



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

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Media Release

To: All media outlets

From: Jennifer L. McFarland
Public Information Officer

Date: May 21, 2006

RE: Aggravated Battery/Felony Domestic Violence Arrest in Deary

On 5/20/2006 at about 23:08, The Latah County Sheriff's Office received a report of a domestic battery in front of Bailey's Bar in Bovill, Idaho. According to deputy reports and affidavits, Tracey L. Ferguson (a 39 year-old Juliaetta man), had battered his 40 year-old girlfriend in front of the bar then forced her into his vehicle, driving off toward Elk River along with a male passenger. On the way to Elk River, Ferguson verbally berated the woman and lost control of his vehicle, driving it into a ditch. The woman said she got out of the vehicle and started to walk toward Bovill, but was suddenly struck from behind by the vehicle (with Ferguson driving it). She rolled into the ditch on the side of the road and Ferguson got out of the vehicle and picked her up and put her back into it. This was confirmed by the other male with them at the time. Ferguson dropped the male off in Bovill before proceeding toward Deary. Between Bovill and Deary, Ferguson allegedly struck the woman in the face several times—one blow knocked out one of her front teeth. The woman reported that she tried to convince Ferguson to stop so she could find her tooth, and when he did, she jumped out of the vehicle (in Deary) and started to run down the road. The woman said she had run about half a block when she heard a gunshot, so she walked back toward the vehicle fearing Ferguson had shot himself. The woman saw that Ferguson was not in the vehicle when she got to it and she heard footsteps approaching her, so she hid behind a tree. She saw Ferguson approaching her but did not see a weapon in his hands; he then sat down near her while calling her name. Ferguson then quietly lay down on the ground. The woman reported that she crept away and found a friend's house where she thought she would be safe.

Ferguson had already been arrested for DUI by the time deputies located the woman. Ferguson was also charged with Felony Domestic Battery and for Aggravated Battery (also a felony). This case remains under investigation.