

This is Casey Dolan with your local news and commentary for Wednesday, February 8, 2023 on KPTZ 91.9 FM in Port Townsend, Washington.

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We have two stories of local mayhem. As reported in the *PT Leader*, Trenton Louis Seykora, 26, faces seven felony charges of first-degree kidnapping, first-degree assault, possession of a stolen motor vehicle, first-degree possession of stolen property, attempting to elude a police vehicle, and driving under the influence, as well as two additional charges of second-degree malicious mischief. According to the article, Seykora, already wanted on four active arrest warrants, fled police in a stolen truck while towing a stolen trailer and keeping Joseph Gregory Gaikowski, 37, of Quilcene, his passenger prisoner at gunpoint. He crashed into three deputy patrol cars while trying to escape from deputies down a logging road north of Quilcene. Seykora made his first appearance in Jefferson County Superior Court on Friday, January 27. Gaikowski, who drove the truck during part of the pursuit, told deputies he would have pulled over but claimed Seykora started waving around a semi-automatic pistol as police tried to stop the truck. Gaikowski was charged with possession of a stolen vehicle and third-degree driving with a suspended license. In Jefferson County Superior Court last Friday, Deputy Prosecutor Melissa Pleimann recounted Seykora's criminal history, which included 20 warrants for his arrest and charges that are still pending in Washington courts. She asked Superior Court Judge Keith Harper to set bail at \$250,000. Scott Charlton, the court-appointed public defender for Seykora, questioned the high bail set and asked that bail be set at a reasonable amount. He said, "To justify a quarter of a million dollars bail ... I don't have words for it." Harper, however, said Seykora had a "zero chance" of showing up in court when he was supposed to, or complying with court orders and that "This offense is one of the most serious offenses, combined, alleged, that I can recall." Harper followed the prosecution's recommendation, calling the circumstances "extraordinary," and set bail at \$250,000. Seykora and Gaikowski will be arraigned on the felony charges this coming Friday in Superior Court.

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In more crime news, the *Peninsula Daily News* reports that Darryl J. Svec, 34, went on a rampage through part of downtown Sequim early Sunday morning. He remains in Clallam County jail on \$10,000 bond for investigation of second-degree robbery; two counts of hit and run, unattended; third-degree assault of a police officer; resisting arrest; theft of a motor vehicle; interfering with the reporting of domestic violence; DUI; and malicious mischief, first and second degree.

Sgt. Carolee Edwards of the Sequim Police Department gave an account of events to the *PDN*: Svec assaulted an acquaintance, forcefully took her keys and cellphone so she couldn't call for help, and locked her out of her house at about 12:30 in the morning. She fled to a neighbor's house and called 911 emergency dispatchers to report the stolen keys and cellphone and express fear that he would steal her vehicle, which he did. Officers found him less than a minute after the car was stolen. He had hit a PUD power pole, knocking it down, a group of mailboxes and trash cans – scattering trash throughout the roadway – and a parked Toyota Prius, slamming it into the building, destroying the car and damaging the building. He stopped shortly after and fled on foot. Edwards said he left the car in gear and it rolled into an enclosed cargo trailer. Svec was eventually found crouching next to a garage and taken first to Olympic Medical Center for evaluation of a cut on his chin and then to jail.

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As reported by our own Diane Urbani de la Paz two weeks ago, Port Townsend has a new trolley car-styled bus. Tomorrow, the Jefferson County Transit Authority (JTA) plans to hold an official ceremony welcoming it downtown. The new trolley is a standard diesel bus resembling an old-fashioned trolley, in keeping with the

vintage architecture and ambience of the town. It features wooden seats and an old-fashioned bell. At \$574,000, Fleet and Facilities Manager Desiree Williams said the bus was more expensive than a standard city bus but noted the trolley was the first bus JTA had bought in three years. The ribbon-cutting ceremony will take place in front of Port Townsend City Hall at 12:15pm Thursday and will be hosted by Jefferson Transit and the Chamber of Jefferson County.

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KPTZ 91.9 FM broadcasts your local news Monday through Friday at noon and 5pm and at noon on Saturday. You can contact us at [news@kptz.org](mailto:news@kptz.org). I'm Casey Dolan and I thank you for listening.