

KNOX COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



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SHERIFF DAVID L. CLAGUE

PRESS RELEASE

August 3, 2012

2:15 PM

On August 3, 2012 at approx. 12:23 AM, Knox County Sheriff's Deputies were informed of a vehicle pursuit on I-74 (Peoria County) soon to be entering Knox County. The vehicle in question was described as a tan colored 2008 Chevy Equinox which had been reported stolen from Washington Illinois. Within a short period of time, dispatch advised deputies the vehicle was traveling in excess of 100 MPH and the pursuing units had terminated the pursuit.

Knox County Deputies were at the County Line on I-74 when the suspect vehicle passed, traveling at a high rate of speed. Deputies then engaged in a pursuit only to have the suspect vehicle exit I-74 onto the exit ramp located at exit 51 (Knoxville exit). Knoxville PD had blocked the roadway at the top of the exit ramp and Knox County deputy was approaching the suspect vehicle on foot. The suspect vehicle began backing up, approaching the deputy at which time the deputy fired his duty weapon at the suspect vehicle. The suspect vehicle then drove forward and turned onto County Highway 9, traveling north. On entering East Galesburg, the suspect vehicle came upon the Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad tracks and turned abruptly now traveling on the tracks. The vehicle came to a stop approx. seventy-five feet from the roadway. The driver, lone occupant, was taken into custody without incident. Medical personnel arrived and checked for any injuries on the suspect and none were found. The suspect was then taken to the Knox County Jail.



The suspect in this case is ROYER, Isaiah N., DOB 08/28/94 of Washington Illinois. ROYER is charged with

- Aggravated fleeing and eluding
- Unlawful possession of stolen vehicle
- Trespass on railroad right of way
- No valid driver's license
- Failure to reduce speed
- Disregarding stop sign

Other charges may be pending on the driver of the stolen vehicle.

The Illinois State Police Integrity Task Force is conducting an independent investigation into the deputy discharging his duty weapon. The Knox County Sheriff's Departmental policy requires the deputy be placed on an administrative leave while the shooting investigation takes place. Once this is completed, an administrative investigation will take place. Again, the deputy will remain on administrative leave until both investigations are completed.

Any future press releases will be made by the Illinois State Police, Zone 2, East Moline. Any inquires should also be directed to the State Police.