

JUNEAU POLICE DEPARTMENT

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INFORMATION RELEASE

Subject: Felony DWI/Assault

Date: August 26, 2007

From: Sgt Steve Christensen

Case or Incident # 2007-030037

Summary:

On August 26, 2007, at about 7:40 pm, a Juneau Police Officer attempted to stop a red Subaru on Mendenhall Loop Road near Goat Hill for a traffic violation. The operator of the Subaru refused to stop for the officer. The officer continued to attempt to stop the vehicle as it drove around the Mendenhall Valley. Near Betty Court, the vehicle stopped and the driver attempted to flee on foot. The officer tried to apprehend the suspect at which time a fight ensued between the suspect and officer. The suspect then fled on foot jumping into the Mendenhall River. Approximately 50 to 75 feet down river the suspect exited the river. Officers searched the river bank and subsequently located the suspect. Another fight ensued between the suspect and officers before the suspect was taken into custody. The suspect was identified as 40 year old, Juneau resident, Ross Mercer. Mercer was subsequently lodged at Lemon Creek Correctional Center on charges of Failure to Stop at the Direction of a Peace Officer (Class C felony) Felony DWI (Class C Felony) three counts of Assault on a Police Officer, (Class A Misdemeanor) two counts Resisting Arrest (Class A Misdemeanor) and Driving on a Revoked Operators License (Class A Misdemeanor).

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

***** END OF STATEMENT *****

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