

# South Shore transit chief arrested



By Kathryn Reed

BlueGo chief John Andoh experienced a ride he wasn't used to – in the back of a police car.

Andoh, 29, was arrested Oct. 1 at 12:30am near Stateline by South Lake Tahoe police officers. He posted bail later that day.

Andoh did not return phone calls or emails.

His troubles started Sept. 4 when he was involved in a traffic accident with a bicyclist at C and Bonanza streets in South Lake Tahoe. The 58-year-old cyclist was transported to Barton Memorial Hospital complaining of knee pain, according to police Lt. Marty Hale.

Hale said Andoh changed his story about the incident while talking to officers that Friday of Labor Day weekend. As officers continued their investigation Hale said they discovered things “didn't add up”

From there a warrant was issued on Sept. 24 for Andoh's arrest on charges of giving false information to an officer.

According to Hale, when Andoh was arrested Thursday in the 3700 block of Lake Tahoe Boulevard he told officers he lives in Sacramento. He has been working full time as the South Shore transit guru for close to a year. His cell phone has an area code for the Stockton area.

Officers tracked Andoh down yesterday when a call came in about a vehicle with its hazard lights on dragging a trash can. Hale said the vehicle was found parked near Stateline and Andoh was outside of the vehicle.

It is not known if Andoh was on duty when the various run-ins with the law occurred.

Andoh's contract with the South Tahoe Area Transit Authority was already going to be the subject of closed session on today's agenda. The board is Andoh's boss.

STATA chairwoman Nancy McDermid did not respond to an email request for comment.

When Andoh was originally hired by the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency he did not have to go through a drug test, have his Department of Motor Vehicle records pulled or have a background check. Those are things requested of BlueGo drivers – who Andoh oversees. He drives the buses and has access to agency vehicles for work purposes.

Some STATA board members had requested those documents be secured before discussions about his contract were to be deliberated today. It's doubtful they reflect the arrest from a day ago.