



THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT of JUSTICE

United States Attorney's Office
District of Oregon

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Public Affairs Officer

Phone: (503) 727-1000

USAOR.PublicAffairs@usdoj.gov

Happy Valley Woman Charged With Assaulting Federal Officer During Traffic Stop

PORTLAND, Ore.—A Happy Valley, Oregon, woman made her initial appearance today after allegedly punching a Federal Protective Service (FPS) officer in the face during a traffic stop.

Melanie Breeanne Rivas, 25, has been charged by criminal complaint with Assault on a Federal Officer.

According to court documents, on October 29, 2025, an FPS officer was on duty driving in a fully marked federal police patrol vehicle when he observed Rivas repeatedly turning her vehicle towards his vehicle and flipping him off. Rivas turned into the right lane, cutting off the officer, and continued to slam on her brakes in front of his vehicle for more than 4 miles. The officer attempted to change lanes, but Rivas repositioned her vehicle in front of the officer and continued to brake sharply. After initiating a traffic stop, the officer asked Rivas to step out of her vehicle and Rivas refused instead reaching for items in her center console. Once Rivas stepped out of the vehicle, she continued to disregard orders. As the officer attempted to handcuff Rivas, she punched the officer in the face.

Rivas made her first appearance in federal court today before a U.S. Magistrate Judge. She was ordered released pending further court proceedings.

The FPS is investigating the case. The U.S. Attorney's Office is prosecuting the case.

A criminal complaint is only an accusation of a crime, and a defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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