



Man arrested for pepper spraying cyclist

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Posted Wednesday, March 22, 2017 12:00 am

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FORSYTH COUNTY, Ga. — A man was arrested March 4 after he apparently pepper sprayed a cyclist because he was angry the group of bikers was taking up a lot of the road.

The cyclist said the 51-year-old driver passed the group of bikers, almost clipping them, as they were cycling on Bentley Road. The 54-year-old cyclist said he flipped off the driver.

After passing, the driver apparently separated the group of bikers intentionally. The driver then pulled over and waited for the rest of the bikers and yelled profanities at them. A cyclist rode up and told the man he needed to learn the laws of the road, which led to an argument with other bikers joining in. The driver then got out of his car wanting to fight a cyclist, when one of the bikers got pepper sprayed trying to break up the fight.

The driver showed deputies a video he took of the incident which reinforced the bikers' account.

The man was arrested for battery against the cyclist he pepper sprayed.

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Shelly Butefish Kuhn · Works at Freelance Photographer
What this man did was wrong for sure, but I live in the area and the cyclists are a dangerous problem. They too do not adhere to the rules of the road. The roads up here are narrow and winding and lack shoulders. Maybe a few years ago it was ok for them to be designated bike roads but now there is too much traffic. I was run off the road by a truck coming in the opposite side of the road trying to avoid a bicyclist who was passing a group of fellow bikers. I have personally witnessed many near misses. It can take as much as 45 minutes from downtown Cumming to my home. It's 6 miles. Wednesday is the worst day because there is a large group ride and it adds so much to people's commutes at the end of the day. I realize everyone has the right to the road, but maybe it's time for a revision of the roads that are designated.
Shelly Kuhn

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Seth Snyder · Atlanta, Georgia
Or maybe a revision of the way roads are built!

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Pete Foret
Maybe you should be pissed at the driver who didn't follow the rules of the road as came into your lane.

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Chris Dusack · Calvert Hall College
Are you saying that bicyclists are causing your six mile drive to take 45 minutes? If that's the case you might want to give up your car and ride a bicycle instead. The more likely case is that cars and trucks in front of you are causing this delay.

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Glenn Shealey · Project manager at Hargrove Engineers + Constructors
The proper response for drivers when passing cyclist(s) is the same as any other slow vehicle on the road, slow down until you have clear view of the road ahead and then move to the other lane to pass. Obviously the driver of the truck was in the wrong.

Cyclists when riding in a group of more than a few normally will double up in order to make it easier for a car too pass by reducing the time it will take to pass. At times the two lead cyclists will pull off the front to share the work load with the other cyclists in the group resulting in four across until they reach the back of the group... See More

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Clinton Weinstein
What ever the issues
I want to come home alive
It's a give and take people

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Patrice Hainline · Seventy-First High School
Shame on the man that tried to clip (harm) cyclist- I think the driver of the truck should be charged for more than assault, as he used his truck to attempt harm first and when that failed fighting and then pepper spray, where we live ther are cyclist and golf cart drivers, motor cyclists and bully's behind the wheels of motor vehcles (cars trucks and golf carts) there are some sharps turns and streets are narrow - I slow down going around them - to make sure I do not clip someone - we also have folks walking and deer running in the streets BTW and drive from gate to home can be 10 minutes to 30 or more- while it is not great - I do not mind - I rather get home in one piece and without doing harm to others- It does sound like the roads need to be widened in that area- and perhaps when you know traffic is going to be rough - try to plan around it -

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Shane Milne · Irvine, California
Video of the incident: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iszFNEV64ck>

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