



# Sheriff Troy J. Knudson ROCK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Craig L. Strouse, Chief Deputy



Jude G. Maurer  
Commander, Law Enforcement Services

*"A Tradition of Service"*

Erik D. Chellevold  
Commander, Correctional Services

## MEDIA RELEASE

### **Suspect Causes On Duty Deputy Involved Squad Crash**

#### **For Immediate Release**

Date: 03/29/22

Case #: SO2217248

#### **Contact Person**

Captain Mark Thompson

608-757-7944

On 03/29/2022 at 1850 hours, the Janesville Police Department (JPD) was investigating a suspicious activity where the suspect fled the scene in a vehicle. JPD was in a short pursuit with the vehicle before terminating while the suspect was northbound on HWY 26 near HWY 14 in Janesville. At that time, the identity of the suspect driver was known. There was a Rock County Deputy on HWY 26 at McCormick Drive who observed the suspect vehicle go around their squad continuing northbound on HWY 26 in the southbound lanes.

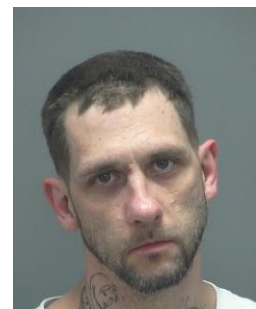
The Deputy attempted to stop the suspect, and when the suspect continued in the wrong direction, the Deputy disregarded to deescalate the suspect's driving behavior. The Deputy continued northbound on HWY 26 on the northbound side, while the suspect vehicle continued northbound on the southbound side. The suspect vehicle then turned south and was traveling southbound on the north side of HWY 26. The Deputy observed this and activated their emergency lights to warn the traffic behind them of the danger.

The suspect then caused a head on collision with the Deputy's squad. The only vehicles involved in the crash were the suspect and the Deputy. After collision, the driver, later identified as Jesse Seales (38 years old of Janesville), fled the scene on foot. Seales was later located and taken into custody. Wisconsin State Patrol will be investigating the crash and ensuing charges regarding it. JPD also has charges on Seales. The Deputy was transported via ambulance to the hospital where they were treated and released. The Rock County Sheriff's Office will also have charges for Seales for this incident.

"Pursuant to the directive of the Wisconsin Supreme Court, as found in Supreme Court Rule 20:3.6, Trial Publicity, you are advised that a charge is merely an accusation and that a defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty."

TROY J. KNUDSON  
SHERIFF

By: Sergeant Rowley



**Seales**

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