
LANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

NEWS RELEASE



CASE NUMBER: 2011-3245

DATE/TIME OF INCIDENT: 05/07/2011 @ 6:53 PM

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NATURE OF STORY: Elude by Vehicle

LOCATION: McGowan Creek Road near Milepost 2.5

SUSPECT: Blackburn, Kelly Joe



DETAILS: On 05/07/2011 at about 6:53 PM, a Lane County Sheriff's Office deputy was traveling westbound on McGowan Creek Road near milepost 2.5 when a white Mitsubishi Eclipse passed him traveling eastbound. The deputy radioed the license plate, for a routine records check, and learned the vehicle was confirmed stolen out of the Eugene Police Department. The deputy was able to turn after the vehicle and initiated a traffic stop on McGowan Creek Road near milepost 3. The vehicle pulled to the shoulder and stopped briefly before fleeing. The deputy pursued the vehicle about 1 ½ miles to the 900 Road, which is a dead end. The deputy stopped behind the vehicle at which time the vehicle turned and drove towards the deputy, who was outside of his car.

The deputy was able to move out of the way and continued to pursue the vehicle. The vehicle continued back to McGowan Creek Road before turning up Quarry Road and then to a spur road off of Quarry Road; which is another dead end. The deputy stopped at the base of the spur road at which time the suspect turned around and drove past him. The vehicle drove into a ditch and briefly got stuck. The vehicle was unable to negotiate the next corner and went into a drainage ditch. The suspect fled the vehicle into the wooded area. Deputies from the Lane County Sheriff's Office, Troopers from the Oregon State Police, Officers from the Springfield Police Department and a K-9 unit from the Eugene Police Department responded and searched for the suspect, but he was not located.

The suspect was identified as Kelly Joe Blackburn. He was last seen wearing a blue t-shirt, black pants and a blue beanie style hat. The hat and a pack of cigarettes were located in the wooded area. Blackburn already had an attempt to locate out of the Springfield Police Department for unauthorized use of a vehicle.

Anyone with information on Blackburn's whereabouts are encouraged to contact the Lane County Sheriff's Office.

For additional information contact Sgt. Jason Wilson at 541-682-4150.

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