



Public Information Release

Maple Bluff Police Department



25 August 2026: Motorcycle Pursuit / Unrelated Serious Injury Crash

At approximately 7:23pm on 25 August, a Maple Bluff Police Department (MBPD) officer observed a group of approximately 23 motorcycles traveling southbound on Sherman Ave. in the Village of Maple Bluff. The officer observed one of the motorcyclists without a license plate driving in an unsafe manner and attempted to conduct a traffic stop.

The officer activated the squad's emergency lights and siren and began working through the group to reach the motorcycle he intended to stop. Near the 1200 block of Sherman Ave. the motorcyclist turned onto Few St. and accelerated away, engaging the officer in a brief pursuit.

The pursuit lasted approximately 10 seconds and reached a maximum squad speed of 52 mph. As the officer and pursued motorcyclist approached E. Gorham St., they encountered a serious crash involving a different motorcycle from the original group and a passenger vehicle. Video review indicates the crash occurred approximately two and a half blocks ahead of the officer and within seconds of the pursuit beginning. The officer had not attempted to stop or pursue the motorcyclist involved in the crash and had not observed that motorcycle leave the larger group.

The pursued motorcyclist stopped after encountering the crash. The officer immediately began providing emergency medical care to the seriously injured rider while also maintaining control of the pursued motorcyclist. The officer applied a tourniquet to one of the injured rider's legs and, after recognizing the need for an additional tourniquet, retrieved another from his squad and applied it to the rider's other leg. The injured motorcyclist was subsequently transported to an area hospital with serious injuries. The driver of the passenger vehicle was also transported for medical evaluation.

The pursued motorcyclist was taken into custody and booked into the Dane County Jail on a charge of Fleeing/Eluding an Officer. The motorcyclist injured in the crash was not the subject of the traffic stop or pursuit, and MBPD is not pursuing charges against him.

Because the crash occurred within the City of Madison, the Madison Police Department conducted the crash investigation. Given the close timing and proximity of the incidents, MBPD requested additional steps to document and preserve evidence. MBPD will conduct its standard administrative review of the pursuit in accordance with Department policy.

The Maple Bluff Police Department appreciates the assistance provided by the Madison Police Department and other responding public safety personnel. Our concern remains with those injured in the crash, and we hope the injured motorcyclist is able to make a full recovery.

Additional information may be released as appropriate.

Chief Tanner A. Nystrom