be backed by "verifiable" scientific information, which is defined as having been peer-reviewed by independent scientific panel. That hasn't happened, Weiss said, and until it does the state is leaving itself open to a legal challenge.

"We've put them on notice," Weiss said.

Also on Thursday, the Center for Biological Diversity released statements from scientists who oppose delisting wolves.

"It is logically indefensible, and contrary to the notion of recovery under the Endangered Species Act, to suggest that wolves are in some way recovered when they're still missing from nearly 90 percent of their suitable range in Oregon," said Michael Nelson of Oregon State University's

College of Forestry.

Steve Pedery, conservation director for Oregon Wild, said Thursday's announcement is especially troubling considering Morgan had previously set a deadline of Friday to provide ODFW with more information that would supposedly inform their recommendation.

"I don't know if there was really any intent to review the independent science," Pedery said.

Pedery said the entire delisting process has been less than professional, and ODFW has eroded some of the trust it had built up during the first phase of the conservation plan.

"This is not just a science problem, it's a legal problem," he said.

Written comments in advance of the Nov. 9 meeting can be sent to [odfw.commission@state.or.us](mailto:odfw.commission@state.or.us). More information and meeting materials can be found at [www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission).

Contact George Plaven at [gplaven@eastoregonian.com](mailto:gplaven@eastoregonian.com) or 541-966-0825.

# Paul Ryan becomes 54th speaker of the House

WASHINGTON (AP) — Paul Ryan became the 54th speaker of the U.S. House on Thursday in a day of high political theater, a young new leader for a fractured Congress, charged with healing Republican divides and quieting the chaos of Capitol Hill.

As Ryan spoke, senators across the Capitol were preparing to cast votes on a broad two-year budget and debt deal that passed the House on Wednesday, engineered largely by outgoing Speaker John Boehner to allow Ryan a fresh start with the toughest issues resolved.

The measure was expected to clear an initial legislative hurdle well after midnight in a dead-of-night vote resulting from the Senate's convoluted legislative timetables and delaying tactics by opponents. Many in the GOP majority planned to vote "no," including presidential candidates Marco Rubio, Rand Paul and Ted Cruz, who canceled campaign events to rush back to Washington to oppose it.

Ryan, 45, the Republicans' 2012 vice presidential nominee, was elected speaker in a rare, live roll-call vote on the House floor, with each lawmaker standing in turn to declare his choice. The mood mixed solemnity with levity, as Boehner, driven into resignation by GOP strife, brandished a box of tissues and repeatedly neared tears, while some lawmakers shouted their votes almost joyously.

"California cheese-heads for Paul D. Ryan!" declared one Western lawmaker, Doug LaMalfa, getting behind the Wisconsin congressman.

The final tally showed 236 votes for Ryan, 184 for Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi of California, the Democrats' candidate, and nine for Republican Daniel Webster of Florida.



Ryan

# LAWSUIT: For fear of further retaliation, Addison moved out of Baker City

Continued from 1A

Addison refers to the police department's use of a drug-sniffing dog during the 1A state basketball tournament in Baker City, which he felt violated constitutional protection against unreasonable search and seizure.

"It looked like just a nice random stroll, and fishing expedition, oh, and a violation of the 4th Amendment," he wrote.

The morning after the editorial ran in the newspaper, Baker City Police Chief Wyn Lohner met with Addison and the Record-Courier's editor and demanded they retract the article.

The complaint states the Record-Courier did not retract the article and supported Addison's right to express his opinion.

Following an ownership change, Addison was terminated from his job June 5, 2008 and "became enmeshed in a heated discussion with the Record-Courier's new owner/editor and publisher" when he went to pick up his final check the next day.

Later that day, a Baker City police officer — the same one Addison alleged violated the Fourth Amendment — notified Addison that a harassment complaint had been made against him by the Record-Courier and gave him a civil stalking citation.

A Baker County Circuit Court judge declined to issue a restraining order and dismissed the citation a few days later.

Despite the dismissal, the complaint states Baker City police followed Addison's car repeatedly between June 2008 and April 2010. Sometimes the police officers would pull Addison over for alleged traffic violations but never issued anything beyond a warning.

Addison moved to

Enterprise in 2010 to work as a reporter for the Wallowa County Chieftain but eventually left the job and returned to Baker City in 2012. The Chieftain is owned by the EO Media Group, which also owns the East Oregonian.

Addison alleges the police resumed following and pulling him over when he returned to Baker City. Despite repeated encounters with local police, Addison only received one ticket for expired tags in 2013.

On Aug. 25, 2014, Addison was hired as a "supported employment specialist" by New Directions Northwest Inc., a nonprofit that provides alcohol and drug addiction services.

His new position was publicized in a Nov. 10, 2014 Baker City Herald article detailing a city council meeting at which he spoke.

Based on information from the Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries, Addison alleges a Baker City police officer called the New Directions clinical director after reading the Herald article and urged her to file a public records request with local law enforcement.

In response to its record request, New Directions was sent a "fact file" compiled by the Baker County Sheriff's Office and an incident report from the 2008 civil stalking citation.

According to the complaint, the "fact file" falsely states Addison was ticketed 11 times since 2009 and lists the 2008 civil stalking citation without noting its dismissal.

Addison believes the documents given to New Directions were the primary reason for his dismissal, noting he received benefits paperwork the day before his termination. He also alleges the "fact file" and incident report were created by the

Baker City Police Department and not the sheriff's office.

Since leaving New Directions, the complaint states Addison has been working as a contract reporter for the Baker County Press and no longer reports on Baker City news. For fear of further retaliation, Addison moved out of Baker City.

Addison is seeking compensatory damages, punitive damages, injunctive relief, and attorney's fees through his lawsuit.

One of Addison's attorneys condemned the Baker City Police Department in a statement.

"The right of journalists to report freely on government activity is crucial to our democracy," Cliff Davidson of Sussman Shank said. "The actions of the Baker City police send a disturbing message to Baker City residents: if you criticize police here, you will be punished."

In a separate statement, ACLU of Oregon legal director Mat dos Santos was no less harsh. The ACLU filed the BOLI records request on behalf of Addison.

"It is deeply disturbing that the Baker City Police Department appears to have kept a file on an innocent person simply because he penned an editorial criticizing police actions in the community," dos Santos said. "This kind of abuse of police power is a threat to both our freedom of speech and the free press. It adds to the increasing sense of distrust of policing in Oregon and damages the reputation of good police officers everywhere."

Lohner did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Contact Antonio Sierra at [asierra@eastoregonian.com](mailto:asierra@eastoregonian.com) or 541-966-0836.

**EAST OREGONIAN** **Hermiston Herald**

# Veterans Day Tribute

**They've served our country with courage and honor. They've left behind loved ones to risk their lives in protecting their country. They've defended our freedoms and ideals. They make us proud to be Americans.**

**Join us for Veterans Day, Wednesday, November 11, 2015 in the East Oregonian and Hermiston Herald, as we honor the men and women of the U.S. Military. Their courage, hard work and sacrifice are the backbone of our nation, protecting freedom, liberty, justice and all we hold dear.**

**Bring in or call 1-800-522-0255 with a photo and message to your hero to give them a special thanks.**

**DEADLINE**  
**Wednesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>**

**For more information call Paula at 541-278-2678 or 1-800-522-0255 or Hermiston Herald at 541-564-4530.**

**PRICES**

**1x4 - \$40.00**  
**2x3 - \$55.00**

**Full Color Included**  
**Private Party Only**

2x3 EXAMPLE

JOSEPH B. DAVIS

We are so proud of you for serving your country.

Love Evelyn, Joe and Cheryl

1x4 EXAMPLE

JOSEPH SMITH

*Thank you for your service!*

*Love always Marcy, Julie & Emily*