

# DETROIT NATIVE SUN

JULY - AUGUST 2026

UNITING & ENLIGHTENING THE COMMUNITY

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## Crooked Cops



### \$9 million lawsuit filed against DPD

Pictured left to right: Darren Transou, attorney Vonda Evans, attorney Michael Fortner, and Transou's wife

By Valerie D. Lockhart  
SUN EXECUTIVE EDITOR

A \$9 million lawsuit has been filed against the Detroit Police Department (DPD) and two officers for abusing their authority, injuring, and violating the rights of a Detroit man.

Armed with a broom, dustpan, and faith, Darren Transou, 58, was stopped and arrested for cleaning debris in front of Deliverance Center Outreach at 340 W. Grand Blvd in Detroit. The incident was captured on video.

Officers Alaa Al-Khalil and Jalen Mireles, of the 4th precinct, drove by, backed up, and then exited their patrol vehicle to confront Transou, who was not suspected of any crimes nor had any warrants.

Unconcerned about violating Transou's Fourth Amendment rights against unreasonable searches and seizures, officers ordered Transou to comply with being frisked.

When Transou refused, the officers attacked. His arms were twisted and yanked until he was restrained and handcuffed.

Bishop Gregg A. Booker, of Deliverance Center, pleaded with one of the officers to release Transou into his custody.

After confirming Transou had no warrants, he was released into the bishop's custody. Transou sought medical treatment the next day for injuries to his arm.

The officers are accused of using excessive force and misconduct to confront Transou with no suspected suspicious criminal activity and hindering Transou's right to leave.

According to the DPD Use of Force Directive 304.2-2, "Officers who use excessive force or an unauthorized use of force shall be subjected to discipline up to and including termination, possible criminal prosecution, and/or civil liability. Furthermore, the tactics utilized by an officer in response to a subject's resistance will undergo evaluation by the Department on a case-by-case basis. Officers are only authorized to employ tactics that are approved by the department, that are reasonably certain to be effective in subduing the subject or mitigating the risks of injury involved in a particular incident. Use of force is only authorized when it is objectively reasonable and for a lawful purpose".

Attorney Michael Fortner, of Spectrum legal Services, said, "We are calling for action to emphasize training on the use of excessive force and the consequences of violating citizen rights against unwarranted searches and seizures. This lawsuit hopes to send a message that this behavior will not be tolerated. We are requesting Chief Todd Bettison discipline or terminate the two officers involved. Having a badge does not give you authority to violate the rights of those whom you are sworn to protect."

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Strengthen school safety initiatives to ensure a safe, welcoming environment
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NOVEMBER 3, 2026

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