

NEWS RELEASE | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | July 11, 2024

SOUTHWEST REGION ENFORCEMENT EVENT RESULTS

NARRATIVE: The North Dakota Highway Patrol and the Bismarck Police Department have observed a rise in motorists fleeing from traffic stops, prompting concerns for public safety.

In response to this trend, law enforcement authorities conducted a coordinated effort on Wednesday, July 10th, 2024, from 9:00 PM to midnight. The operation involved the Bismarck Police Department, North Dakota Highway Patrol, Burleigh County Sheriff's Office, and Morton County Sheriff's Office.

During the operation, officers conducted numerous traffic stops. During one traffic stop, a driver was arrested for driving under the influence. Additionally, there was a pursuit that spanned multiple jurisdictions. This pursuit involved the use of aircraft monitoring, spike strips, and a pursuit intervention technique. The driver, now facing charges in three jurisdictions, including fleeing and reckless endangerment, cited a suspended license as the reason for fleeing from law enforcement.

"In situations where motorists flee from law enforcement, it not only endangers themselves and others but also sets a dangerous precedent," stated Sergeant Jeremiah Bohn. "Our collaborative effort aims to ensure that people who choose to flee from law enforcement are apprehended quickly to ensure the public's safety."

To enhance their capabilities in addressing fleeing incidents, the Bismarck Police Department and the North Dakota Highway Patrol utilized the Highway Patrol's aircraft to monitor fleeing vehicles and safely track them to their destinations.

Law enforcement authorities urge motorists to comply with traffic stops and avoid risking public safety by fleeing from law enforcement. Citizens are encouraged to promptly report suspicious activities or traffic violations by calling or texting 911 to assist in maintaining community safety.

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