



Newport Police Department

169 SW Coast Highway
Newport, Oregon 97365

NPD MEDIA RELEASE

08/13/2011 11:30 p.m.

Incident: Hit and Run Crash/DUII Arrest **Case: 11N-01406**

Location: Hwy 101 at the south end of
the Yaquina Bay Bridge

Date/Time: 08/13/2011 at 3:00 p.m.

Arrestee: Barry Leon Richards, age 50 of Freemont, TX

Details: On 08/13/2011 at about 3:11 p.m., Newport Police Officers were dispatched to a reported crash on Hwy 101 at the south end of the Yaquina Bay Bridge. Information from the caller indicated that one of the drivers was refusing to exchange information with the other driver. Prior to officers arriving, the uncooperative driver fled the scene, heading north on Hwy 101. He was stopped on Hwy 101 near SW 10th St., and identified as Barry Leon Richards of Freemont, Texas. Richards, who was displaying indicators of impairment, failed the field sobriety tests and was initially arrested for DUII. When the victims of the crash were contacted, Newport Police Officers learned that they had been struck from the rear by Richards' vehicle while they were stopped at a stop sign. After the crash Richards stopped in the parking lot of the South Beach Grocery, but refused to identify himself or provide any insurance information. He walked into the store, purchased another large can of beer, vehicle and drove away in his vehicle. The occupants of the rear-ended vehicle were not injured.

Richards was lodged at the Lincoln County Jail on charges of DUII, Reckless Driving, two counts of Recklessly Endangering Another Person, and Hit and Run. Richards was found to have a suspended driver's license in several states, including Oregon. In addition to the criminal charges, Richards was issued citations for Driving While Suspended, Driving Uninsured, and Breath Test Refusal.

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Information Released By: Sgt Tom Simpson (541) 574-3348