



BROOME COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff Frederick J. Akshar II

Undersheriff Sammy L. Davis

155 Lt. Van Winkle Drive, Binghamton, NY 13905

For Immediate Release:

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BROOME COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE PRESS RELEASE

Kidnapping, Contempt, Fleeing and Other Charges after Manhunt Ends in Tompkins County

A Binghamton man is in custody on Kidnapping, Contempt and other charges after an extensive, cross-county pursuit and manhunt ended in Tompkins County on Wednesday.

On Tuesday, October 24, 2023 around 6:00 PM, Broome County Sheriff's deputies and New York State Police responded to a domestic disturbance in Whitney Point involving a man and a woman, who reportedly left the scene in a U-Haul moving van prior to the arrival of patrols.

While enroute to the scene, a responding Broome Sheriff's deputy observed a U-Haul van matching the reported description traveling South on New York State Route 12 in the Town of Chenango. The deputy also recognized one of the individuals inside the van as **Christopher M. Borges**, age 30 of Binghamton, who was known to have pending robbery charges from City of Binghamton Police. The deputy attempted to perform a traffic stop, but the driver failed to comply.

The U-Haul driver at this time, **Abigail A. Galusha**, age 20 of Endicott, accelerated South on Route 12 at a high rate of speed, passing multiple vehicles and driving recklessly as two deputies and one NYS trooper pursued. The pursuit continued onto Interstate Route 81 North via Exit 6, through the Town of Barker and then to Whitney Point at Exit 8. The fleeing suspects then headed West on Route 79, recklessly speeding through the Village Whitney Point, the Village of Lisle and the Town of Lisle before entering Tioga County. The chase finally ended in Tompkins County, when the vehicle ran out of fuel, driving off the roadway and over an embankment before finally coming to stop in a wooded field near Route 79 & Deerfield Lane, West of Slaterville Springs.

Galusha was taken into custody at the site of the stopped U-Haul by Broome & Tompkins Sheriff's deputies, but Borges fled into the surrounding wood line.

General Information:
(607) 778-1911

Fiscal:
(607) 778-2928

Garnishees:
(607) 778-2926

Civil:
(607) 778-2145

Identification:
(607) 778-2924

Records:
(607) 778-2166

Galusha was transported to Broome County Central Arraignment for multiple warrants out of the Town of Vestal Court and released on Wednesday, 10/25/23.

The ongoing investigation revealed that Borges had been in possession of a pistol, which he used to threaten Galusha during the initial domestic dispute and then forced her to continue fleeing law enforcement. At some point during the pursuit, Borges reportedly stuck Galusha in the face multiple times, eventually forcing her out of the drivers seat so he could attempt to evade law enforcement. Broome deputies located a pistol inside the vehicle, which was determined to be a CO2 BB gun with characteristics similar to a real firearm.

At this point, the Tompkins County Sheriff's Office assumed jurisdiction over the scene with New York State Police and the Broome County Sheriff's Office assisting with securing the area and locating the suspect. The Ithaca-Tompkins SWAT team was activated, conducting operations throughout the night and into the early morning hours in an effort to locate Borges.

Around 10:00 AM on Wednesday, 10/25/23, a community member notified the Tompkins County Sheriff's Office of a possible sighting of Borges in a dense, swampy area near the abandoned U-Haul van. Tompkins Sheriff's deputies subsequently took Borges into custody without incident. The Broome County Sheriff's Office assumed custody of Borges and transported him to Broome County Central Arraignment.

As a result of the investigation, Christopher M. Borges was charged with:

- Kidnapping in the 2nd Degree, a Class B Felony
- Criminal Contempt in the 1st Degree, a Class E Felony
- Unlawfully Fleeing a Police Officer in the 3rd Degree, a Class A Misdemeanor

The Broome County Sheriff's Office was assisted by the New York State Police during the pursuit and assisted by the Tompkins County Sheriff's Office, the New York State Police, the Tioga County Sheriff's Office and the Ithaca Police in attempting to locate Borges.

Sheriff Fred Akshar said, "Our community is extremely fortunate to have excellent neighbors and partners in law enforcement who are always ready to assist in efforts to keep our collective communities safe. Because of this teamwork, coupled with active engagement from community members, we were able to safely and successfully locate this individual and hold him accountable for his crimes. My thanks and appreciation to our Road Patrol deputies, as well as to our partners in the Tompkins County Sheriff's Office, New York State Police, Tioga County Sheriff's Office and Ithaca Police Department for all their hard work on this case."

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