Police Chase from Villa Rica to Paulding County

(Paulding County, GA) At approximately 0758 hours on 03/06/14 Villa Rica Police responded to a shots fired called in the city limits of Villa Rica. Upon arrival Villa Rica Officers made contact with the suspect vehicle (2001 white Ford F-150 crew cab) which immediately fled from them. When Officers gave chase, a pursuit ensued. Villa Rica Officers chased the suspects north on GA 61 (Villa Rica Highway) into southern Paulding County. Once the pursuit entered Paulding County, one of the suspects leaned out the window of the truck and began firing rounds from a high powered assault rifle at the Villa Rica Officer who was pursuing. As the chase continued in Paulding County, Paulding Deputies along with State Troopers got involved in the incident.

After going down many roads in Paulding County the pursuit eventually ended up on Winn Road. The suspect turned into Brookwood Subdivision which is directly across the street from South Paulding High School and Dugan Elementary School. Once in the subdivision, the suspect vehicle drove through yards, destroyed mailboxes, and even drove through a privacy fence. The vehicle ultimately became disabled when it plowed through a pine tree thicket in one of the wooded portions of the subdivision.

When the vehicle got stuck, four subjects ran on foot within the wooded area. Since the subjects were directly across the street from both schools and were possibly armed, South Paulding High School and Dugan Elementary School were immediately placed on lockdown. After a search of the area the two female suspects and one of the male suspects were located in the woods. A short time later, the other male suspect was located by a PCSO K-9 Unit in the woods between South Paulding High School and Dugan Elementary. Both male suspects were wearing body armor (bulletproof vests) when they were arrested. A subsequent search of the truck revealed one high powered “SKS” type assault rifle and a semi-automatic pistol.
The suspects are identified as the following:

Amanda McGee  W/F  35 YOA
Kimberly Mauldin  W/F  27 YOA
David Anthony Bray  W/M  35 YOA
Raymond Edward Messel  W/M  29 YOA

The Sheriff’s Office would like to thank the Villa Rica Police Department, the Georgia State Patrol, the Hiram Police Department, the Paulding County Marshal’s Bureau, and the Paulding County E-911 Center for their invaluable help with this incident. Sheriff Gary Gulledge noted, “This was a situation where law enforcement, the school district, first responders, and the community came together to catch some extremely dangerous criminals”.

It must be noted that the suspects never entered the school and the children at either school were never in danger and that the lockdown was done as a precautionary measure. All four suspects were transported to the Carroll County jail where they will face host of felony and misdemeanor charges. These suspects will also face felony and misdemeanor charges in Paulding County as well.

If you happened to see any of this pursuit or may have property damage as a result of this incident, please call the Criminal Investigations Division at the Paulding County Sheriff’s Office at (770) 443-3015.