



SHERIFF

ALLEGHENY COUNTY

KEVIN M. KRAUS, SHERIFF
CHIEF DEPUTY JOHN A. KEARNEY

436 Grant Street
Courthouse 111
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Office: 412-350-4700
24 Hour: 412-350-4714

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MARCH 31, 2023

CONTACT: MIKE MANKO
(412) 496-3633
MManko@alleghenycourts.us

MAN WANTED FOR DRAGGING POLICE OFFICER WITH VEHICLE TAKEN INTO CUSTODY

Pittsburgh PA ---- Sheriff Kevin M. Kraus announced today that a Turtle Creek man wanted since May of last year for dragging a Whitehall Police officer with a vehicle during a traffic stop has been taken into custody.

Detectives from our office developed information earlier today that 28-year-old Alphonso Francis was inside of a residence on Fairview Avenue in Turtle Creek. Francis has been wanted since May of 2022 on an Allegheny County Police warrant accusing him of aggravated assault, recklessly endangering another person and a firearms violation connected to a traffic stop along Clairton Boulevard. The traffic stop ended with Francis, who was a passenger in the vehicle, climbing into the driver's seat and pulling away while dragging a Whitehall Police Officer more than 200 feet.

When detectives approached the Fairview Avenue residence this afternoon, they determined that Francis was located in a crawl space. Detectives then entered the crawl space and removed Francis, arresting him without further incident.

"I want to commend the work of my detectives today," said Sheriff Kraus. "They were engaged in a potentially dangerous situation with an individual who has a history of threatening behavior toward law enforcement and were able to make the arrest without incident."

Following the arrest, Francis was transported to the Allegheny County Jail.

####