

WALNUT CREEK; All Charges Against Officer are Dropped

BYLINE: Henry K. Lee, The San Francisco Chronicle

Contra Costa County prosecutors are dropping all charges against a Walnut Creek police officer accused of detaining three people in a car at gunpoint, the officer's attorney said Wednesday.

Detective Ted Chang allegedly drew his weapon on three people in a car in Concord on Dec. 17 after getting into an argument with them at a roadblock. But a source familiar with the case said the driver of the car was belligerent toward Chang as the officer directed traffic around an auto accident. The driver was almost hit by another car, then rammed into Chang as the officer lit flares, the source said.

Prosecutors dropped charges of false imprisonment, exhibiting a firearm and enhancements for using a deadly weapon, said Chang's attorney, Michael Rains. Chang remains on paid administrative leave pending an internal investigation that is in progress.

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