

BUTTE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

MEDIA RELEASE

JERRY W. SMITH
SHERIFF-CORONER



DATE : 3/26/11

RELEASED BY : SGT Greg Reeves

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On 3/26/11 Butte County Deputy Sheriff Derek Ament heard Oroville Police Officers being dispatched to take a report of a stolen car in their jurisdiction. Deputy Ament spotted a tan Honda driving past him eastbound on Olive Highway. This fit the initial, brief description given of the car taken in Oroville Police Department's dispatch to their officers. Within a minute of Deputy Ament falling in behind this vehicle, Sergeant Reeves of the Butte County Sheriff's Office fell in behind Deputy Ament. Deputy Ament was able to confirm that the vehicle he was behind was the same one that Oroville Police Department was taking a report on.

By the time that Deputy Ament confirmed that the car in front of him was stolen, they had started to cross the Bidwell Bar Bridge toward Berry Creek. Deputy Ament activated his overhead lights to affect a stop. Initially the driver of the Honda slowed as if he was going to yield, but then accelerated away at a high rate of speed. The pursuit continued for nearly 13 miles. Several times during the pursuit the driver of the Honda suddenly slowed his vehicle to possibly force an accident. The course of the pursuit followed Olive Highway to Bald Rock Road and finally to Four M Court where it terminated with the driver of the Honda crashing into a tree.

Both occupants of the Honda ran from the scene and were taken into custody within moments of the crash. The driver was identified as Clint Patterson, DOB: 9/24/79 out of the Sacramento area and on Parole. The passenger was identified as Josephine Yates, DOB: 6/25/91, a resident of Berry Creek. Patterson has been charged with possessing a stolen vehicle; driving on the highway in the opposite lane while being pursued; hit and run; possessing altered motor vehicle keys; resisting arrest; and a parole violation. He is being held without bail due to the parole hold. Yates is charged with possessing a stolen vehicle;

possessing altered motor vehicle keys; and resisting arrest; her bail has been set at \$19,000.