

JUNEAU POLICE DEPARTMENT

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INFORMATION RELEASE

Subject: Motor Vehicle Accident/DUI Date: Friday, April 11, 2008

From: Sgt Steve D. Hernandez Case or Incident #080411-010

Summary:

On 04/11/08, at approximately 6:40 pm, the Juneau Police Department received calls of an injury accident involving two vehicles near the 11500 block of Mendenhall Loop Road. Callers said that at least two occupants of one of the vehicles were children, and one of the children had lost consciousness as a result of the collision. JPD officers and Capital City Fire and Rescue personnel responded to the scene.

While officers were enroute to the scene, JPD Dispatch received another call from a witness who said one of the vehicles involved in the collision, a white 1995 Ford pickup had left the scene and was driving in the direction of the Mendenhall Glacier. The caller stated that they had followed the pickup to a residence on Brothers Avenue in the Mendenhall Valley. An on-duty U.S. Forest Service Law Enforcement Officer and JPD officer contacted the driver of the truck on Brothers Avenue. The driver was identified as Steven THOMPSON, a 46-year old local resident. THOMPSON was subsequently arrested for driving under the influence.

JPD and CCFR personnel at the collision scene noted that the other vehicle involved was a 1996 Dodge pickup. The driver of the Dodge stated that she had her two children, six-year-old daughter, and nine-year-old son, in the vehicle with her. She said she slowed her vehicle to make a turn into the driveway of her residence from Mendenhall Loop Road when her vehicle was struck from behind. The impact caused her vehicle to be pushed into a tree. She said her six-year-old had lost consciousness as a result of the impact.

CCFR personnel transported the six year old to Bartlett Regional Hospital ER. The nine-year-old son was transported to the ER by his father.

THOMPSON was charged with felony driving under the influence due to prior convictions, three counts of assault in the third degree (C Felony), and felony leaving the scene of an accident due to injuries. He was lodged at Lemon Creek Correctional Center without bail.

Any charges reported in this press release are merely accusations and the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

*** END OF STATEMENT ***