

# Woman convicted in assault on deputy is sentenced to probation

By [Melinda Miller](#) | Published October 31, 2017

A young woman who pleaded guilty to assaulting a sheriff's deputy will not spend more time in jail.

Brittany Ashley-Graser, 22, of Grand Island, was sentenced Tuesday to time served and five years probation for her conviction of second-degree assault. The charge resulted from her intervening in a struggle between the deputy and her boyfriend.

Erie County Judge Kenneth F. Case dismissed the more serious charge of attempted murder of a police officer.

Ashley-Graser's fiance, Sammy Abdellatif, 23, has pleaded guilty to the attempted murder and awaits sentencing.

The attack on Deputy Jason Clark occurred Aug. 24, 2016, on East River Road, Grand Island. Clark and Abdellatif already had a contentious relationship from previous encounters when Abdellatif reportedly provoked Clark into stopping his vehicle that day by yelling obscenities at him. Abdellatif allegedly rolled his window up on the deputy's arm, leading Clark to break the window to free himself.

Within moments both were fighting outside the car, with Abdellatif choking the deputy into near-unconsciousness.

Defense attorney Thomas Eoannou told the judge that Ashley-Graser was only trying to protect her fiance when she jumped on the deputy's back to try to pull the men apart. She was not successful but another man passing by did stop and rescued the deputy.

On Tuesday, Ashley-Graser said she had hoped Clark would be in court so she could apologize to him personally, adding that she did not mean to cause anyone harm that day and hoped "we can all move past from this."

"This is clearly a situation that went from bad to worse," Case said, telling Ashley-Graser, "You are very fortunate the District Attorney's Office considered that your involvement was very different from Mr. Abdellatif's."

Before pronouncing his sentence, the judge did note this was Ashley-Graser's only arrest and that she already had spent some time in jail before being freed on bail. In addition to the probation, he ordered her to perform 200 hours of community service.

According to Eoannou, Ashley-Graser plans to marry Abdellatif, whose sentencing is scheduled for Nov. 20.