



ROCKFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING
420 West State Street
Rockford, Illinois 61101-1288
815-966-2900

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CHET EPPERSON
CHIEF OF POLICE

ARREST RELEASE

DATE & TIME **01/09/14 12:45 AM**

Bureau: **Field Services Bureau**

Authorized Supervisor: **Lt. John Eau Claire**

Phone: **(815) 987-5824**

Incident: **Aggravated Assault / Stolen Auto**

MESSAGE

On 01/08/2014, at 4:39pm Rockford Police Officers responded the Rockford Memorial Hospital at 2400 N. Rockton Avenue in reference to an Auto Theft that had just occurred. A Metro Ambulance had been stolen from the Emergency Room parking lot.

The investigation indicated that the suspect, later identified as Paul Chandler age 51 years, entered the ambulance while it was parked unattended. A paramedic and nurse attempted to stop the suspect. The suspect then drove the ambulance at the paramedic and nurse. Fearing they would be struck the paramedic and nurse had to run to get out of the path of the ambulance. The ambulance then fled from the parking lot.

Officers searched the area however the ambulance could not be located. Rockford Police later received a call of an ambulance driving recklessly in the area of Springcreek and Perryville Road. The area was checked; however the ambulance could not be located.

Information was received that the ambulance was abandoned in McHenry County. The ambulance was located and recovered. Further information was received that the suspect, Paul Chandler, was at a business in Belvidere. Belvidere Police Officers located Paul Chandler and he was taken into custody without incident. Chandler was then returned to Rockford.

This incident was reviewed with the Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office. The following charges were authorized against Paul Chandler; (2) counts of Aggravated Assault and (1) of Theft of Motor Vehicle. Chandler was lodged in the Winnebago County Jail.

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The charges against Chandler are merely accusations. Chandler is innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

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