



For Immediate Release

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Street Racers Arrested

Yakima- At approximately 11:25 PM on March 9, 2017, Washington State Patrol (WSP) Troopers arrested and booked two suspects into the Yakima County Jail and had their vehicles towed on charges of street racing.

A Yakima Trooper in an unmarked Aggressive Driving Apprehension Team (ADAT) vehicle observed a large number of vehicles, which are known for street racing, traveling in a group through the city of Yakima. The trooper followed the group and notified other Troopers in the area of the route being traveled. As the group approached State Route 12, additional troopers were standing by in the area to intercept in the event of an actual race.

Once the group of 11 illegal racers entered State Route 12, they accelerated to speeds in excess of 90 MPH in the 60 MPH zone. The racers then attempted to block both westbound lanes so the two lead cars could race each other. However, troopers were standing by and were able to perform traffic stops on the two lead vehicles while additional troopers blocked the roadway in order to apprehend the other involved drivers.

Troopers arrested two of the racing drivers and booked them into the Yakima County Jail on charges of Reckless Driving. The street racers cars were also impounded. The remaining nine drivers were issued citations regarding their excessive speed. Due to the quick actions of these troopers, no one was hurt this evening.

As a reminder racing is considered a reckless driving offense and is a gross misdemeanor which is punishable by a jail term of up to 364 days and/or a fine of up to \$5,000 as well as a possible suspension of driving privileges.

Street racing is a dangerous activity and not only puts the participant's lives in jeopardy but also places innocent drivers lives at risk.

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