



WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

News Release

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Case No.: 12-500482

Deputies Arrest Man after Road Rage Incident

Summary of Event

A road-rage incident on Highway 26 led to the arrest of a man who threatened two people with a knife. No one was hurt during the incident.

Full Details

On Monday, January 9, 2012, at about 4:45 pm, deputies from the Washington County Sheriff's Office and officers from the Beaverton and Hillsboro Police Departments were dispatched to a menacing call in the parking lot of The Greek Village Tavern located at 301 NW Murray Boulevard, in the community of Marlene Village. The female caller reported that a man, later identified as 30-year-old Jose Garza Jr. from Bend, was trying to attack her and her adult son with a knife. Dispatch received additional calls from neighbors and patrons in the bar as well.

The victim reported that they were in their car and that a man with a large knife was chasing them around the parking lot. The victims, a 30-year-old man and his 58-year-old mother, from Hillsboro, had been traveling west on Highway 26 near the Sylvan overpass when an exchange of obscene gestures took place between the male victim and Mr. Garza. Mr. Garza was the passenger in a minivan that had been tailgating the victims.



Jose Garza Jr



As the minivan passed the victim's car, a pop can was thrown from the minivan and struck the victims car. The female victim called 9-1-1 while they followed the suspect's vehicle west on Highway 26. The suspects took the Murray Boulevard exit and proceeded south over the freeway and then turned into the parking lot of the tavern. The victims followed the suspects and parked on the far side of the parking lot. The victims reported that Mr. Garza immediately jumped out of the minivan and started running toward them with a knife in his hand. He was yelling unintelligibly and appeared to be very angry. They were able to escape, driving in reverse, while Mr. Garza was chasing them.

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Mr. Garza got back in the van and the suspects left the parking lot and drove south on Murray Blvd. The victims again followed them and reported their location to the dispatcher.

Beaverton Police officers located the minivan at SW Downing Street and SW 141st Avenue. They arrested Mr. Garza without incident.

Deputies investigating the case found a silver bayonet type knife in the minivan. Mr. Garza said he was trying to scare the victims with the knife in order to avoid any further confrontation with them. He was taken to the Washington County Jail and booked on charges of Menacing and Unlawful Use of a Weapon. The driver of the van was not arrested.