



## PRESS RELEASE

Case #14-514613

### UPDATE:

September 24, 2014—Today, about 4:00 p.m., Alexander Fastabend was released from the hospital and arrested for the crimes he is accused of committing on September 18, 2014 (booking photo attached).

Alexander Fastabend was lodged in the Washington County Jail and charged with First Degree Arson, Second Degree Assault, Attempted Second Degree Assault, Unlawful Use of a Weapon and First Degree Criminal Mischief. He is held on \$500,000 bail. Alexander Fastabend's arraignment will be on September 25, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. at the Sheriff's Office Law Enforcement Center.

The Washington County Deputy Sheriff injured in the crash is expected to make a full recovery in the coming weeks.

Original Release below:



### Gaston Man Arrested after Crashing into Deputy's Vehicle

September 18, 2014—Sheriff's Deputies attempted to assist a man that had overdosed on medication in an attempt to harm himself. The man refused care and drove a vehicle at a high rate of speed into a deputy's patrol vehicle causing substantial damage and minor injuries prior to his arrest.

On September 18, 2014 at 3:02 p.m., Sheriff's Deputies were called to the 47000 block of SW Fluke Drive in the community of Gaston concerning a man that reportedly overdosed. Family members called and reported Alexander Fastabend, 22, had intentionally ingested a large number of pills. The family members believed that Mr. Fastabend wanted to cause himself harm. It was reported Mr. Fastabend had armed himself with an unknown type of hand saw while in the residence.

Sheriff's Deputies arrived and were assisted by the Oregon State Police (OSP) and Gaston Fire District. The deputies were able to safely get the family out of the residence to remove them from potential harm. Members of the Sheriff's Office Mental Health Response Team (MHRT) were arriving to open the lines of communication with Mr. Fastabend to provide him with assistance.

Prior to talking to MHRT, Mr. Fastabend quickly exited the house, jumped into a 2014 Honda Accord and sped down the long gravel road toward SW Old Highway 47. As Mr.

Fastabend sped down the gravel road, an OSP Trooper had to leap out of the way to avoid being struck by the Accord.



At the intersection of Fluke Drive and SW Old Highway 47, the driver rapidly accelerated head-on into a deputy's patrol vehicle causing major damage to both vehicles. Both vehicles came to rest across SW Old Highway 47 into a farm field over 100 feet from the collision (photos attached).



After the crash, Mr. Fastabend bolted from the Accord and ran into a nearby corn field. The corn stalks were over six feet tall. As deputies and fire personnel tended to the injured deputy, additional deputies and OSP began their search for Mr. Fastabend. Within seven minutes, Mr. Fastabend emerged from the corn field holding a large butcher type knife in his hand. Deputies and OSP immediately converged on him and were able to quickly and successfully deploy their Tasers and take Mr. Fastabend into custody without further incident.

It was later discovered that Mr. Fastabend started a fire in the residence before fleeing in the Accord. The fire was mostly extinguished prior to its discovery due to the lack of combustible materials.

The Washington County Crash Analysis Reconstruction Team and the Washington County Forensic Science Unit responded to assist with scene documentation, measurements, speed estimates and evidence processing. Washington County Detectives were called to assist with the investigation.

The Sheriff's Deputy in the crash had minor injuries and was treated at a local hospital. He suffered minor head and upper body injuries.

Alexander Fastabend was taken to the hospital for medical attention. He is potentially facing First Degree Arson and Second Degree Assault charges when he is released from the hospital. There are additional charges possible as the investigation continues.