



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Man arrested for damaging speed camera van

Howard County Police have arrested an Ellicott City man for damaging a speed camera van and endangering its operator. This is the fourth arrest for destruction of a speed van or speed camera equipment since the program was launched in Howard County three years ago.

“We want people to know that we take these cases very seriously and will file criminal charges,” said Police Chief Gary Gardner. “Everyone is entitled to their own opinion about the speed camera program, but we cannot overlook the significant damage to equipment and potential injury to our van operators.”

Abraham Naveed Quraishi, 20, of 2708 Water Wheel Court, Ellicott City, has been charged with second-degree assault and malicious destruction of property.

The speed camera operator, who is a civilian employee of the police department, was in the van on Dec. 11, on Rogers Avenue at Patapsco Valley Drive, near Hollifield Station Elementary School. Shortly before 10 a.m., an unknown object struck the van and broke the left rear window. The operator, who was not injured, photographed the vehicle, a 2008 Toyota Corolla that was passing at the time. It was later determined that the van was struck by a small object traveling at a high rate of speed, consistent with a BB gun.

The suspect vehicle was located at Quraishi’s residence. After further investigation, a warrant was issued for his arrest in connection to the vandalism of the speed camera van. He was arrested on those charges on Jan. 7 after turning himself into police. He posted a \$5,000 bond and was released.

Investigators learned that the Toyota Corolla driven by Quraishi in this incident had been cited for speed and red light camera violations.

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