BUTTE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
MEDIA RELEASE

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SHERIFF-CORONER

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RELEASED BY: Sgt. Jason Hail/Felony Investigations Unit

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On October 21, 2009, a report was taken by the Butte County Sheriff's Office of a burglary at 3135 Johnny Lane, Chico. Among the items taken during the burglary was a Sony Playstation 3. On November 12, 2009, a search warrant was served by Detective Tom Dryden on Sony Corporation in an attempt to locate the stolen Playstation 3 by its Internet Protocol address (IP).

Based on information gained from the search warrant, detectives from the Butte County Sheriff's Office conducted a probation search at 890 Netters Circle, Chico. The resident at that location was Matthew Hayes (DOB: 1-30-82). Hayes is currently on probation in Butte County for possession of stolen property. Upon arrival, Hayes was seen near the trunk of a car in the driveway. Hayes saw law enforcement and fled on foot. After a short time, Hayes returned to the residence and was taken into custody without further incident.

A search of the vehicle and residence revealed several items which had been reported as stolen to both the Butte County Sheriff's Office and the Chico Police Department. Detectives recovered additional property, including a handgun and safe which were not yet reported as stolen. The owners of the property later called in to report that their respective homes had been burglarized during the day.

Hayes was arrested in connection with four residential burglaries in the Chico area, possession of stolen property, and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Hayes was booked into the Butte County Jail, Oroville with a no-bail probation hold.