



## Harris County Precinct 8 Phil Sandlin, Constable

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### PRESS RELEASE

October 7, 2021

On Wednesday, October 6, 2021 at approximately 5:48 PM, Precinct 8 Deputy A. Peters was actively patrolling the area of the 15600 block of the Gulf Freeway when she observed a silver Honda sedan with an expired temporary tag.

Deputy Peters initiated a traffic stop in the 15300 block of the Gulf Freeway. The vehicle entered a parking lot but failed to stop and began to evade at a speed exceeding 50 MPH. The vehicle then entered the main lanes traveling westbound on FM 1959 driving erratically through traffic. The vehicle proceeded through a red light and was struck by a passing vehicle in the intersection of FM 1959 and the Gulf Freeway. The driver and passenger exited the crashed vehicle and began to flee on foot. Both suspects entered an unoccupied white Hyundai that was parked in the nearby U-turn lane. Coincidentally, the driver of the Hyundai had stopped and exited the vehicle to retrieve an item that had accidentally fallen out. Deputy Peters ordered the suspects to exit this vehicle, however they disregarded commands and began to evade northbound on the feeder of the Gulf Freeway and entered a closed HOV ramp. The vehicle continued traveling northbound against southbound HOV traffic and nearly struck another vehicle. The suspect came to a stop after crashing a short distance later and both suspects exited the vehicle and began to flee on foot again. A responding Webster PD officer was able to successfully detain the male driver. The female passenger jumped off the HOV flyover onto the southbound Gulf Freeway main lanes. Responding officers were able to intercept the female and she was successfully detained.

The male driver was identified as 25 year old Michael Anthony Araujo and the female passenger was identified as 31 year old Jessica Caro-Ann Johnson. A check of Johnson's information revealed she had two open felony warrants filed by the Harris County Sheriff's Office. Both suspects were transported to the hospital to be treated for minor injuries.

While inside the hospital, Johnson was able to escape custody undetected and fled on foot out of building. A nurse later located Johnson in the backseat of an occupied vehicle where she had entered and was attempting to get the driver to leave the scene of the hospital. The nurse attempted to escort Johnson back to the hospital when Johnson attacked the nurse by head-butting her and biting her hand. Deputies arrived and were able to detain Johnson without further incident.

A check of the suspect vehicle revealed it was reported stolen out of Pasadena Police Department. Deputies conducted an inventory and located several power tools and a purse containing personal items that did not belong to either suspect. Deputy Peters contacted the registered owner of the vehicle who stated he had given the two suspects a courtesy ride and stopped by at a gas station with them. When the owner of the vehicle entered the store, he observed the male suspect get into the driver's seat and drive off with the female. The owner stated the items found in the vehicle did not belong to him.

The Harris County District Attorney's Office was contacted and accepted charges for Evading Arrest/Detention in a Vehicle and felony Theft on Araujo. His bonds have been set at \$7,500 total. Evading Arrest/Detention and Escape Causing Bodily Injury charges were accepted on Johnson. Her bonds have not yet been set. Both subjects were transported to the Harris County Joint Processing Center for booking.

Claudia Lopez, Deputy  
Harris County Precinct 8 Constable's Office