

High Speed Chase In Echols County Ends With Arrest and Stolen Vehicle

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2016 at approximately 11:50 P.M. Echols Deputies were patrolling Hwy 441 when

they encountered two vehicles, a white 2004 GMC Sierra flatbed truck and a

2000's model ford F150 come to a complete stop in the highway.^ The vehicles then continued south bound.^ The Deputies attempted to stop both vehicles

due to the suspicious activity.^ One of

the Deputies initiated his blue lights after pulling behind the 2004 GMC Sierra

flatbed truck.^ The truck then fled from

the Deputies who initiated a brief vehicle chase, which ended when the^ Sierra left the roadway and went through a

fence on private property and then the suspect fled on foot.^ Deputies gave chase and apprehended the

suspect after deploying a taser to stop him.^ Suspect was taken into custody and was found to be in possession of

various lock picks and shaved vehicle keys which led the Deputies to believe

the vehicle was stolen.^ Further

investigation revealed that the vehicle was in fact just stolen from a

construction company in Douglas, GA.^ Suspect refused to provide any identification but was later identified

to be George Richard Fleming, 56 of Florida.^ Fleming had just been released from prison on April 13, 2016 after

serving time for a similar offense.^ Fleming was transported to Lowndes County Jail where he faces charges in

multiple jurisdictions for the following charges ^ (F) theft by taking (motor vehicle), (F)

burglary, (F) Possession of tools during the commission of a crime, (F) fleeing

and attempting to elude law enforcement, (F) theft by receiving stolen

property, (M) criminal trespass, obstruction of an officer, (M) improper

stopping on a roadway, (M)driving while unlicensed, (M) DUI refusal, (M) failure

to maintain lane, and (M) open container.^ Sheriff

Courson would like to commend the Deputies for their continued efforts in

keeping the citizens of Echols County safe and putting these career criminals

where they belong.^