



Humboldt County Sheriff's Office

826 Fourth Street, Eureka, CA 95501

Date: March 24, 2009

From: Brenda Godsey, PIO
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Subject: Drug Arrest

Case: 200901917

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Humboldt County Sheriff's Deputies arrested two people last night after finding 12 grams of methamphetamine in their vehicle. At about 8:45 last night sheriff's deputies conducted a traffic stop after a driver failed to stop at a stop sign. The vehicle pulled over on the 600 block of W. Harris Street in Eureka. The driver identified himself as Dustin Eugene Veatch, 25 of Eureka, and indicated he was on state parole. A records check revealed that he had a felony warrant for his arrest for a parole violation and that his driver's license was suspended. Deputies arrested Veatch without incident.

The passenger, Sara Balke, was asked to step out of the vehicle while the deputies conducted a search, per the terms of Veatch's parole. The deputies asked Balke if there was anything illegal in the vehicle and Balke told them she had a hypodermic syringe and an Airsoft pistol in her purse, which was on the passenger seat. Deputies found those items and additional drug paraphernalia in her purse. The deputies arrested Balke; a female deputy arrived at the scene and found two plastic baggies containing methamphetamine in Balke's bra with a total weight of 12 grams.

Deputies continued their search of the vehicle and found a ski mask with two eye holes and a mouth hole cut out and two black gloves. They also located a portable police scanner, which was receiving EPD, APD, and Sheriff's Office radio communications. Additionally, they found a box that contained about 50 sets of keys, 14 speaker and amplifiers, and miscellaneous power tools.

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Veatch and Balke were transported to the Humboldt County Correctional Facility where they were both booked on multiple charges. Veatch was booked for possession of a controlled substance, possession of a controlled substance for sale, transporting a controlled substance, possession of burglary tools, driving when unlicensed, failing to stop at a stop sign, and a parole violation. He is ineligible to post bail due to his parole status.

Balke was booked for possession of a controlled substance, possession of a controlled substance for sale, transporting a controlled substance, possession of controlled substance paraphernalia, and possession of a hypodermic syringe. Her bail was set at \$25,000 and she is expected to be arraigned by Thursday.

GARY PHILP
Sheriff

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