

Ashe County Man Faces Charges In Ashe County And Florida

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Friday, 16 March 2007 06:36

A high-speed chase Sunday in Ashe County came to a conclusion in Florida Wednesday. Deputies spotted 20-year-old Matthew Alexander of Allegheny County driving on NC16 this past Sunday. When the deputies tried to stop Alexander due to several outstanding misdemeanor warrants he engaged them in a high-speed chase.

The chase was called off for safety reasons when he crossed the Virginia Border. That was the end of it until Wednesday, when a Jacksonville Police Officer saw a green car parked illegally near a beach walkover at Jacksonville Beach, Florida. The car's windows had been painted black. The officer found Alexander and an 18-year-old woman sitting in the car. He started to question the girl separately. Jacksonville authorities say that's when Alexander became extremely agitated and advanced toward them with box cutter's he'd obtained from his car. He allegedly threatened and challenged the officers who, when he reached 10 feet away from them, shot him once. Alexander is in stable condition in a Florida hospital. The 18-year-old woman, his fiancée, said that Alexander had mental health problems. He now faces three counts of assault on law enforcement in Florida, as well as misdemeanor warrants and charges of speeding to elude arrest back home in Ashe County.