

Detective Darrin Whitaker of the Henderson county Sheriffs' Office Criminal Investigations Div. was conducting surveillance on a residence that was suspected of being utilized to conduct criminal activity. He spotted a silver Acura 4 door sedan leaving the area spinning tires and driving in a reckless and erratic manner. Detective Whitaker caught up with the vehicle he had seen earlier and as he closed with the suspect vehicle, he was able to determine that it had an expired license plate. He also recognized the driver and knew that this individual was driving while his operator's license was expired. Whitaker knew the individual to have been regularly involved in criminal activities.

At that point, the detective activated his blue lights and siren and the vehicle pulled into a parking lot on Dana Rd. and appeared to be coming to a stop. The detective unbuckled his seatbelt and was preparing to exit his vehicle when the driver of the Acura rapidly accelerated out of the parking area and onto Dana Rd. at an extremely high rate of speed. The officer called in the pursuit and pulled out onto Dana Rd. in time to see the suspect vehicle approaching the red Light at Dana and Tracey Grove Rd. Whitaker could see that the light was red as the suspect approached vehicles in the intersection without yield. At this point the officer stopped his pursuit knowing that the vehicle was traveling to fast to avoid the intersection. The Acura swerved around one vehicle and struck a Toyota pick up truck head on. The Acura flipped several times before coming to a stop.

The detective notified communications of the wreck and requested medical assistance as he approached the scene to render aid.

Both occupants of the Acura were transported by ground, to Mission Hospital. The driver of the pick up was transported to Pardee Hospital by Henderson County EMS. The Hendersonville Fire Department, Hendersonville City Police Department and the rescue squad responded to the scene. The accident investigation is being conducted by the Hendersonville Police Department.

Paul Shannon Craig is the driver of the vehicle. His DOB is 10-02-1975. No address listed at this time. He will be charged with No Operators License and Felony Fleeing to elude. Has lengthy criminal history.

No further info at this time.



Paul Shannon Craig