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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Traffic Enforcement Stop Results in Arrest (E. Marketview Drive)

Champaign, IL. – On the morning of October 24, 2011, a Champaign Police officer conducted a directed patrol near the University Village apartments due to recent reports of criminal activity.

The officer was parked in the area to observe traffic entering and leaving the apartment complex. Sometime around 1:25 a.m., the officer observed a van leaving the complex and turn south onto Moreland Boulevard. As the vehicle passed the officer, he noticed the van to be traveling at a very high rate of speed. At this time, the officer attempted to catch up with the vehicle to conduct a routine traffic stop. As the vehicle approached the intersection of Moreland Boulevard and Marketview Drive, the officer observed the traffic signal to be red and directing all southbound traffic to stop. The vehicle disobeyed the traffic signal and proceeded eastbound on Marketview Drive. Due to the vehicle traveling at such a high rate of speed, the officer was unable to catch up to it until reaching the intersection of Marketview Drive and Neil Street. At this time, the officer activated the overhead lights while approaching the vehicle. The driver of the vehicle then swerved sharply and failed to stop at the officer's direction. After following the vehicle for some time, the driver of the vehicle slowed down at the intersection of Greenbrier and Arcadia and fled from the van. The subject's vehicle continued in motion until colliding with the front of a residence located in the 200 block of Arcadia. Damages to the home did not appear to be serious at the time of the report. At no time did a Champaign police squad car make contact with the subject's vehicle.

After engaging in a foot chase and giving out clear and loud commands for the subject to stop, the subject continued to running from officers.

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The subject then jumped a fence in the 200 block of Arcadia and fell to ground. This allowed the officers to make contact with him. While ordering the subject to place his arms behind his back, he resisted and a struggle ensued.

When the subject was able to get to his knees, he made a forceful move toward the officer and grabbed toward the officer's duty belt. At this time, the officer struck the subject with his hand to subdue him. The struggle continued when a second officer arrived on the scene to assist with the arrest. During this time an additional use of force was utilized in the form of OC spray. This act immediately gained compliance from the subject and the officer was able to make the arrest.

Calvin R. Miller, 18, of 1008 S. Duncan, Champaign, was arrested for Resisting/Obstructing a Police Officer, Fleeing or Tempting to Elude a Police Officer and a traffic signal violation.

At approximately 1:44 a.m., Calvin Miller was transported to Carle hospital for a medical evaluation and later transported to the Champaign County Satellite Jail.

To date, the Department has not received any formal complaint from the arrestee, but is aware of the public's interest in receiving more information regarding this incident.

It should be noted that it is the Department's usual practice to review all incidents, particularly those in which use of force is applied to determine its appropriateness. During this review, staff will assess the officers' responses to ensure that all actions were in accordance with departmental policies and procedures.

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