



Vacaville Police Department

660 Merchant Street

Vacaville, California 95688

Communications Center: 707.449.5200

Internet: <http://www.cityofvacaville.com/departments/police/pressrelease.php>

Press Release

Today's Date: 04/26/10
Date & Time Occurred: 04/26/10 at 12:45 a.m.
Submitted By: Sgt. Williams
Phone: 707-449-5200
Case Number: 10-03105
Type of Crime/Incident: Stolen vehicle, possession of stolen firearm, traffic collision with major injuries
Location: Browns Valley Road between Waterford Drive and Tipperary Drive
Suspects: Rusty Johnson, 37, Yolo County

RESCUE ENDS WITH ARREST FOR STOLEN VEHICLE, WEAPON

A Vacaville police officer and a passerby pulled a man from a burning vehicle early Monday morning, only to find the vehicle was stolen and the driver was carrying a semi-automatic pistol.

At 12:45 a.m. on Monday morning, officers responded to the area of Browns Valley Road near Waterford Drive in reference to a call of a vehicle fire with the driver trapped in the vehicle.

The vehicle, which was reported stolen in Rio Vista, was being driven northbound on Browns Valley Road when it drove into the raised curb and struck a "Pedestrian Crossing" light pole. The vehicle then ignited. A passerby and his female passenger cut the seatbelt which allowed for driver's rescue.

The first officer on the scene saw a bystander attempting to pull the driver from the burning vehicle. The driver, later identified as Rusty Johnson, 37, of Yolo County, was partially stuck in the burning vehicle with his legs on fire.

The officer and the bystander pulled Johnson from the vehicle, and were then able to extinguish Johnson's legs before pulling him to a safe position away from the burning vehicle.

Officers then found a small semi-automatic pistol in Johnson's pants pocket. Police learned the gun had been reported stolen in the City of Sacramento.

The Vacaville Fire Department arrived on scene, extinguished the vehicle fire and transported Johnson to UC Davis Medical Center for multiple broken bones, burns to his lower legs and possible internal injuries.

Johnson was arrested for vehicle theft and possession of a stolen weapon.