

LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

RELEASE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION



Larry Campbell, Sheriff

Leon County Sheriff's Office
2825 Municipal Way Tallahassee, FL 32304
(850) 922-3300
www.leoncountysos.com

DATE: 6/4/2010

Detectors Charge Man with Kidnapping

On Friday, June 04, 2010 an off duty FHP Captain notified the Leon County Sheriff's Office when he witnessed a struggle taking place inside a White Chevrolet Trail Blazer on State Road 20 near Maige Road. When the trooper attempted to intervene, he observed the man was armed with a handgun and was struggling with a woman. The Trail Blazer then sped away and was last seen traveling east bound on State Road 20.

Minutes later, the Leon County Sheriff's Office received a phone call from Katrina Huffmaster. She stated she received a call from an acquaintance who heard her daughter screaming in the background. Deputies broadcast the description of the vehicle and occupants to the surrounding area and began coordinating with Sheriff's Offices in Wakulla, Liberty, Franklin, Gulf and Bay Counties as the investigation indicated the Trail Blazer was headed west.

An hour later, Huffmaster received a call from her daughter confirming that she was in distress. Approximately two hours after the incident was reported, deputies with the Gulf County Sheriff's Office stopped the vehicle on U. S. Highway 98 in Port St. Joe.

Jennifer McDonnell, 29, told detectives that her estranged boyfriend, Richard T. Tyndal, 36, ran her off the road and forced her at gunpoint to drive away from men who had stopped to help her. Tyndal then made McDonnell switch places so he could drive. He drove her to a wooded area where he threatened her with the gun and shot out a passenger window. Tyndal then drove through Wakulla and Franklin Counties before being taken into custody in Gulf County.

Tyndal was taken to the Gulf County Jail this afternoon and will be transported back to Leon County soon.

Sheriff Larry Campbell said, "This incident could have ended much worse than it did. I want to thank area law enforcement for their assistance; especially Sheriff Joe Nugent and his employees for their quick response and professional service."

Sgt. James McQuaig, Public Information Officer
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ARRESTED:

Richard T. Tyndal
DOB: 1-12-1974

CHARGES:

Kidnapping with a Firearm
Aggravated Assault with a Firearm
Aggravated Assault with a Motor Vehicle
Aggravated Stalking

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