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Duval County deputies arrest bail-out driver

■ Bail-out happened near the Border Patrol checkpoint outside Freer

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Posted: Friday, July 8, 2011 12:00 am | Updated: 6:09 pm, Fri Nov 18, 2011.

By: Johnny De La Zerda Jr.
Alice Echo-News Journal | 0 comments

Deputies with the Duval County Sheriff's Department took a man into custody Wednesday afternoon who was the driver in a bailout earlier that morning.

The bailout occurred on Farm-to-Market Road 359 about eight miles south of San Diego where deputies had set up a license and insurance checkpoint.

At about 7:30 a.m., a blue 2005 Ford F-150 pulled into the checkpoint but to accelerated rather than stop when he approached officers.

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The driver, identified as Russel Phillips from Beaumont, immediately pulled his vehicle into the median where he and about 15 immigrants fled.

Border Patrol agents later apprehended several of the illegal immigrants along with Phillips who had left his wallet with identification and social security card in the vehicle.

Phillips will be charged with evading arrest/detention with a motor vehicle.

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