



ONEIDA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



Grady M. Hartman
Sheriff

Terri M. Hook
Chief Deputy

NEWS RELEASE

Update-Tuesday, November 5, 2024

The operator was identified as Daniel Thunder, age 51, of Neopit, Wisconsin. Thunder is awaiting his initial appearance. Charges have been referred to the District Attorney's office for: Operating While Intoxicated #1, 2nd Degree Reckless Endangering Safety, Felony Fleeing, Operate Motor Vehicle without Owner's Consent, Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle, Disorderly Conduct with Motor Vehicle, Physical Abuse of Elder, Hit and Run Attended Vehicle, Fail to Stop/Sign, Fail to Stop for Traffic Control Signal (x3), Left of Center, Exceed Posted Speed Limits, Passing on Right, Passing in No Passing Zone, Improper Parking on Roadway, Operate While License Suspended, Fail to Submit to Alcohol Test and Trespass to Land.

No booking photograph is available at this time.

Any questions from the press can be directed to Captain Jake Simkins (715) 361-5100.

For Immediate Release – Monday, November 4, 2024

On Monday, November 4, 2024 the Oneida County Sheriff's Office was advised of a two vehicle accident on Highway 17 N at Chick-A-Dee Peek Road. The caller advised that the operator of the striking vehicle hit the caller while attempting to pass in a no passing zone. Once the vehicles pulled over the striking vehicle hit the caller again. The caller stated that the operator of the striking vehicle was attempting to start an altercation with the caller.

Oneida County Deputies responded and observed the vehicle leaving the accident. When Oneida County Deputies attempted to stop the vehicle it accelerated and a pursuit was initiated. The vehicle committed several traffic offenses including reaching speeds of over 100mph while continuing to travel south on Highway 17 N. The vehicle then turned onto Stevens Street and continued into the City of Rhinelander at a high rate of speed. The operator also failed to stop for stop signs, traffic signals, operating in the oncoming lane of travel and passing on the right. The vehicle turned onto Oneida Street and then onto Highway 8 W where a short distance



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later an Oneida County Deputy performed a PIT (pursuit intervention technique) successfully, however the operator drove out of the ditch and continued on Highway 8 W. The operator continued east on Kemp Street and turned north on Oneida Avenue. The operator continued to Frederick Street then onto Baird Avenue then east on Timber Drive. The operator went east on Timber Drive and as the operator crossed Highway 17 N an Oneida County Deputy rammed the operator's vehicle. The operator continued down County Highway C. The operator then drove north onto the east end of Camp Brynn Afron Road. The operator then turned down a logging road and was taken into custody without incident.

The Rhinelander Schools were put on administrative lockdown during this pursuit for a short time.

During the pursuit, the Oneida County Sheriff's Office was assisted by the Rhinelander Police Department.

Any questions from the press can be directed to Captain Jake Simkins (715) 361-5100.

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