

## Lexington man arrested after crash on Plymouth Road that injured driver

Written by Marty Randall  
Friday, 15 January 2016 11:01 -

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A Lexington area resident has been charged with operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated causing serious bodily injury.

The Level 6 felony was filed against Branden M. Lytle, 22, on Tuesday, January 12, based on information provided in a probable cause affidavit filed by Deputy Joe Johnson.

Johnson was the officer dispatched to the scene on Plymouth Road when 9-1-1 staff was notified at 10:40 p.m. on Thursday, January 7. The site was about 1,000 feet west of an intersection with Ervin Road.

Lytle told Deputy Johnson that he had been headed east on Plymouth Road. When he came over a hill, he said a 2005 Ford Focus driven by Hannah L. Howard, 19, Austin, was in the middle of the road and the 2011 Ford Fusion he was driving collided with it head-on.

Deputy Johnson noted in the accident report he wrote that Lytle's vehicle was left of center when the head-on crash occurred.

Howard was trapped inside the wreckage of her car. She was assisted at the scene by Scott County EMS and Lexington volunteer firemen and then was taken by ambulance to Scott Memorial Hospital. One of her arms was broken in the accident.

Property damage was estimated at up to \$25,000 including damage to a Verizon phone box, which Lytle had struck.

Lytle was detained at the scene by the deputy, who was assisted by Deputies Joe Guarneri and James Shelton. The report stated that Lytle failed field sobriety testing. He was placed in

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custody and taken to Scott Memorial, where a blood test was drawn.

Toxicology results are pending.

Lytle was then transported to the Scott County Security Center in Scottsburg and booked in.

At his initial court hearing on January 12, he entered a not guilty plea to the Level 6 felony. He was released on a \$5,000 cash bond that same day.

His jury trial has been scheduled for April 7.