



Cumberland County Sheriff's Office

- **Mark N. Dion, Esq.**
SHERIFF
- **Kevin J. Joyce**
CHIEF DEPUTY

36 COUNTY WAY, PORTLAND, ME 04102

PHONE (207) 774-1444 ~ FAX (207) 828-2373

Media Release

Incident Date: 08/05/2010
Incident Time: 15:30 hours
Incident Location: Haskell Road, North Yarmouth
Release Date: 08/05/2010
Release Time: 17:30 hours

Incident Synopsis: On the listed date and time, the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office received a call of an erratic driver in the area of the Gray Road, near the Town of Cumberland. A Deputy was immediately dispatched to the area in an attempt to locate the vehicle.

At 15:38 hours a second call was received for a serious accident with injuries in the area of Haskell Road in the Town of North Yarmouth. Lt. Tom Williams of the Sheriff's Office was dispatched on the call. Lt. Williams was the same deputy who had been searching for the vehicle that had been reported operating erratically on the first call.

When Lt. Williams arrived on scene he quickly realized that the vehicle that was involved in the crash was the same vehicle that had been reported to be operating erratically in the first report. The vehicle had a fire in the engine compartment. Lt. Williams was able to suppress the fire using a fire extinguisher.

The vehicle in question, a 2008 Ford Taurus had left the road and traveled approximately 100 yards into a wooded area before it struck a tree head on. The operator Robert K. Blackburn, 82 years of age, and a resident of North Yarmouth, was unconscious inside the vehicle. Also in the vehicle was Mr. Blackburn's 2 year old grandson. Mr. Blackburn sustained serious injuries, to include broken bones and lacerations. The 2 year old, who was secured in a child's safety seat, sustained minor injuries consisting of a laceration to an arm.

Both subjects were transported to the Maine Medical Center in Portland. Their conditions are unknown at this time. It appears that Mr. Blackburn may have suffered a medical event that may have contributed to the crash.

Accident re-constructionists from the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office and the Maine State Police are investigating the accident.

For additional information contact:

Jeff Davis
Cumberland County Sheriff's Office
207-774-1444 ext. 2222