



## PRESS RELEASE

Case #13-508051

### Deputies Arrest DUI Driver Following Injury Crash

June 4, 2013—Sheriff's Deputies responded to a crash where a driver crashed into another vehicle sending the other driver to the hospital. The driver who caused the crash was arrested for DUI and other charges.

On June 3, 2013, at 5:26 p.m., Washington County Sheriff's Deputies responded to a vehicle crash at SW Garden Home Road and SW 91<sup>st</sup> Avenue. This is in the community of Garden Home, an area of the [Enhanced Sheriff's Patrol District](#) (ESPD).



Deputies determined that a 2003 Kia Rio was westbound on SW Garden Home Road when it collided head-on with a 2012 Mazda 3 that was traveling eastbound in the eastbound lane. Both cars had substantial front end damage. Deputies learned that the Kia was driven by Douglas Gearing, 29, from Portland, he was not injured. There was evidence that led deputies to believe that Mr. Gearing was under the influence of alcohol.

The Mazda was driven by Elmer Strueh, 64, from Portland. Mr. Strueh said he was driving eastbound on SW Garden Home Road when Mr. Gearing suddenly swerved into his lane and he could not avoid the collision. Witnesses told deputies that the Kia abruptly turned into the oncoming lane causing the collision. Mr. Strueh was transported to the hospital by ground ambulance with non life-threatening injuries.

Sheriff's Deputies arrested Mr. Gearing. He was charged with DUI, Fourth Degree Assault, and Reckless Driving. He was lodged in the Washington County Jail and held on \$5,000 bail.