Written by Staff Reports Friday, 19 January 2018 09:24

















Jan. 14, 6:48 pm

1st DWI, Aggravated

McKinley County Sheriff's Sgt. Tammy S. Houghtaling arrived to the scene of an accident on Interstate 40, where a potentially intoxicated man had rolled his Ford pickup. A witness told officers at the scene that the truck cut off another vehicle attempting to pass it, when the driver lost control.

Houghtaling met the driver Moore, 26. Moore said he had been drinking with friends, but claimed to only have drunk a little bit. Moore accounted for the smell of alcohol coming from him to a friend who spilled beer on his clothes.

Houghtaling performed three field sobriety tests on Moore. Nearly all signs of intoxication were present on each test. Moore was placed under arrest and performed a breath test. He blew a .17 twice before receiving his medical clearance and being booked.

Charles Kasey Benally, 19

Jan. 14, 12:06 am

1st DWI

MCSO Sgt. Tammy S. Houghtaling was traveling north on Boardman Avenue when he saw a

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car crash into a traffic pole on the intersection of Boardman Avenue and Highway 118. Houghtaling made contact with the driver Benally, 19, who said he had left McDonalds and had turned too quickly, causing him to hit the pole. Houghtaling could smell alcohol on Benally. There were other occupants in the car, and one was bleeding from the chin, due to the accident.

Houghtaling had Benally exit the car so he could assess him for drunkenness. He performed field sobriety tests on Benally, who showed signs of intoxication on each test. Benally later blew a .12 on two breath tests before being booked.

Vernon Eugene Long

Jan. 12, 10:14 pm

4th DWI

MCSO Sgt. Tammy S. Houghtaling went to assist Dep. Johnson Lee with a traffic stop on Metro Avenue. The driver they stopped had been traveling on the wrong side of the road and into oncoming traffic, according to the police report. Officers made contact with the driver Long, 50, in the parking lot of Tractor Supply Company.

The smell of alcohol was coming from Long's car. Houghtaling began a DWI investigation, and Long admitted to drinking a can of beer before driving. His eyes were bloodshot and watery, and his speech was slurred, according to Houghtaling's report. Houghtaling administered three field sobriety tests, and Long performed poorly on each.

Long was booked after blowing a .27 and a .25 on a breath test. After running his name, Houghtaling found that Long was on the felony list and had three prior DWI arrests. Officers found vodka in his car.

Michelle Lonjose

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1st DWI, Aggravated

Dec. 31, 12:16 am

A defunct headlamp on a white Dodge Caravan traveling eastbound on Highway 66 caught the attention of MCSO Lt. Eric Jim as the vehicle turned south onto Dean Street. Jim tailed the vehicle all the way to Chaparral Trailer Park, and signaled for the driver, Lonjose, to pull over.

But Lonjose, 47, kept going until she parked the vehicle outside of a mobile home, according to the police report. Jim asked her why she didn't stop, and Lonjose replied that "she was going home."

She told Jim that she was aware of the non-working headlamp, but Jim focused on her red watery eyes, "and strong odor of intoxicating liquor coming from her person." She admitted to having a few beers at the local casino.

Lonjose failed field sobriety tests, and blew a .17 twice during the breath test.

Wade T. Wilson

1st DWI, Aggravated

Dec. 30, 5:37 pm

MCSO Lt. Jim was patrolling the T&R Market area when she was waved down by a woman driving a Chevy Traverse. It was parked behind a Mitsubishi Eclipse, and three men were

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congregated around the driver's door.

The woman said that she was sideswiped by the Eclipse. Her husband tailed the car to the T&R Market. Jim noticed the driver, Wilson, 23, was showing all the signs of intoxication. He said he knocked back two beers, but Jim noticed a large whiskey bottle and open package of Budweiser beer in the car.

He failed field sobriety tests and blew .20 and .21.

Calbert Brown

1st DWI, Aggravated

Dec. 30, 6:32 pm

As MCSO Deputy Lorenzo Guerrero patrolled U.S. Route 491 northbound, he noticed at the three-mile marker, a white passenger car pass him and driver onto the shoulder of the roadway, and cross over the road lines.

He signaled for the vehicle to pull over that was driven by Brown, 36. Guerrero immediately noticed several open containers of booze on the floorboard, under Brown's legs. He admitted to consuming two drinks, the report states.

When Brown stepped out of the car per the deputy's request, he nearly lost his balance. He failed field sobriety tests and blew .24 twice.