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**Indictment accuses woman of driving through covered walkway on Burnside Bridge, nearly hitting pedestrian and PPB officer**

Today, Multnomah County District Attorney Rod Underhill announced the filing of a 24-count indictment against 25-year-old Elizabeth Cheyenne Hefner for allegedly stealing a vehicle, fleeing police and nearly hitting pedestrians and other vehicles.

The indictment charges Hefner with two counts of coercion, two counts of unlawful use of a weapon, two counts of menacing, eight counts of recklessly endangering another person, four counts of reckless driving, two counts of fleeing or attempting to elude police and one count each of failure to perform the duties of a driver, being a felon in possession of a firearm, driving under the influence of intoxicants, and unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

This investigation started when Portland Police received information about a stolen vehicle on May 26, 2019, according to court documents.

On May 31, 2019, a Portland Police officer saw the reported stolen vehicle near the intersection of Southwest 12th Avenue and Southwest Clay Street. The officer attempted to stop the vehicle but the driver, later identified as Hefner, accelerated at a high rate of speed and narrowly missed multiple cars as she weaved through traffic, according to court documents.

It is alleged that approximately 10 minutes later, another Portland Police officer saw the stolen vehicle near the intersection of West Burnside Street and Southwest 5th Avenue. The driver of the stolen vehicle, according to police, ran two stop lights and almost lost control as she swerved around other vehicles.

A third Portland Police officer was inside the covered pedestrian walkway that is temporarily set up along the Burnside Bridge for construction, according to court documents. The officer was going to deploy spike strips in the event that the stolen vehicle crossed the river, according to court documents. While the officer was preparing the spike strips, he heard a loud crash, looked up and saw the stolen vehicle approaching him at a high rate of speed. The vehicle was scraping the sides of the construction walkway because it barely fit inside the space reserved for pedestrians, according to court documents.

The officer saw a pedestrian in between him and the approaching vehicle. The officer, according to court documents, drew his gun and ordered the vehicle to stop, which came within 25 feet of the pedestrian. The pedestrian was ordered to jump over the barrier and to get onto Burnside Street.

When the officer attempted to take Hefner into custody, she put the vehicle into reverse and slammed into a metal support post, according to court documents. From there, it is alleged that Hefner started driving forward. In an attempt to avoid being hit by the vehicle, the officer inside the covered walkway jumped over the barrier onto Burnside Street.

According to a probable cause affidavit, the vehicle crashed at the intersection of Southeast 9th Avenue and East Burnside Street.

When law enforcement searched the vehicle, they located a firearm and ammunition, according to court documents.

It is alleged that at the time of this incident Hefner was a felon from a conviction in 2017 after she rammed a Portland Police patrol car near Powell's Books in the Pearl District.

An indictment is only an accusation of a crime. Hefner is innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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