

Here are the events that took place on **June 28, 2023** during a fentanyl trafficking arrest which led to two of our deputies being hospitalized for fentanyl exposure...

At 11:16 am on June 28, 2023 the Saluda County Sheriff's Office responded to reports of a driver hitting approximately 10 vehicles and driving into the grass at the intersection of highways 378 and 391 known as the Traffic Circle in Saluda County. Deputies arrived on the scene, located the driver, who was identified as 42 year old Tammy Rodgers, and asked her to turn off and exit her vehicle. The driver was wearing what appeared to be a night gown and was unsteady on her feet. The arresting deputy searched the vehicle and found suspected narcotics and drug paraphernalia. The arresting deputy was wearing protective gloves for safety while searching the vehicle, as well as during the pat down of the subject. The subject was placed under arrest for drug charges and placed into the arresting deputy's patrol vehicle. The deputy began to transport the suspect to the Saluda County Detention Center when approximately one minute into the transport, she advised another deputy that she was not feeling well with symptoms common to Fentanyl exposure and would be pulling over at the next safe area to do so. That deputy responded to her location and dispatched EMS. Upon arrival, the arresting deputy had already administered herself Narcan and was sitting on the ground beside her patrol vehicle. The responding deputy helped to keep her comfortable until EMS arrived. Other deputies arrived at the scene as well to help transport the subject. That's when the second deputy started to feel ill also with symptoms common to Fentanyl exposure. EMS was on scene and transported both deputies to Lexington Medical Center where they have currently been treated and are expected to be ok. The suspect was successfully transported to the Saluda County Detention Center where charges are pending...

Saluda County is very appreciative and proud of how our Public Safety Teams, including Dispatch, Law Enforcement, and EMS, worked together to get the subject placed under arrest and for the care and quick response to the Deputy's health. We are very thankful that both deputies are going to be ok and are so grateful for everyone that was involved in this incident.