



Sheriff

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NEWS RELEASE

October 13, 2026

Case# 26-33953

Regarding: Pursuit of Stolen Motor Vehicle

On October 12, at approximately 5:08 p.m., the Newton Police Department received a report of a stolen 2007 Chevrolet Corvette. At approximately 7:58 p.m., a Jasper County Sheriff's Office deputy observed the stolen vehicle traveling westbound on Interstate 80 near the 150-mile marker.

The deputy attempted to initiate a traffic stop on the stolen vehicle near the Mitchellville Rest Area. Upon activation of the deputies emergency lights, a pursuit ensued continuing westbound into Polk County. During the pursuit, speeds exceeded 140 miles per hour.

The pursuit came to an end northeast of Altoona when the driver intentionally drove the Corvette into a ditch, coming to rest in a bean field. Both occupants were taken into custody without further incident.

The driver, Braiden Billings, 18, of Newton, has been charged with the following offenses:

- Theft in the First Degree of a Motor Vehicle
- Felony Eluding
- Theft in the First Degree Against an Older Individual
- Failure to Obey a Steady Red Light
- Three counts of Failure to Obey a Stop Sign

Billings is currently being held in the Jasper County Jail on a \$41,151.52 bond and is awaiting his initial court appearance.

Billings had previously been held in the Jasper County Jail on an assault charge and was released after posting bond on October 11, 2026. The bond was posted by a family member who was later the victim of the stolen vehicle.

The passenger, Natalee Ryan, 18, of Newton, has been charged with Theft in the First Degree Against an Older Individual. Ryan is currently being held in the Jasper County Jail on a \$25,000 bond.

Jasper County Sheriff's Office deputies were assisted by the Iowa State Patrol, Colfax Police Department and the Prairie City Police Department. The Sheriff's Office appreciates the assistance and cooperation of these agencies during the incident.

All charges are allegations. Both individuals are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in a court of law.

For immediate release:



Brad M. Shutts, Sheriff

