



YAKIMA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

ROBERT UDELL, Sheriff

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Patrol Division

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Yakima County Sheriff's Office Press Release For Immediate Release

Date: February 21, 2019

Incident Number: 19c03128

Incident/Offense: Felony Eluding / Vehicle Pursuit

Location: Highway 97, mile post 72

Incident Date and Time: February 20, 2019 at 1830 hours

At 1831 hours a Yakima County Sheriff's Deputy attempted to stop a vehicle for a simple traffic infraction. The driver of the vehicle accelerated rapidly from the Deputy when signaled to stop.

During the incident the driver drove on the shoulder of the road, failed to stop at several stop signs and drove at speeds in excess of 120 miles per hour. He eventually lost control of his automobile on Harrah Road, south of Fort Road and was taken into custody.

The driver told the Deputy that he did not stop because he did not have proof of insurance for his vehicle.

This individual was in complete control of the outcome of this situation. Had he pulled over when signaled to, he could have been given a ticket for the infraction, possibly even a verbal warning. Instead, his conscious decision not to stop ended up with him being booked into the Yakima County Jail for RCW 46.61.024 Attempting to Elude a Police Vehicle once he was treated and released from a local hospital.

The Deputy chose not to give the suspect a verbal warning for the commission of this felony crime that put him, his passenger and the citizens of Yakima County in danger of serious bodily injury due to his conduct.

The driver is a 19-year-old male from Vancouver, Washington.

Sergeant C. A. Gray #48

Yakima County Sheriff's Office

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(509) 574-2500 – Dispatch/24-hours