

JOPLIN

POLICE

303E. 3rd Street * Joplin, MO 64801-2274 * 417-623-3131 * Fax 417-624-9820

Lane Roberts
Chief of Police

Date: January 2, 2014
Origin: Department PIO
Contact: Lt. Matt Stewart
Phone: 623-3131 Ext 696

Update #1

On January 2, 2014 the Joplin Police Department was contacted by the owner of the vehicle that the suspect, Deanna Martin, was driving during this incident to report his vehicle as stolen. He indicated that he woke up this morning and found his vehicle gone. We will submit charges to the Jasper County Prosecutor's Office for 1st Degree Vehicle Tampering for review of formal charges.

Assault on an Officer—1st Degree

On January 1, 2014 at approximately 9:00PM, officers with the Joplin Police Department received information of a possible intoxicated driver in the area of 20th and Rangeline. Officers located the vehicle at 4th and Rangeline and attempted to stop the vehicle there for traffic violations as well as an equipment violation. The vehicle failed to stop for the officer and it continued west on 4th Street and a pursuit was initiated. The officers terminated the pursuit a short time later due to the poor conditions of the roadway. The vehicle was later located stopped at the traffic light at 4th and Main. Another officer was set up to the west with spike strips. Officers attempted to stop the vehicle again and the vehicle continued west on 4th. Officers were able to successfully deploy the spike strips at 4th and Joplin.

The suspect vehicle then continued north on Byers and struck a retaining wall in the 200 block of South Byers. The vehicle continued to drive and struck two patrol vehicles that were involved. One officer received minor injuries from the crash. The officer was taken to a local hospital where he was treated and released. One of the patrol vehicles had to be towed from the scene because it was not drivable.

The suspect was arrested for 2 counts of 1st Degree Assault on a Law Enforcement Officer, DWI, Several traffic violations, Property Damage, and for Felony Eluding.

The suspect in this case is Deanna R. Martin a 29 year old female from Joplin with an address of 323 E. 34th.

Charges have been forwarded to the Jasper County Prosecutor's office for review of formal charges. The suspect is presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.
