



Humboldt County Sheriff's Office

826 Fourth Street, Eureka, CA 95501

Date: 11-10-2011

From: Sgt Wayne Hanson

Subject: Stabbing

Case# 2011-6028

On 11-09-2011 at about 0530 hours, Humboldt County Sheriff's Office Deputies responded to St. Joseph Hospital in Eureka, regarding a male victim age 44, who had been stabbed. The victim told Deputies that he had been stabbed twice in the elbow and twice in the chest with a knife.

The male victim told deputies that at approximately 0300 hours he got into a verbal argument with a male subject named Joseph Demello, who was staying with him at his residence located in the 300 block of Bacchetti Drive, Eureka. Demello came to the residence the night before with a female friend of the victim. This was the first time that the victim had met Demello.

The victim told deputies that he caught Demello going through his personal belonging in his house at about 0300 hours and confronted him. The victim told deputies that he had medical marijuana plants growing in his residence and he believed that Demello was going to steal some of his marijuana. The victim told deputies that Demello pulled a knife out of his pocket and then stabbed him.

The victim said the suspect then fled the residence with a female acquaintance in an early white, 1990's, Toyota, 4- runner with right rear quarter panel damage, unknown license plate. The victim told deputies that he believed that they might be driving to an unknown location off highway 36. The victim told deputies that he believed that Demello might be from Washington State.

After the victim was stabbed he waited for approximately 1-½ hours and called a friend to take him to the hospital for treatment.

The Sheriff's Office put broadcast to other law enforcement agencies to be on the lookout for the suspect and the vehicle and to arrest Demello for assault with a deadly weapon if located.

Demello is described as a WMA, approx 35 years of age, 5-7, 160 pounds, reddish brown hair, long goatee and an unknown tattoo above his left ear. Demello may have facial injuries because the victim stated he punched him several times in the facial area with his fists when he was being stabbed.

The Sheriff's Office is requesting if anyone has information of the location of Joseph Demello to please contact the Sheriff's Office at 445-7251.

This case is still under investigation. The victim is in stable condition.

Sheriff Michael Downey