



WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Conserving the Peace Through Values Driven Service
Sheriff Pat Garrett

PRESS RELEASE

Case #15-500763

Deputies Capture Fugitive with Stolen Handgun

January 15, 2015—Sheriff's Deputies capture a wanted man after he crashed his car and attempted to flee after the crash. The man was quickly located and arrested.

On January 14, 2015, at 9:36 p.m., a Washington County Sheriff's Deputy saw a 1994 Acura Legend fail to stop at a red light at NW Barnes Road and NW Baltic Avenue. When the Sheriff's Deputy attempted to stop the car, it sped down Highway 217 and into a Raleigh Hills neighborhood. The Acura continued to disregard the Sheriff's Deputy's lights and siren, refusing to stop.



Sheriff's Deputies converged on the Acura when the driver failed to negotiate a curve and drove onto landscape boulders in the front yard of a house on SW Woodward Way, rendering the Acura inoperable. A man, later identified as Michael Peterson 36, from Beaverton, fled the Acura and ran behind a house. Sheriff's Deputies saw Mr. Peterson throw something away as he ran. Sheriff's Deputies caught up to Mr. Peterson as he attempted to jump a fence and he was arrested without further incident.

Sheriff's Deputies located a stolen loaded handgun in the Acura and second loaded handgun that Mr. Peterson threw as he was running. The Acura was filled with dozens of items that were possibly stolen. Sheriff's Deputies found GPS's, car stereo systems and other valuable items. These items were seized and will be checked against reports of stolen property as investigators attempt to locate the owners.



Michael Gene Peterson was lodged in the Washington County Jail. He was charged with Felony and Misdemeanor Attempt to Elude, Felon in Possession of a Firearm, First Degree Aggravated Theft (Firearm), Unlawful Possession of a Firearm, Reckless Endangering, Felony Driving While Suspended, Possession of Methamphetamine, Reckless Driving, Hit and Run, Criminal Mischief, Criminal Trespassing and a Felony Parole Board Warrant. He is held without the possibility of bail. He will likely face additional charges as the investigation continues.