

DPS INCIDENT REPORT

Report Number 1100212943-02	Report Date / Time 11/14/2017 12:57 PM	Reporting Agency GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
Agency Case Number	Agency CAD Number GSPD17CAD088262	Range of Occurrence Date/Time 10/10/2017 05:26 PM to 10/10/2017 05:26 PM

INCIDENT TYPE(S)

MISD OBSTRUCTION

INCIDENT LOCATION

County PIKE	Location SR109 MCCARD LAKE RD/MM18 X2[WALKER RD]	Latitude N 33 3.5316	Longitude W 84 15.6702
Street Address SR109 18	City	State GA	Zip Code

INVESTIGATIVE TIMES (IN HOURS)					VEHICLE MILES	BOAT ENGINE HOURS	AIRCRAFT ENGINE HOURS
ON BOAT	ON LAND	IN AIR	ADMINISTRATIVE	TOTAL	:	:	:

PERSON: SUSPECT

First Name EMORY	Middle Name LEROY	Last Name RICKERSON	Suffix	Date of Birth 1961	Age 56	Race W	Sex M	Height 508	Weight 220	Hair GRY	Eyes BRO	Marital Status SINGLE
Master Name Index Number GSP17MNI686542	Custodial Status ARRESTED	Driver's License or Other ID		State GA	Class or Type AM	Expires 2019						
Address ADAMS RD		Address (Other)		City MEANSVILLE	State GA	Zip Code 30256	Phone	Phone (Other)				
Vehicle on Report Associated with Person TagNo: PGU6446 State: GA Year: 2003 Make: TOYOTA Model: TUNDRA REGULAR				Person's Role in Vehicle DRIVER								

ARREST INFORMATION

County of Arrest PIKE	Location Description 15497 HWY 109											
Arrest Delivered To (Jail / Booking Facility) PIKE CO. S.O.		P.O. BOX 236			ZEBULON, GA 30295			770-567-8431				
Arresting Officer JETER, R. S.	Rank SERGEANT	Badge / ID Number 0321	Unit / Assignment DEP COMMIS									

CHARGES

Violation	Counts	Violation Type	Violation Classification / Level
> 16-10-24(b)	1	STATE LAW	GEORGIA CRIMINAL CODE
OBSTRUCTION OF A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER			

PERSON: WITNESS

First Name EMILY	Middle Name	Last Name MEADOWS	Suffix	Date of Birth 1977	Age 40	Race W	Sex F	Height	Weight	Hair BRO	Eyes UNK	Marital Status
Master Name Index Number GSP17MNI686543	Custodial Status	Driver's License or Other ID		State GA	Class or Type	Expires						
Address MCCARD LAKE ROAD		Address (Other)		City MEANSVILLE	State GA	Zip Code 30256	Phone	Phone (Other)				
Vehicle on Report Associated with Person				Person's Role in Vehicle								

VEHICLE

State & License Plate Number Expires GA PGU6446 2018	VIN 5TBR34163S438227	Year 2003	Make TOYOTA	Model TUNDRA REGULAI	Style TK	Color WHI
<input type="checkbox"/> CMV	<input type="checkbox"/> HazMat	Released to PERKIN'S TOWING				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vehicle Towed

Persons Related to Vehicle
 DRIVER: Rickerson, Emory Leroy

NARRATIVE

On October 10th, 2017, at approximately 1655 hours, I was traveling to my residence in LaGrange, GA from work in Forsyth, GA. I was traveling on GA 109 westbound, in Pike County, when I came upon a vehicle accident. The single vehicle had come to rest facing east and on the south side of the road. I parked on the eastbound shoulder of the road and exited my department vehicle. I walked over to the crashed vehicle and observed the driver lying face down and across both front seats of the vehicle. The driver appeared to be in very critical condition. A male subject, later identified as Emory Leroy Rickerson, advised he was traveling behind the subject when she crashed and observed the vehicle traveling off the road. He identified himself as a retired Battalion Chief of a fire department. Rickerson also stated he found her slumped over and not breathing, so he moved her across the two front seats. The driver of the vehicle was a large subject which made it very hard to move her.

I called 911, identified myself, and gave the status of the subject involved in the crash. I also advised them to go ahead and have Life Flight on standby. After disconnecting with 911, I moved my department vehicle and parked it in the eastbound lane facing east and behind a 2003 Toyota Tundra that was parked in the middle of the lane. I made sure my emergency lights were activated to warn any motorist approaching from the west to east. The tag was missing from the vehicle involved in the crash, so I began looking for it. While looking for the tag, I heard sirens approaching the scene and asked who the Toyota truck that I was parked behind belonged to. Bystanders at the scene pointed to Mr. Rickerson. Rickerson was standing behind two others that were kneeling down beside the vehicle. There were three people that were standing immediately around the vehicle. A female, who was later identified as Emily Meadows, and another unidentified man, were kneeling down at the passenger side front seat of the vehicle. The third male was Emory Rickerson, and he was standing behind the other two people that were

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kneeling. He was not touching the driver at the time and was not rendering aid. I called out to Rickerson and said, "Hey sir, can you please move your vehicle?" He replied, "No, I'm not moving my vehicle right now!" I replied back, "Sir, I need you to move your vehicle to make room for emergency vehicles that are coming." He replied, "I told you, I'm not moving my vehicle right now, and I'm not leaving this patient!" At this time, I walked over to the accident scene, identified myself as a Sergeant with the Georgia State Patrol, and tried to explain that I didn't want his vehicle in the way of emergency vehicles coming to the scene. He stated, "I don't care who you are. You can take me to jail, but I'm not moving my vehicle or leaving this patient right now." At that time, Ms. Meadows asked Rickerson to take her position, and she would move his vehicle. I saw that my conversation was not going anywhere with Mr. Rickerson, and due to the condition of the patient, I walked away and advised Mr. Rickerson I would speak with him later.

Sergeant Fox and Deputy Alpough with Pike County Sheriff's Department, arrived on the scene, and I began to give them what little information I had of the accident. I advised them Mr. Rickerson was one of the witnesses and also advised them of the trouble he had given me. Deputy Alpough indicated they had previous dealings with Rickerson as well.

After the crash victim was loaded into the helicopter, I spoke with Mr. Rickerson and asked if he had his license on him. He stated, "Yeah I have my license, but what do you need them for?" I advised him he was a witness to the crash, and we needed his information. He stated his license was in his truck. I requested him to go get them and followed him to the vehicle. As we walked to his vehicle, I tried to reason with and explain to him about why I was asking him to move his vehicle. He quickly became belligerent and kept talking over me as I was trying to explain myself. I explained to him again that he wasn't providing patient care when I asked him to move his vehicle. I asked him if he was a Paramedic or EMT, and he stated he was a First Responder. I asked if he was actively employed as a Firefighter, and he said he was retired. At one point, he stated, "Look, I don't want to hear anymore preaching. If you're going to take me to jail, go ahead and take me. I need the money anyway." It was clear to me Mr. Rickerson refused to cooperate the entire time I spoke with him.

I placed Mr. Rickerson under arrest for obstruction, due to the fact that he consistently refused to remove his vehicle from the roadway. I handcuffed him behind his back, and placed him in the rear seat of my department vehicle. A vehicle inventory sheet was completed for Mr. Rickerson's vehicle, and Perkin's Towing was called to the scene to tow the vehicle. During the vehicle inventory, I observed seven Michelob Ultra beers in the front passenger side floorboard. The beers were cold to the touch and had sweat on the side of them. One of the seven beers was open with a slight amount of alcohol inside. I read the Miranda Warning to Mr. Rickerson and asked how much alcohol he had to drink on this day. He stated none and that he would be glad to take any test. I asked him about the open beer, and he stated it was trash. He stated he was taking the others over to his girlfriend's house. I did not smell any odor of an alcoholic beverage coming from him, and he never displayed any other signs that he had consumed alcohol. Based on these findings, I did not request any other test.

While Rickerson was sitting in my backseat, he began to say the handcuffs were too tight. I explained to him I checked the handcuffs for tightness by placing one of my fingers between the cuffs, and they were not too tight. He insisted they were too tight, so I requested him to get back out of the vehicle so I could check them again. As he was exiting my vehicle, he began yelling and saying his back was hurt. He stated he had surgery in the past, and now his back was hurting. I placed another set of handcuffs on him to allow more flexibility. Rickerson requested an ambulance, and at that time, I requested the Pike County Deputies to call for another ambulance. Mr. Rickerson was transported to Upson Regional Medical Center by EMS. A Pike County Deputy was dispatched to the hospital to standby with Rickerson.

I later proceeded to the Pike County Jail to turn in the citation and other paperwork. While I was there, the GSP Troop D Communication Center contacted me and stated Mr. Rickerson's son requested that I call him in regards to his father's arrest. I called his son, and he identified himself as Joshua Rickerson. Joshua wanted to know the details of the arrest. I began to explain the circumstances that took place, and he stated, "I'm sorry you had to deal with my dad. He tends to get out of hand like that when he's on the scene of an emergency situation."

Mr. Rickerson was later released from the hospital, and a Pike County Deputy transported him to the jail. Mr. Rickerson later bonded out on the obstruction charge.

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On October 13th, 2017, I called Emily Meadows (witness) for clarification of her witness statement that she wrote. After speaking with Ms. Meadows she indicated that she was not accurate with her original statement and she would be glad to rewrite the statement for better accuracy. On May 24th, 2017, Ms. Meadows rewrote the statement and emailed me the updated version of the statement. Both copies of the statement were retained in the case file.

RELATED REPORTS	
Report Name	Report Number / Description
Vehicle Tow Receipt	Tag: GA/PGU6446
Uniform Traffic Citation	E02462742

ASSISTING OFFICERS			
RANK ▶ SGT	NAME JAMES FOX	ID NO.	AGENCY PIKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
RANK ▶ DEPUTY	NAME LEON ALPOUGH	ID NO.	AGENCY PIKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

REPORTING OFFICER / SUPERVISOR APPROVAL					
Reporting Officer			Approving Supervisor		
ID Number 0321	Rank SERGEANT	Name JETER, R. S.	ID Number 0041	Rank LIEUTENANT	Name GREENE, L.C.
Signature <i>CDL R.S. Jeter #321</i>			Signature <i>[Signature]</i>		



This should read October 24, 2017. I called and confirmed this with Sgt. Jeter.
- Becky Watts, Editor
Pike County Times