

## **BROOME COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

Sheriff Frederick J. Akshar II

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**For Immediate Release:** November 8, 2024 Contact Emmanuel Priest 607-778-2437 emmanuel.priest@broomecountyny.gov

## **BROOME COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE PRESS RELEASE** Spike Strips Safely End Election Day High-Speed Pursuit in the Town of Fenton

(TOWN OF FENTON, NY) A Whitney Point is facing two felony charges, four misdemeanors and nearly 30 traffic violations following a high-speed pursuit that ended after two successful spike strip deployments by Broome County Sheriff's deputies in the Town of Fenton.

On Tuesday, November 5, 2024, at approximately 6:44 PM, a Broome County Sheriff's Office Detective attempted to stop a blue Honda Accord on the Brandywine Highway in the City of Binghamton that was identified as fleeing from Johnson City Police earlier in the evening. The vehicle refused to comply, and a pursuit was initiated. Broome County Sheriff's Road Patrol and NYS State Police joined in the pursuit to assist.

BCSO patrols took the lead as the driver, David S. Zimmer, age 57 of Whitney Point, fled east on I-88, ignoring emergency lights and sirens and recklessly changing lanes multiple times before taking the Exit 3 off ramp onto State Route 369.

Zimmer continued north on State Route 369, driving recklessly at a high rate of speed, crossing double yellow lines, hazard lines, and driving through oncoming traffic in his efforts to pass other vehicles and escape police.

At Ballyhack Road, Zimmer turned off State Route 369 and headed south before traveling west on Ganoungtown Road, all while continuing to drive recklessly and ignoring the emergency lights and sirens emanating from the pursuing police cruisers.

Near the intersection of Ganoungtown Road and State Route 36, Zimmer's vehicle was met with a spike strip successfully deployed by BCSO Deputies. With some of his vehicle's tires disintegrating due to the spike strip, Zimmer continued to flee through the intersection, turning south back onto State Route 369.

As Zimmer returned to intersection of Ballyhack Road and State Route 369, his vehicle hit a second spike strip deployed by BCSO patrols. Zimmer attempted to continue fleeing south on

State Route 369 and onto State Route 7B, but was unable to navigate the turn, driving into the grass near Ashley Trailers and finally coming to a stop.

Zimmer was successfully taken into custody without further incident, and inside the vehicle patrols recovered two dogs and a knotted wrapped bag containing a white substance that field tested positive for cocaine.

Following the investigation, Zimmer was arrested and charged with:

- Reckless Endangerment in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree, a Class D Felony
- Tampering with Physical Evidence, a Class E Felony
- Unlawful Fleeing a Police Officer in a Motor Vehicle in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, a Class A Misdemeanor
- Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 7th Degree, a Class A Misdemeanor
- Reckless Driving, a Misdemeanor
- Aggravated Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, a Misdemeanor
- 31 Traffic Violations returnable to the Town of Fenton Court

Zimmer was processed at the Broome County Sheriff's Office, arraigned at Central Arraignment Part and remains in custody at the Broome County Correctional Facility. Custody of the dogs was safely transferred to a friend of Zimmer's.

The Broome County Sheriff's Office was assisted by the NYS Police, Binghamton Police and the Port Crane Fire Company.

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