



News from the Shelby County Sheriff's Office

Mark H. Luttrell, Jr., Sheriff

9th Floor, 201 Poplar Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee 38103

Public Information Officer: Steve Shular

- Office (901) 545-5532 FAX (901) 545-3310
- E mail: steve.shular@shelby-sheriff.org

All news releases may be viewed at www.shelby-sheriff.org in the **News Releases Listing**

November 21, 2008

20-Mile Pursuit Ends in Crash-Two Deputies Injured



Rosemarie Santanello

A New Jersey woman faces charges tonight from both the Shelby County Sheriff's Office and the Marshall County Mississippi Sheriff's Department after she attacked a Marshall County Deputy then led officers on a 20-mile pursuit. The pursuit ended in a traffic crash near Collierville.

Shelby County Sheriff's Office detectives have charged Rosemarie Santanello, 41, of Jackson, New Jersey, with three counts of Aggravated Assault. She also faces felony charges from Marshall County Deputies for Assaulting a Police Officer and Evading Arrest.

Marshall County investigators say Santanello was seen about two o'clock this afternoon driving her Ford Astro Van into the driveways of several homes along Valentine Road in Sladen, Mississippi. While Marshall County Sheriff's Department Sergeant Tommy Crouch was taking a report about the suspicious activity, Santanello drove by.

She stopped the van just as Sergeant Crouch got into his cruiser. While checking her identification, Santanello became combative and kicked Crouch in the groin. She then sped away.

Sergeant Crouch and two other officers, Major David Cook and Lieutenant LaDaryl Odum, pursued the van into Shelby County until it turned west on Bill Morris Parkway near Houston Levee Road.

That's when Santanello rammed her van into Lieutenant Odum's car which caused the other two cruisers to crash. No other vehicles were involved in the pursuit or the crash.

Lieutenant Odum and Sergeant Crouch were taken to Baptist Hospital in Collierville where they were treated for minor injuries.

Santanello was not hurt. She was taken to the Shelby County Jail for women in East Memphis. She'll be returned to Mississippi to face the other charges.

(End of Release)