

REPORTING OFFICER NARRATIVE

Warsaw Police Department

OCA
19-01-0173
Date / Time Reported
Thu 01/31/2019 09:30

Victim
Society

Offense
MOTOR VEHICLE- RECKLESS DRIVING

Date / Time Reported
Thu 01/31/2019 09:30

THE INFORMATION BELOW IS CONFIDENTIAL - FOR USE BY AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY

January 25, 2019 (Approximately 6:30 p.m.)

I was traveling eastbound on 200 South (in the area of the fire department's Station 3) when a passenger vehicle came into my lane of travel forcing me partially off the roadway, nearly hitting me head-on. I then observed the vehicle in my rearview mirror travel back to the left side of the roadway after recovering from nearly hitting me. At that time, I turned my personal vehicle around and began to follow the vehicle westbound on 200 South. The driver appeared to be impaired as the vehicle continued to drift back and forth using the entire roadway as it traveled. After crossing the railroad tracks, the vehicle slowly made a right turn traveling northbound on the shortcut from 200 South to State Road 15 (S. Old SR 15). It was at that time, I called Central Dispatch to report an impaired driver and identified the vehicle as a blue Honda with license plate number 939RDH. The vehicle then pulled into the driveway of the second residence north of 200 South, located on the eastside of the roadway (1920 S. Old SR 15). The vehicle appeared to park at the end of drive, leaving its lights on. I stopped my vehicle and continued to wait and see the actions of the driver. After sitting for approximately two minutes, the vehicle backed up and drove southbound back toward 200 South, where I was positioned.

At that time, I backed up onto 200 South and traveled towards the intersection of State Road 15 and 200 South. I observed in my rearview mirror the vehicle turn and drive eastbound onto 200 South. I again turned by vehicle around and followed the vehicle eastbound. As the vehicle crossed the tracks and drove eastbound, it came close to striking two other vehicles that were traveling westbound. The vehicle then slowed to approximately 3-5 miles per hour for a period before attempting to turn left onto Falcon Drive. Upon turning left, the vehicle initially missed Falcon Drive and traveled off the roadway before recovering and returning to Falcon Drive. The vehicle still traveling extremely slow, then made an immediate right onto Chickadee Lane. I was unfamiliar with the roadways in the housing addition. I kept distance behind the vehicle once again stopped briefly at what I originally thought was a dead-end/cul-de-sac. After approximately 15-20 seconds, the vehicle continued traveling on Chickadee Lane, as the road curved to the north. The vehicle traveled northbound, pulling into the driveway of what was later identified as ██████ Chickadee Lane, Warsaw, IN. The vehicle again sat parked with the lights on.

At that time, I positioned myself just north of what was later identified as ██████ Chickadee Lane, approximately three vacant lots to the south, and blocked my vehicle out. After several seconds, I observed a silhouette of a subject exit the vehicle; however, the vehicle's lights were still on. From my experience, it is not uncommon for an intoxicated or impaired driver to attempt to throw off a law enforcement officer or a concerned citizen so they would no longer be followed. I continued to wait for the arrival of an on-duty officer.

A short time later, I observed a second individual that appeared to have exited the residence. Giving the unknown circumstances, and what appeared to be an extremely impaired individual, I was concerned for the safety of the resident(s). I then quickly drove my vehicle up to the residence and into the driveway, partially behind the suspect vehicle. Upon exiting my vehicle, I noticed the vehicle was still running and observed an older male subject, later identified as Michael C. Brander, walking toward the driver side of the vehicle. Even with my presence, he attempted to access the driver's side front door. I immediately grasped him from behind, by his coat on both shoulders, and attempted to maneuver him slightly in front of the driver's door, near the hood area. Upon doing so, Mr. Brander's legs gave out and he dropped to his knees. I was able to assist him to the ground, as I was still holding his shoulders. At that time, I identified myself as a Warsaw police officer and asked him to keep his hands on the hood of the car and to stay in that position as on-duty police officer(s) would be on scene shortly.

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I asked the second individual, later identified as Kathleen M. Brander, if she knew who the male subject was, and she stated it was her husband. I then explained to her my observations of his driving and that he had nearly hit me head-on. She stated her husband had not been driving the vehicle, that she had been.

Shortly thereafter, Officer Daniel Clemens, Warsaw Police Department, and Deputy Travis Mickem, Kosciusko County Sheriff's Office arrived at my location. At that time, I spoke to Mrs. Brander off to the side and asked her why she was trying to cover for her husband and that her actions could lead to someone being harmed/killed with his driving behavior. Further conversation led to Mrs. Brander accurately describing where she had driven to, explaining that she had difficulty driving in the dark and could not find her road to turn onto. She was instructed to not drive at night again as her driving behavior was going to get someone hurt. Mrs. Brander showed no signs of impairment while I conversed with her.

Officer Clemens met with Mr. Brander and determined he was not impaired as well. After telling Mr. Brander that Mrs. Brander had almost hit me head-on, he said something to the effect of he wouldn't doubt it.

I explained to both Mr. and Mrs. Brander the reason I stopped Mr. Brander from entering the blue Honda was based on my observations of the driving behavior of the person who had been driving the vehicle moments earlier. I assumed Mr. Brander had been driving the car since he was attempting to access it upon my arrival. They later indicated he was going to pull the vehicle into the garage as Mrs. Brander had difficulty doing so. They stated she normally would not be driving at night, but she had mechanical problems with her vehicle while at Walmart, which delayed her from returning home before dark. No citations were issued for the noted driving violations.

Note: The roadways traveled upon by Mrs. Brander were clear and in good condition at 6:30 p.m. At approximately 8:00 p.m. on January 25, 2019, the road conditions changed due to snow.

01/31/2019

Incident Report Suspect List

Warsaw Police Department

OCA: 19-01-0173

1	Name (Last, First, Middle) <i>BRANDER, KATHLEEN M</i>					Also Known As					Home Address <div style="background-color: black; width: 20px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></div> <i>CHICKADEE LN</i> <i>WARSAW, IN 46580</i>				
	Business Address														
DOB	Age	Race	Sex	Eth	Hgt	Wgt	Hair	Eye	Skin	Driver's License / State.					
<div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 15px;"></div>	<i>72</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>F</i>							<div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 15px;"></div>					
Scars, Marks, Tattoos, or other distinguishing features															
Reported Suspect Detail															
Suspect Age		Race	Sex	Eth	Height	Weight	SSN								
Weapon, Type	Feature	Make	Model	Color	Caliber	Dir of Travel		Mode of Travel							
Veh Yr/Make/Model	Drs	Style	Color	Lic/St	VIN										
Notes										Physical Char					

Incident Report Related Vehicle List

Warsaw Police Department

OCA: 19-01-0173

1	VehYr/Make/Model <i>2017 HOND, Accord</i>		Style <i>4D</i>		Color <i>BLU</i>		Lic/Lis <i>939RDH IN 2019</i>		VIN		
IBR Status <i>Suspect Vehicle</i>			Date <i>01/25/2019</i>		Location <i>CHICKADEE LN, WARSAW IN</i>						
Condition		Value <i>\$0.00</i>		Offense Code <i>90Z</i>		Jurisdiction <i>Locally</i>		State #		NIC #	
Name (Last, First, Middle) <i>* No name *</i>					Also Known As			Home Address			
Business Address											
DOB		Age	Race	Sex	Hgt	Wgt	Scars, Marks, Tattoos, or other distinguishing features				

Notes