



PRESS RELEASE

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JOHN B. COOKE
SHERIFF

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – June 19, 2009

SPEEDING VEHICLE CONTAINS 3.5 POUNDS OF MARIJUANA

Greeley, Colo. – A speeding vehicle catches Deputy Armstrong's attention and is later found to contain nearly 3.5 pounds of marijuana.

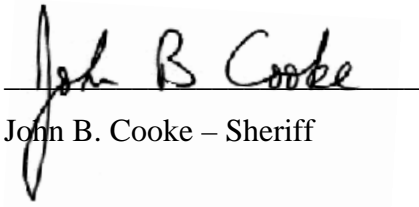
Forty minutes into Saturday on June 13, 2009 Weld County Sheriff's Office Deputy Armstrong was patrolling the area of Weld County Roads 22 and 23, northwest of Ft. Lupton just west of Hwy 85, working with moving radar. Armstrong saw a vehicle travelling north on Weld County Road 23 at what he estimated was about 85 miles per hour in a 55 mile per hour zone. The radar unit indicated the vehicle was travelling at 86 miles per hour.

As Armstrong attempted to stop the vehicle he turned on his emergency lights and siren. The driver sped up and attempted to elude him by turning in behind a home in the 9000 block of Weld County Road 23 and then turned the vehicle lights off.

Armstrong found the maroon Chevy blazer. The driver handed Armstrong a Mexican voter registration card and did not have a driver license. After speaking to the driver Armstrong requested a canine for a vehicle search. Firestone Officer Hanes and canine Recon arrived and determined the vehicle probably had a controlled substance near the front passenger door.

Deputy Armstrong investigated and located a grey package concealed behind a door panel. When the panel was removed a second grey package was discovered. A preliminary field test indicated the packages contained THC, indicating marijuana. The combined weight of both packages was 3.47 pounds.

The driver, 20 year old Pedro Castaneda-Hernandez was arrested and booked into the Weld County Jail for possession of more than 8 ounces of marijuana, a class 5 felony, vehicular eluding, a class 5 felony, speeding, a misdemeanor, and driving without a valid drivers license, a misdemeanor. Bond has been set at \$50,000.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John B. Cooke". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

John B. Cooke – Sheriff

Attachment: Pedro Castaneda-Hernandez



PEDRO CASTANEDA-HERNANDEZ

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