



NEWS Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CHRISTMAS LIGHT DISPLAY AT ROCKPORT BEACH SUFFERS DAMAGE

ROCKPORT, TX – At 1 am on Monday, December 7, 37-year-old Somer Rachelle Nesloney of Rockport crashed through the locked gate at Rockport Beach Park and proceeded to run down the displays that were part of the “Christmas at the Beach” drive-through light celebration. The event was sponsored by the Rockport-Fulton Chamber of Commerce and the Aransas County Navigation District.

Police were called to the scene by eyewitnesses and arrested Nesloney, who was driving a Ford Expedition towing a trailer with a race car upon it. There was no evidence of intoxication.

The total extent of damage is currently unknown. “This was a first-time event for our community,” stated Chamber President Diane Probst. “We felt it was important to provide a unique and safe, family-oriented, holiday experience.

“We have checked with all the non-profit organizations about their individual displays. While they were saddened it happened, they’re doing everything they can to get what they can fixed today so that the event will continue as scheduled. After all, we’re Rockport Strong and known for our resiliency,” she added.

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City Council Representative Andrea Hattman, who also sits on the board of United Way, was deeply upset. “Our United Way display, which took lots of hours of commitment, had minor damage compared to others. I’m just in disbelief someone would do this,” she noted.

Nesloney was charged with criminal trespass, a misdemeanor, and criminal mischief, a felony, and was booked into the Aransas County Detention Center.

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