# BUTTE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
# MEDIA RELEASE

**JERRY W. SMITH**
**SHERIFF-CORONER**

**DATE : October 07, 2011**

**RELEASED BY: Sgt. Anthony Borgman**

**CONTACT: Sgt. Borgman or Watch Commander, 530-538-7322**

**SUBJECT: C11-15485-Pursuit, Traffic Collision, DUI Arrest**

On Friday October 7, 2011 at approximately 1:36 AM, Butte County Sheriff's Deputy W. Brewton observed an off-white 1996 Lexus GS300 sedan pull out of the Save-Mart parking lot onto East Avenue with no headlights, and fail to maintain a lane as it proceeded eastbound on East Avenue. Deputy Brewton activated his emergency lights to stop the vehicle on East Avenue at the Esplanade. The vehicle stopped approximately ¼ mile later, in front of the Chico Ginter & Brown Realty office.

As Deputy Brewton exited his Patrol vehicle to contact the driver, the vehicle peeled out and drove eastbound on East Avenue, at a high rate of speed. Deputy Brewton pursued the vehicle, and Deputy J. Beller, who had been behind Deputy Brewton on the initial traffic stop, joined. Deputy Brewton observed the vehicle accelerate under Highway 99 and continue eastbound on East Ave. However Deputy Brewton lost sight of the vehicle as it rounded the corner near El Paso Way, continuing eastbound. As Deputy Brewton approached El Paso Way, he found the car had wrecked into a large tree and two cars parked in front of 578 East Avenue. The driver was trying to drive away, but his vehicle was no longer able to continue. Deputy Brewton and Deputy Beller detained the driver, identified as 31 year old Paradise resident Brett Calandrella.

Calandrella was subsequently arrested and booked into the Butte County Jail for fleeing from a Peace Officer (felony), possession of a billy club (felony), driving under the influence of drugs (misdemeanor), driving while his license is suspended for DUI (misdemeanor), possession of a narcotics smoking device (misdemeanor) and violation of Probation. His bail is set at $74,500.