

Chicago man charged after dragging wife with car on State Road 56

Written by Marty Randall
Wednesday, 23 July 2014 00:00 -

A Chicago, Ill., man has been released on bond after allegedly dragging his wife with the family car on State Road 56 on Sunday, July 6.

Kelvin C. Sledge, 38, has entered a preliminary plea of not guilty on July 7 to charges of neglect of a dependent and battery, both Level 6 felonies, according to Indiana's new criminal classification system.

He was arrested by Capt. David Hardin of the Scottsburg Police Department after Capt. Hardin and Sgt. Joe Nicholson were dispatched to Scottsburg's section of S.R. 56 West known locally as "Mayonnaise Alley" because of its many restaurants. According to Sledge's wife, the couple had been arguing at Wendy's, where they had stopped to eat while traveling on Interstate 65. The woman said she took the couple's young child and walked to the McDonald's, which is west of the Wendy's.

Sledge followed his wife in their car and asked her to get in. The woman complied, first putting the child in its seat in the back, then getting in the front passenger seat, she related to Capt. Hardin.

When her husband continued to argue, the woman said she got out of the car and attempted to get the child out as well. As she was doing so, she said Sledge "...sped out onto S.R. 56 while she was hanging from the passenger side rear door causing her to drag her feet."

Sledge then pulled into the parking area of the Waffle and Steak Restaurant, which is across from the Wendy's and McDonald's.

Two people said they witnessed the incident, both of whom verified the woman's statements.

The wife suffered a wound that was bleeding on her right foot and scratches to her left foot, the officer noted. During his court appearance, Sledge was served with two protective orders, which ordered him to stay away from his wife and the child. He filed a cash bond of \$2,500 the same

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day as his court hearing and was released to await his trial set for October 9.