MEDIA RELEASE

ASSIGNED PIO: Captain Al Xiques

PPPD CASE NUMBER: 2017-083782

DATE: 12/19/2017 TIME: Click here to enter text. PM

PLACE OF OCCURRENCE: 1110 SW 125th Avenue, parking lot of Cambridge M

CHARGE/INCIDENT: Attempted Murder of a Law Enforcement Officer; Felony Fleeing & Eluding; Driving While License Suspended; Reckless Driving; additional charges forthcoming

SUSPECT(S) - NAME, AGE, DOB, RACE, SEX, ADDRESS:

1) Thomas Cabrera; DOB 08/21/79; H/M; 1200 SW 124 Terrace, Cambridge M Apt 308, Pembroke Pines

2)

SUBJECT(S) - NAME, AGE, DOB, RACE, SEX, ADDRESS:

1) White Female Adult, passenger

2)

INCIDENT SUMMARY:

At approximately 8:35AM members of Century Village security were summoned by a resident who observed two individuals - a man and a woman - asleep or unconscious inside of a parked vehicle located at 1110 SW 125 Avenue. A clear baggie containing an unknown substance could be observed inside of the vehicle, and the individuals were non-responsive. Fearing a possible overdose, security alerted police to the incident.

When the officer arrived he made entry into the vehicle in an attempt to check on the welfare of the occupants who remained unresponsive. After being awakened and making verbal contact with our officer, the male suspect - later identified as Thomas Cabrera - placed the car into drive. Our officer reached into the vehicle at this time in an attempt to prevent the suspect from leaving the scene in a possibly impaired state which would endanger our community and the safety of the passenger. The suspect proceeded to leave the scene at a high rate of speed, and dragged the officer for over half a mile wherein the officer was clinging to the vehicle to avoid being run over.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is urged to contact the Pembroke Pines Police Department at 954-431-2200, email to tips@ppines.com, or call Crimestoppers at 954-493-TIPS.
During this time Pembroke Pines Fire-Rescue was responding inside of the community regarding the initial overdose call. As Fire-Rescue approached the fleeing vehicle's location, the suspect intentionally changed his direction of travel towards them in an attempt to cause a crash which would dislodge our officer from his vehicle. Fire-Rescue had to undertake evasive maneuvers in order to prevent the suspect's vehicle from making contact with them.

When the suspect finally slowed his speed as he approached the Century Village exit located at 129 Avenue and Pembroke Road, our officer determined this to be the safest opportunity for him to release his hold and to roll away from the vehicle's tires. Our injured officer was immediately attended to by a backup officer and Fire-Rescue, and he was trauma alerted to Memorial Regional Hospital with serious injuries.

The suspect proceeded to exit the Century Village complex while officers were in pursuit with full lights and sirens activated. Our officers pursued the suspect vehicle as it made its way on to I-75 northbound, and then to eastbound I-595. Multiple units from various jurisdictions assisted our agency during this chase. As the suspect approached the area of SR-7 the roadway ahead became blocked with traffic, and he eventually came to a stop whereupon our officers were able to take suspect Cabrera and the female passenger safely into custody.

We are not identifying our injured officer at this time. The officer's injuries have been preliminarily assessed and are serious but not life-threatening. The full extent of his injuries is pending additional examinations, and the officer is currently awaiting surgery.

We wish to thank our residents who have offered both support and prayers for the safety of our officers during this time. We also want to extend our gratitude to our neighboring law enforcement agencies who helped us take these suspects into custody.

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