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## Student Tasered At Kerry Forum

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Posted By [Timothy Zick](#) On September 18, 2007 @ 8:50 pm In [First Amendment](#) | [9 Comments](#)

This [video](#) <sup>[1]</sup>, which has received quite a bit of attention, shows a journalism student at the University of Florida being restrained and ultimately tasered by campus police officers at an event at which Senator John Kerry was speaking. The video appears to present a nearly complete version of the events in question (although there were apparently additional cameras, which may reveal additional evidence). As related [here](#) <sup>[2]</sup>, the video's sequence of events begins with the student asking Senator Kerry (out of frame) whether he was a member of Skull and Bones at Yale University. Prior to that, the student had asked why Senator Kerry had conceded the 2004 presidential election and had not supported impeaching President Bush. As he finishes the Skull and Bones question, the microphone is apparently cut off. The events that follow speak for themselves.



**UPDATE:** [Here](#) <sup>[3]</sup> is a more complete video of the events.

Is this student a heckler attempting to "take down" a speaker, as discussed in my previous [post](#) <sup>[4]</sup>? Or does the exchange with Senator Kerry represent an appropriate, if aggressive, questioning of a public official? In either case, did the authorities react appropriately to the student's words and actions?

[The student was released from jail on his own recognizance. He has been charged with resisting an officer and disturbing the peace. The university has asked state investigators to review the incident.]

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URLs in this post:

[1] video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6bVa6jn4rpE>

[2] here: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/09/18/AR2007091800300.html>

[3] Here : <http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=VjHEBvNTzUg>

[4] post: [http://www.concurringopinions.com/archives/2007/09/facebook\\_in\\_the\\_1.html](http://www.concurringopinions.com/archives/2007/09/facebook_in_the_1.html)

[5] : [http://stubbornfacts.us/politics/keeping\\_order#comment-9265](http://stubbornfacts.us/politics/keeping_order#comment-9265)

[6] : <http://forgingnewparadigms.blogspot.com/>

[7] : <http://blog.wired.com/27bstroke6/2007/09/dont-tase-me-br.html>

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