



NEWS

SPORTS

WEATHER

FEATURES

CW17

TRAFFIC

JAX BEST

NEWSLETTERS

NEWS

SPORTS

WEATHER

FEATURES

CW17

TRAFFIC

JAX BEST

NEWSLETTERS

CONTACT I

A freeze watch in effect for Northern Ware and Pierce Regions

Sports brought to you by the
See the complete list

WEATHER ALERT

HIDE



NEWS

SPORTS

WEATHER

FEATURES

CW17

TRAFFIC

JAX BEST

NEWSLETTERS

crash

Troopers: SUV ends up in Lake DeSoto after mayor gets out of running vehicle

Scott Johnson, Reporter/weekend anchor
News4Jax.com Staff

Published: **February 6, 2017 at 6:56 PM**

Tags: **News, Lake City, Traffic**



LAKE CITY, Fla. – The mayor of Lake City could be facing a DUI charge in an alcohol-related crash on Jan. 27, according to the Florida Highway Patrol.

Mayor Stephen Witt, 64, was in the parking lot of the Elks Lodge Club on Northeast Hernando Avenue just before midnight Jan. 27 when he started his GMC Terrain, put it in gear and for unknown reasons got out of the SUV, troopers said.

Witt's SUV traveled about 60 feet, crossing Lake DeSoto Circle, driving over a curb and then heading down an embankment into Lake DeSoto, troopers said. It ended up in about 4 feet of water in the lake.

Witt suffered minor injuries in the incident and was taken to Lake City Medical Center for treatment.

Troopers said the incident was definitely alcohol-related, and that a DUI charge is pending.

News4Jax stopped by Witt's office Monday, but his assistant said he was out of town and unavailable for comment.

One Lake City resident told News4Jax she doesn't want the mayor to get special treatment, if he is charged.

[NEWS](#)[SPORTS](#)[WEATHER](#)[FEATURES](#)[CW17](#)[TRAFFIC](#)[JAX BEST](#)[NEWSLETTERS](#)

"If it was a DUI or he was drunk, then I think that he should be held responsible for it. I don't believe that he should be given a free pass because he is mayor or of higher authority," Angela Herring said. "I'm not surprised to hear about it because there's so many things happening in this world. The times we are living in, nothing surprises me."

News4Jax contacted the city manager for comment, but we have not heard back yet.

Copyright 2017 by WJXT News4Jax - All rights reserved.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS:



Scott Johnson

Specializes in Clay County issues, general assignment reporting and stories off the beaten path and anchors weekend evening newscasts.

[email](#) [facebook](#) [twitter](#)

FOLLOW US



GET RESULTS WITH OMNE

[TV Listings](#)[Contact Us](#)[Email Newsletters](#)[RSS Feeds](#)[Contests and Rules](#)[Closed Captioning /
Audio Description](#)[Careers at WJXT /
WCWJ](#)[Terms of Use](#)[WJXT Public File](#)[WCWJ Public File](#)[FCC Applications](#)[Privacy Policy](#)[Do Not Sell My Info](#)

If you need help with WJXT's or WCWJ's FCC public inspection file, call (904) 393-9801.





[NEWS](#)

[SPORTS](#)

[WEATHER](#)

[FEATURES](#)

[CW17](#)

[TRAFFIC](#)

[JAX BEST](#)

[NEWSLETTERS](#)

Add This To Your Toothpaste To Help Regrow Gums in a Few Days

[Read More](#)



Copyright © 2022 News4JAX.com is managed by Graham Digital and published by Graham Media Group, a division of Graham Holdings.