Troopers Involved in Pursuit with Wrong Way Driver- I-95 Wilmington

Wilmington – The Delaware State Police are currently conducting a joint investigation with the Pennsylvania State Police in reference to the pursuit of a vehicle that was driving the wrong way on I-95.

At approximately 7:19 p.m., Wednesday, January 9, 2019 a 911 call was received by Delaware State Police dispatchers that a vehicle was traveling southbound in the northbound lanes of I-95, in the area of Martin Luther King Blvd., Wilmington. Responding Troopers first observed the vehicle, which was identified as a dark colored Ford SUV, in the area of the Churchman's Rd. exit, at which time they activated there emergency equipment and attempted to stop the vehicle. The vehicle refused to stop and continued to travel southbound in the northbound lanes before entering into Delaware Service Plaza. The vehicle then turned around and began traveling I-95 northbound, now in the northbound lanes, still refusing to stop.

Upon encountering heavy traffic in the area of Harvey Rd. the vehicle traveled across the grass median and then continued northbound in the southbound lanes of I-95. As the vehicle approached the Pennsylvania state line, Pennsylvania authorities were notified. It was also at this time that the Delaware State Police helicopter obtained visual contact with the vehicle. Pennsylvania State Police units engaged the vehicle just south of Chester and assumed the lead position with Delaware Troopers assisting. The vehicle continued northbound before becoming disabled after being involved in a collision with a Pennsylvania State Police vehicle, just south of the Philadelphia International Airport. The driver exited the disabled vehicle and attempted to flee but was taken in to custody by Pennsylvania Troopers after a short foot pursuit.

The driver, identified as 29 year old Kyle R. Merena, of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania was transported to an area hospital for evaluation.

Warrants are currently on file charging Merena with Reckless Endangering 1st Degree and Disregarding a Police Officers Signal, along with multiple traffic related offenses.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Michael Austin

Released:011019 0530

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