

SURPRISE INSPECTION



Oregon State Police Trooper Parker James (center) poses for a picture with students and faculty at Monument School on Monday, Sept. 19, 2022. James popped in unannounced and spent about two hours visiting with the students.

Contributed Photo

COPS AND COURTS

Arrests and citations in the Blue Mountain Eagle are taken from the logs of law enforcement agencies. Every effort is made to report the court disposition of arrest cases.

Circuit Court

Sept. 22
Jack Daniel Bates, 47, pleaded guilty to the following counts in relation to an incident which occurred on Sep. 24, 2020: Criminal driving while suspended or revoked; felon in possession of a firearm; driving under the influence of intoxicants; failure to appear in the first degree. An additional count of felon in possession of a firearm was dismissed. He was sentenced to a total of 30 months in prison and a period of 24 months' probation. Terms of his probation include attending a Victim Impact Panel Program, obtaining a substance abuse assessment and completing all recommended treatment. He may not use or possess intoxicants and must install an ignition interlock device on his vehicle.

Benjamin Keefe Yocum, 22, pleaded guilty to the following counts in relation to an incident which occurred on April 30: driving under the influence of intoxicants; minor in possession of alcohol; and driving uninsured. An additional count of violating the open container law in a motor vehicle was dismissed. Yocum was sentenced to 48 hours in jail and had his license suspended for one year. He was given 18 months of probation, with terms including requirements to attend a Victim Impact Panel and to complete all recommended treatment resulting from a substance abuse assessment. He must not possess or use intoxicants for that period, and must install an ignition interlock device on his vehicle. Yocum was fined \$695. An additional \$1,255 in fines was waived but could be reinstated if he violates his probation.

Grant County Sheriff

The Grant County Sheriff's Office reported the following for the week ending Sept. 21:

- Concealed handgun licenses: 5
- Average inmates: 9
- Bookings: 9
- Releases: 11
- Arrests: 2
- Citations: 4
- Fingerprints: 9
- Civil papers: 7
- Warrants processed: 4
- Assist/welfare check: 0
- Search and rescue: 0

Dispatch

Grant County dispatch worked 156 calls during the week ending Sept. 21, including:

- **Grant County Sheriff's Office**
Sept. 14
1 p.m.: Responded to Northeast Elm Street, John Day, for a welfare check.
2:14 p.m.: Dispatched to reported theft at Owens Street, Dayville.
2:36 p.m.: Responded to East Main Street, John Day, for a welfare check.
7:36 p.m.: Took Olle Leroi Starnes, 52, of John Day into custody at The Outpost on a Grant County parole and probation detainer for vio-

lation of probation.
7:46 p.m.: Responded to report of a non-injury, vehicle-vs.-deer accident at Front Street, Prairie City.
9:58 p.m.: Received report of fraud and theft at Suds Pub, Mt. Vernon.

Sept. 15

2:16 p.m.: Responded to report of criminal mischief at Dixie Lookout.
3:16 p.m.: Received report of a non-injury four-wheeler accident at South Fork Road, Dayville.
3:38 p.m.: Cited Bethany Hollister, 54, of Fort Bragg during a traffic stop at Adam Road/Highway 395 South.
7:45 p.m.: Received a report of a civil issue at Hillcrest Drive, John Day.
11:17 p.m.: Received report of commercial burglary alarm at West Main Street, John Day.

Sept. 16

10:07 a.m.: Received report of abandoned vehicle at Indian Rock Lookout.
11:03 p.m.: Responded to Cougar Crossing for a welfare check.
12:12 p.m.: Received complaint of animal abuse at North Johnson Street, Prairie City.
1:56 p.m.: Received complaint of harassment at Patterson Drive, Canyon City.
7:10 p.m.: Received report of criminal mischief at Elk View Drive, Canyon City.
7:48 p.m.: Received report of verbal domestic disturbance at Aslin Avenue, Mt. Vernon.
7:59 p.m.: Advised Oregon State Police of injured fawn at Highway 26 near Gunther Street, John Day. Fawn dispatched.

Sept. 17

12:58 a.m.: Received report of a gunshot at Cayuse Lane, John Day.
1:01 a.m.: Received report of barking dog at Mountain Boulevard, Mt. Vernon.
5:15 a.m.: Received report from USFS that vehicles needed to be moved from parking lot at Patterson Bridge Road, John Day.
8:52 a.m.: Received report of injured deer at Front Street, Prairie City.
10:48 p.m.: Cited Brad Lee Hartwick, 46, of John Day during a traffic stop at Highway 26, milepost 173.
2:43 p.m.: Received report of a theft at South Canyon Boulevard, John Day.
3:35 p.m.: Cited Calvin Edward Metz, 20, of Roseburg at Highway 26, milepost 154.
3:54 p.m.: Cited David Alan Wynde, 67, of Portland at Highway 26, milepost 154.
4:13 p.m.: Cited Nina Victoria Edwards, 51, of Lone at Highway 26, milepost 151.
4:56 p.m.: Received driving complaint at Highway 26, milepost 153.
7:02 p.m.: Received report of driving quads without helmets.
7:23 p.m.: Received report of speeding vehicle at South Hall Street, Prairie City.
8:09 p.m.: Received report of criminal mischief at South Fork Road, Dayville.
8:24 p.m.: Received report of down power line at West Main Street, John Day. Advised Oregon Trail Electric Co-Op.

Sept. 18

12:15 a.m.: Responded to domestic disturbance at Southeast Dayton Street, John Day.
8:50 a.m.: Received report of possible domestic disturbance at Highland Place, John Day. Determined to be unfounded.
9:00 a.m.: Received report of money stolen at Highland Place, John Day.
2:45 p.m.: Received report of trespassing at Middle Fork Lane, Bates.
3:06 p.m.: Received report of criminal mischief at Elk View Drive, Canyon City.
8:04 p.m.: Investigated report of theft of merchandise at Figaro's Pizza, John Day.
9:00 p.m.: Received report of cattle on roadway at Highway 402 near Big Bend sign.

Sept. 19

7:44 a.m.: Received report of abandoned car at West Main Street, John Day.
10:14 a.m.: Received report of a non-injury accident at Highway 402.
4:27 p.m.: Received report of an injured deer at Edgewood Drive, Canyon City.

Sept. 20

12:48 a.m.: Received report of stranded motorists at Parish Cabin Campground, John Day.
2:14 p.m.: Received report of missing child. Child found quickly.
2:34 p.m.: Received report of debris falling on the roadway from a vehicle at Highway 26, milepost 142.
5:49 p.m.: Removed road hazard at Highway 26, Milepost 165.
8:18 p.m.: Investigated report of suspicious vehicle at Timbers Bistro, John Day. Found someone sleeping in vehicle. All OK.
10:59 p.m.: Assisted Oregon State Police with disabled motorist on Highway 26, milepost 185.

Sept. 21

1:57 p.m.: Responded to West Main Street, John Day, for a welfare check.
• **Oregon State Police**
Sept. 14
9:40 p.m.: Advised of cattle in roadway on Highway 395 North.

Sept. 17

9:25 a.m.: Received driving complaint at Highway 26, milepost 144.
2:22 p.m.: Advised of cattle in roadway at milepost 110B, Highway 395 North.
5:20 p.m.: Advised of cattle on roadway on Highway 26, milepost 205.

Sept. 18

9:11 p.m.: Responded to report of dead deer at Highway 26 at Dog Creek Road. Deer removed.

Sept. 19

6:35 a.m.: Received driving complaint at Highway 26, milepost 156.

Sept. 21

1:06 p.m.: Received report of cattle on roadway at Highway 395 North, milepost 78B.
• **John Day Ambulance**
Sept. 16
3:23 p.m.: Responded to Highway 395 north of Mt. Vernon for an 84-year-old male in need of a lift assist.

Sept. 19

12:00 a.m.: Patient transfer at the airport.

Sept. 20

3:05 p.m.: Responded to report

of 39-year-old female with abdominal pain at Trafton Avenue, John Day.
Sept. 21
11:56 a.m.: Responded to 92-year-old female with lower GI bleeding at Valley View Assisted Living.

1:33 p.m.: Responded to 81-year-old female with dehydration and weakness at Southwest Moore, Mt. Vernon.
1:57 p.m.: Responded to welfare check at West Main Street, John Day.

• **U.S. Forest Service**
Sept. 15
9:54 a.m.: USFS and BLM advised of a forest fire at Murderers Creek Ranch.

• **Long Creek Fire**
Sept. 21
2:11 p.m.: Responded with Oregon Department of Forestry and Grant County Sheriff's Office to report of residential fire at School House Lane, Mt. Vernon.

• **Mt. Vernon Fire**
Sept. 19
3:38 p.m.: Responded with Oregon Department of Forestry to a report of smoke at Dry Creek.

• **John Day Fire**
Sept. 17
10:15 p.m.: Responded to report of illegal burning at Screech Alley Loop County Road, John Day.

• **Prairie City Ambulance**
Sept. 15
10:07 p.m.: Received multiple reports of accident with injuries on Highway 26, near Hall Hill. Prairie City Ambulance, John Day Ambulance, Grant County Sheriff's Office and Oregon State Police responded.

• **Dayville Ambulance**
Sept. 19
5:08 p.m.: Responded to 35-year-old female with severe stomach pains at Owens Street.

• **Oregon Department of Transportation**
Sept. 15
8:06 p.m.: Received report of dead deer partially blocking Highway 26 westbound near Wiley Creek.

• **Sept. 16**
6:35 p.m.: Received report of a dead animal at Highway 395 South, near milepost 2B.

• **Sept. 18**
8:10 a.m.: Received report of big boulder in road at Highway 26, near milepost 89.

• **Sept. 19**
9:53 a.m.: Received report of dog struck at Highway 26, near milepost 141.

Attorneys file briefs for Easterday sentencing

By DON JENKINS
Capital Press

YAKIMA, Washington — U.S. attorneys commend Cody Easterday's conduct since he admitted to fraud, but maintain that the size of his crime, \$244 million, demands stiff punishment.

Easterday helped sell his family's farming and ranching operations through bankruptcy court, raising money for his victims, U.S. attorneys acknowledge in a brief filed in U.S. District Court for Eastern Washington.

Easterday has repaid Tyson \$62.4 million and his second victim, Segale Properties, \$3.4 million and has pledged to somehow repay Tyson another \$170 million and Segale \$7.6 million.

The good conduct, however, doesn't excuse his long-running scheme to bill his victims for cattle that didn't exist, according to the Justice Department.

It won't promote respect

dollars in fees taken out of sale proceeds. Firms are submitting their final bills for the judge's approval.

A spokeswoman for B. Riley Advisors and Richard Pachulski, the lead lawyer in the bankruptcy proceedings, did not respond to requests for comment.

Pachulski's firm spearheaded the settlement between Tyson, Segale, other creditors and the Easterday family. The firm has been awarded \$13 million and seeks another \$1.7 million.

Dyer argues the court should withhold about \$460,000 for the three months the firm spent finalizing the settlement.

B. Riley Advisory Services of Atlanta and Dundon Advisors of White Plains, N.Y., advised committees that represented creditors. They seek about \$1.4 million apiece.



Easterday

for the law for a "well-heeled defendant" who stole nearly one-quarter of a billion dollars to get a lighter sentence than a small-time crack cocaine dealer, prosecutors stated.

"The magnitude of Easterday's fraud is so large, it is difficult to comprehend," according to the department's sentencing recommendation.

Easterday, 51, will be sentenced Oct. 4 by U.S. District Judge Stanley Basnet in Yakima, Wash. Easterday pleaded guilty last year to one count of wire fraud.

His sentencing was postponed while he helped liquidate his family's extensive farming and cattle-feeding operations in the Columbia Basin.

U.S. attorneys are recommending a prison term of between 10 years, one month and 12 years, seven months. Easterday's attorney, Carl Oreskovich, is seeking probation, lasting three years.

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Grant County HEALTH Department

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Mon-Thurs 7:05

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