

Pursuit ends with arrest, recovery of motorcycle, SUV

(KAIR)--An early Saturday morning pursuit ended with the driver arrested and a stolen motorcycle, SUV, and trailer, recovered.

According to a release from Atchison Police Chief Mike Wilson, the pursuit began when a pickup truck, pulling a trailer, refused to stop for an Atchison Police Officer in the area of 10th Street and U.S. Highway 59 around 4:45 Saturday morning. Instead, the truck and trailer fled westbound on the highway into the Branchton area and then back to the highway where the truck headed east into Missouri.

A release from Atchison County Sheriff Jack Laurie explains that the truck matched the description of the vehicle used to steal a trailer from 6324 Sherman Road, around 2:00 in the morning on June 22.

The suspect vehicle was pursued by an Atchison County Sheriff's Deputy into Missouri, with the pursuit ending in Platte County. According to Laurie, "the truck had lost all of its tires due to stop sticks being deployed multiple times" during the pursuit.

The driver, now identified as 29-year-old Leavenworth resident Michael Diblasio, allegedly fled on foot into some tall grass, but an Atchison County K9 was deployed, and Diblasio surrendered a short time later. He was taken into custody by the Platte County Sheriff's Office.

A motorcycle, reported stolen from the 200 block of Atchison's North 9th Street shortly after the pursuit began, was found on the trailer, which itself had been stolen from 12014 Labette Road. A Polaris Ranger was also found on the trailer. It had been stolen, according to Laurie, from another property on Labette Road.

According to Wilson, prior to the arrest as the pursuit made its way onto the Amelia Earhart Memorial Bridge, headed towards Missouri, an Atchison Police Officer, on the east end of the bridge, deployed stop sticks in an effort to flatten the truck's tires. The officer was holding the stop stick cord, which "made contact with the fleeing vehicle and trailer and injured the officers hand," sending him to the hospital for stitches to a finger. He has since been released following treatment.