Traffic crash involving a wrong way driver at I-275 and 38th Avenue North

Details are still preliminary, but it appears that approximately 5:50 p.m. this evening a deputy with the Pinellas County Sheriff’s Office attempted to stop a gray Chrysler rental car that was driving recklessly on 54th Avenue North near I-275. The Chrysler fled from the deputy and went southbound on the northbound off ramp of I-275. The deputy DID NOT pursue the Chrysler after it fled from him.

While the Chrysler drove south in the northbound lanes, an off-duty St. Petersburg Police officer driving a marked cruiser happen to be heading north on I-275, just north of 38th Avenue North. Seeing the oncoming Chrysler, he attempted to stop it, but it drove directly at him causing the officer to take evasive action to avoid a collision.

The Chrysler then attempted to exit the interstate driving southbound in the northbound on-ramp at 38th Avenue where it struck two oncoming cars. Both the male driver of the Chrysler and his female passenger attempted to flee the area on foot after the crash, but were apprehended by responding officers in a near-by neighborhood.

The driver has been identified a Michael Charles Anderson, B/M, 11/13/1985 and the female is Caila Mazyck, B/F, 04/16/1995. It does not appear that either suffered any significant injuries from the crash. Anderson will be charged with aggravated fleeing and eluding by the PCSO and aggravated assault on a law enforcement officer by SPPD. Mazyck had an outstanding traffic warrant and narcotics were found in the car so additional charges on both are pending.

The occupant of one of the cars struck by the Chrysler was taken via ambulance to the hospital, but their injury does not appear to be serious. The driver of the 2nd car appeared to have minor injuries. I do not have any information on their identities at this time. The investigation is still ongoing.

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