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News

Posted by : Randy

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New Madrid, Mo - A woman driving a stolen Highway Patrol vehicle rammed two New Madrid County Sheriff' vehicles before being taken into custody.



New Madrid County Sheriff Terry Stevens said his officers were called to a truck stop north of New Madrid, stating a woman was acting strange. Stevens said officers interviewed the 24-year-old woman, who is from the state of Mississippi, but didn't find anything wrong.

A short time later, a vehicle was reported parked on the New Madrid north overpass. Officers found the same woman sitting in the vehicle and at that time determined she was mentally unstable.

The woman resisted arrest, however, and Stevens said a Missouri State Highway Patrol officer arrived on the scene and assisted his officers. The woman was placed in handcuffs in the Highway Patrol car for transport to the New Madrid County Jail.

According to Stevens, the woman was able to extricate herself from the handcuffs then stole the Trooper's vehicle, ramming the deputy's car as she fled the scene.

A pursuit began with the woman driving both northbound and southbound in the southbound lane of Interstate 70, Stevens said. The woman then exited at the Marston exit, traveling along Highway EE then south on County Road 314, also known as Eftink Road, striking a second New Madrid County deputy's car.

The pursuit ended when the Patrol vehicle became stuck in a field.

According to Stevens, the first New Madrid County vehicle which was struck by the fleeing driver was disabled along the Interstate.

"He had his emergency lights activated and was outside of the vehicle directing traffic around him," Stevens said.

At that time, a tractor-trailer driver apparently didn't notice the vehicle, striking it. The car was pushed forward, hitting the deputy and knocking him down.

Stevens said both deputies were checked by medical personnel. The deputy who was hit by his vehicle had no broken bones, he said.

Multiple charges are anticipated against the woman including two counts of assault with motor vehicle, escape from custody and theft of a motor vehicle.