Press Release - Case #20-2279

Date: 10/10/2020

Location: 400 Brush St. Ukiah

Suspect: Michael David Gray (49) of Morgan Hill

Offenses: 2800.2(a) CVC: Evade law enforcement, 23109(c) CVC: Exhibition of speed, 11378 HS: Possession of a controlled substance for sales, 11379(a) HS: Transportation of a controlled substance.

On 10/10/20 at approximately 0955 hours, an on duty UPD officer was conducting an investigation in the Safeway Parking Lot (653 S. State St.). As the officer was standing in the parking lot he observed a Honda CBR 1000RR motor cycle traveling at a high rate of speed northbound on S. State St. The officer observed the driver of the motorcycle (later identified as Michael David Gray) bring the front tire of his motorcycle off of the roadway and perform a “wheelie.”

The officer responded to his patrol vehicle and attempted to catch up to Gray. The officer caught up to Gray at the intersection of Perkins St. and Orchard Ave. The officer activated his patrol vehicles overhead emergency lights and initiated a traffic enforcement stop. Gray failed to yield to the officer and continued to drive his motorcycle at a high rate of speed northbound on N. Orchard Ave. in an attempt to evade the officer.

As the officer pursued Gray he observed Gray travel at a high rate of speed, drive into oncoming traffic, and run one stop sign.

Gray came to the intersection of N. Orchard Ave. and Brush St. and continued driving northbound off the roadway and into the empty field that runs along the west side of Highway 101. The officer drove his patrol vehicle off the roadway and continued to pursue Gray through the field. A short distance later Gray’s motorcycle hit a hole and Gray was thrown from the motorcycle. The officer exited his patrol vehicle and placed Gray under arrest.

Gray was transported to the Ukiah Valley Medical Center for injuries he sustained when he fell off the motorcycle.
After receiving medical treatment, Gray was transported to the Mendocino County Jail. While at the Mendocino County Jail, Officers found Gray to be in possession of approximately 46 grams of methamphetamine that was packaged to be sold.

Gray was booked at the Mendocino County Jail for the above listed charges. Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, Gray was set to be released from jail with no bail required. UPD officers believed Gray displayed a blatant disregard for the safety of our community members by driving so recklessly on the streets of Ukiah, and requested a bail enhancement on Gray. A bail enhancement was granted and Gray is currently being held at the Mendocino County Jail on a $75,000.00 bail.

Prepared by Sgt. T. Corning #S30