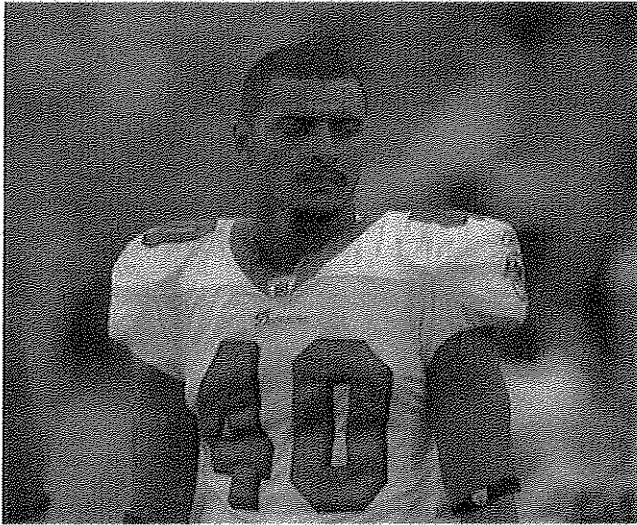


Charges against Miami Dolphins' Jonathon Amaya dropped

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J Pat Carter / AP

FILE - This Dec. 26, 2010 file photo shows Miami Dolphins' Jonathon Amaya during an NFL football game against the Detroit Lions in Miami.

Prosecutors have dropped the battery charge against Jonathon Amaya, clearing the Dolphins safety of allegations that he attacked a South Beach taxi driver in November.

Public records indicate Miami-Dade prosecutors notified the court on Jan. 11 of the state's decision to not go forward with the charge.

Amaya was arrested on Nov. 26, 2012, charged with choking Jonathan Vunge in his cab after leaving Miami Beach's Club Bamboo following a night on the town.

But Amaya's attorney, Edward O'Donnell, strongly disputed the accusation to The Miami Herald in December, saying

"Jonathon Amaya never laid a hand on this man, never touched him, never threatened him. When a full investigation is made, we believe charges will be dropped."

Amaya, 24, remained a member of the Dolphins after his arrest, although he is not under contract for 2013.