

# **BUTTE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE MEDIA RELEASE**

**JERRY W. SMITH  
SHERIFF-CORONER**



**DATE : August 9, 2011**

**RELEASED BY: Sgt. Anthony Borgman**

**CONTACT: Sgt. Borgman or Watch Commander, 530-538-7322**

**SUBJECT: C11-14190**

In the recent weeks, the Magalia area of Butte County has been the victim of significantly increased criminal activity. On Tuesday August 9, 2011, the Butte County Sheriff's Department was able to field a team of 5 Deputies and a Field Supervisor to the Magalia area for a few hours to follow-up leads on the whereabouts of wanted persons in the Magalia area, without incurring overtime costs to the County.

As a result of this effort, Colby Wade Spear (07-11-1974), a Parolee at large was located at 14791 Magalia Drive, Magalia. As Deputies approached the residence, Spear was observed leaving the residence and was contacted by additional Deputies in an alley that runs behind the house. When Spear saw the Deputies in the alley he ran. Butte County Sheriff's Deputy B. Allen and Butte County Sheriff's K9 Deputy B. Cornelius identified themselves, ordered Spear to stop, and Deputy Cornelius warned Spear that his K9 partner Solo would be released. Spear ran and was ultimately detained by Deputy Cornelius with the assistance of K9 Solo. Spear had a portable drug lab in his backpack at the time of his arrest.

The resident of 14791 Magalia Drive, Mary Elizabeth Ricca (03-13-1966), had prior knowledge that Spear was on Parole and wanted. Ricca delayed Deputies and attempted to provide Spear with an opportunity to escape capture.

Spear was treated at Feather River Hospital and booked into the Butte County Jail for possession of a drug lab, and the Parole violation, and is being held without bail. Ricca was booked into the Butte County Jail for harboring a fugitive felon and is being held on \$15,000 bail.