## **GRESHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT**



## 1333 NW Eastman Parkway Gresham, Oregon 97030 News Release

Travis Gullberg, Chief of Police

Adam Wright, Public Information Officer

## Suspect Who Struck Officer with Stolen Vehicle Lodged at Jail

RELEASE DATE: Sept. 22, 2023 CONTACT PERSON: On Duty PIO CASE NUMBER: 23-38160

Gresham, Ore.— Detectives continue to investigate an incident where a Gresham Police officer was struck and injured by a stolen vehicle.

On Sept. 21, shortly after 2:00 p.m., officers responded to a welfare check in the 300 block of NE Liberty Ave and contacted two people in what was found to be a stolen vehicle. When officers attempted to arrest the driver, 33-year-old Rian Thomas-Rodgers, he accelerated rapidly, striking the officer. Thomas-Rodgers crashed into a building, then continued driving until he hit a nearby tree. Both occupants of the vehicle were taken into custody. Thomas-Rodgers was transported to an area hospital with a minor injury. The officer was transported to an area hospital with injuries that were not life-threatening and has since been released to continue his recovery at home.

"This incident highlights the inherent dangers associated with the work our officers do," said Gresham Police Chief Travis Gullberg. "We are thankful our officer was not more seriously injured. The Department remains resolute in our mission to protect the vulnerable and serve the Gresham community."

Thomas-Rodgers was lodged at the Multnomah County Detention Center on suspicion of Assault II, Assaulting a Public Safety Officer, Unauthorized Use of Vehicle, Attempt to Elude by Vehicle, Reckless Driving, Reckless Endangering, and Criminal Mischief I.

Investigators recovered a rifle with a collapsible stock and extended magazine and numerous rounds of ammunition from the vehicle. Detectives are continuing their investigation and additional charges are possible.

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