

On 11/21/22 at approximately 1600 hours Tenino Police Officers were dispatched to the area of the Black Bear Espresso stand to a report of suspicious circumstances. Dispatch advised the two responding Tenino Officers that the 911 caller was reporting a suspicious male circling the coffee stand. The suspicious vehicle which was occupied by one male then backed into the adjacent public works lot and was apparently surveilling the coffee stand which was occupied by a 24 year old employee and her three year old child.

As Tenino officers arrived in the area the driver saw the patrol car and exited the parking lot in his vehicle. The officers followed and developed probable cause to conduct a traffic stop. The driver initially stopped but as officers approached on foot the driver fled at a high rate of speed, in the oncoming lane of travel nearly causing multiple collisions. The vehicle fled onto Sussex Ave toward Rainer. Officers were able to keep the vehicle in sight long enough to relay information and advised units from partner agencies that the Tenino Police Department had probable cause to stop and arrest the driver for Felony Eluding. Tenino officers did not engage in a pursuit in compliance with state law. Deputies from the TCSO responded to the address that the vehicle was registered to. As deputies arrived in the area the saw the vehicle and driver pulling into the address. The driver fled from deputies through a field in the car. Deputies were able to follow at a safe distance until the car got stuck in some vegetation on the property.

Deputies contacted the driver and after a struggle he was taken into custody. A search subsequent to arrest revealed that the driver, who was a violent felon on escape status from the department of corrections had in his possession a stolen handgun out of Tacoma which was loaded, binoculars, gloves and a balaclava style mask. The driver also had outstanding felony warrants for his arrest. If it wasn't for the quick response of Tenino officers and cooperation with our partner agencies this violent felon who was clearly intent on victimizing citizens would still be on the loose.

Robert Auderer

Chief of Police

City of Tenino

(360) 264-2626 (office)

[rauderer@teninopolice.org](mailto:rauderer@teninopolice.org)

