



For Immediate Release
September 24, 2013

Contact: Mary-Hope Vass, Public Information Officer
540.432.8931
MaryHope.Vass@HarrisonburgVA.gov

HPD Investigates Pursuit and Accident

Harrisonburg, VA – The Harrisonburg Police Department is currently investigating a traffic accident involving a police vehicle.

An officer began pursuing a vehicle along South Main Street, shortly after 1:30 p.m. this afternoon.

During the pursuit, the officer wrecked the police vehicle in the 800 block of South Main Street. One other vehicle was involved in the actual traffic accident.

No injuries were reported and the second vehicle involved in the accident, an SUV, sustained minor damage.

Charles Richard Rose, 45, of Mount Crawford has been charged by HPD with eluding police.

He was taken into custody by the Rockingham County Sheriff's Office in the 1400 block of South Main Street a short time after the accident occurred.

The Rockingham County Sheriff's Office also charged Rose with driving with a suspended license and driving under the influence.

Harrisonburg Police Department's Accident Reconstruction Team continues to investigate the circumstances surrounding the accident. An investigation into the reason for the pursuit is also taking place. It is common procedure for the Accident Reconstruction Team to investigate an accident involving a police vehicle, no matter how minor.

Both southbound lanes of South Main Street, from Grace Street to Bluestone Drive, were closed for approximately three hours.

Police are asking anyone who may have seen this accident or the circumstances leading up to the accident, to contact HPD through the non-emergency number at 540-434-4436.

*Who will notify you if an emergency-related event is happening in Harrisonburg or Rockingham County? Sign up to receive free alerts through the **Harrisonburg and Rockingham County Emergency Alert System** by visiting www.HREmergencyAlert.com.*

###