

Montgomery County Sheriff's Office
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For Immediate Release
Date: August 12, 2011
Time: 3:30 p.m.

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A multijurisdictional law enforcement search is still under way for Edward Hamilton DeHart, Jr. near Tyler Road in Montgomery County and near the City of Radford. DeHart is being sought on numerous outstanding warrants and is considered armed and dangerous.

Montgomery County Sheriff Tommy Whitt is asking area residents to call 9-1-1 if they see anyone fitting DeHart's description and to not approach the suspect. Residents should also exercise caution and lock their doors and vehicles.

The Sheriff's Office, Virginia State Police, City of Radford Police, Pulaski Sheriff's Office, Virginia Tech, Radford University, U.S. Marshals Service and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms are participating in the search. A State Police helicopter, TAC team and other resources are engaged in the search.

Sheriff's Deputies responded to a 911 call from a clerk at the Radford Travel Center on Tyler Road around 1 a.m. Friday. The clerk stated that a man pumping gas matched the description of DeHart.

Three Sheriff's Deputies responded and encountered DeHart; shots were fired.

DeHart fled in the truck over a large pile of rocks and asphalt, crossed a service road and drove across a hayfield to a pond, where he abandoned the vehicle and took off on foot. The truck was recovered a short time later. A firearm was found inside the vehicle.

No deputies were harmed. DeHart may have been wounded in the encounter with deputies or when the truck was driven across the rocky terrain. The State Police have been asked to investigate the shooting, said Virginia State Police Sgt. Robert Carpentieri.

DeHart, 48, is a white male with gray hair and blue eyes. He is 5'11" and was last seen wearing blueish-gray shirt, and blue jeans.

Residents near the Belmont area, Tyler Road to Rock Road area, and the area surrounding the Radford Travel Center are encouraged to stay inside and keep their doors and vehicles locked.

DeHart is wanted by the Christiansburg and Radford Police Departments and Montgomery and Pulaski County Sheriff's Offices for numerous crimes, including felony larceny of a vehicle, felony possession of ammunition by a convicted felon, arson, grand larceny, breaking and entering, and misdemeanor destruction of property. See the attached document for the list of outstanding warrants as of 2 p.m. today.

More information will be released as it is made available.

For Release 08-12-2011 3:30 p.m. EDT

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

An Accredited Agency

J. T. "TOMMY" WHITT, SHERIFF



**16 South Franklin Street
Christiansburg, Virginia 24073**

**List of Outstanding Warrants for Edward Hamilton DeHart Jr.
As of 2:00 p.m. on Friday, August 12, 2011**

Christiansburg Police Department:

- Grand larceny (vehicle)
- Grand larceny
- Possession of ammunition after being a convicted felon
- Grand larceny

Montgomery County Sheriff's Office:

- Three (3) counts of grand larceny
- Two (2) counts of Breaking and Entering with intent to commit a felony
- Two (2) counts of petit larceny with an enhanced penalty
- Burning or destroying a building

Radford City Police Department:

- Probation Violation

Pulaski County Sheriff's Office:

- Grand larceny
- Destruction of property