

Ex-deputy hit with more drug charges

SANTA ANA – A former deputy sheriff already facing drug charges, including driving under the influence, has been hit with additional felony counts for allegedly obtaining prescription pills by providing false information and repeatedly switching doctors, prosecutors said Monday.

Allan James Waters, 37, of Laguna Niguel, was initially charged in June with injuring a 78-year-old woman when he crashed into her car while driving under the influence of prescription drugs. He was also charged in June with using fake cocaine to trade for prescription drugs in a separate incident.

Prosecutors said Monday that on nine occasions between March 2009 and March 2010, Waters went to eight different doctors to obtain prescription drugs Opana and Oxycodone by giving the doctors false stories in order to illegally obtain the drugs.

When one doctor would stop providing a prescription for the defendant, Waters is accused of moving on to a new doctor, according to a news release from the District Attorney's Office.

With the new felony charges, Waters is now accused of driving under the influence causing bodily injury, two felony counts of selling a substance in lieu of cocaine, nine felony counts of obtaining a controlled substance by fraud, plus a sentencing enhancement for causing great bodily injury to an elder.

If convicted of all charges, he faces a possible sentence of 13 years and four months in state prison. Waters is out of custody after posting \$100,000 bail and is scheduled for a pretrial hearing Dec. 17 in the Central Justice Center in Santa Ana.

The driving-under-the-influence charge stems from a March 1, 2010 crash in Dana Point when he crashed his 2008 Mercedes-Benz into a Toyota, knocking it over a planter and onto the wrong side of the road, where it came to a stop facing northbound in the southbound lanes, prosecutors said.

The Toyota driver sustained minor injuries, but his passenger, a 78-year-old woman, was transported to the hospital and sustained injuries to her back, according to prosecutors. She later required surgery.

Waters, who allegedly displayed signs of drug intoxication including slurred speech, a lack of balance, and trouble following directions, was arrested by California Highway Patrol officers at the scene and later charged with driving under the influence of prescription drugs Zolpidem and Hydrocodone.

The case made headlines when it was learned that Waters had been involved in another suspicion crash less than an hour earlier when he drove into a car stopped at a red light, according to the

news release.

Deputies from the Orange County Sheriff's Department responded to the scene and released Waters and the other driver approximately 30 minutes later after taking a report of the incident, prosecutors said.

Waters, who was off-duty on administrative leave at the time of the crashes, has since resigned from the department.

Detectives also began looking into allegations that Waters arranged to receive Opana and OxyContin from a friend in exchange for cocaine and money. He was later accused of providing the friend with a fake white powdery substance under the false pretense that it was cocaine, according to prosecutors.