



# Humboldt County Sheriff's Office

826 Fourth Street, Eureka, CA 95501

**Date:** May 4, 2010

**From:** Brenda Godsey, PIO  
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**Subject:** Warrant Suspect Arrested – In Possession of Loaded Firearm

**Case:** 201003014

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Early this morning, Humboldt County Sheriff's Deputies arrested an Orleans man who had multiple outstanding warrants. After his arrest, the deputies discovered he had a concealed, loaded firearm in his vehicle. Shortly after midnight, a deputy sheriff was on patrol on SR 169 at about mile marker 32.60 and was behind a red pick-up truck. The driver of the truck made a sudden right turn onto a steep driveway. The truck became high-centered, teetering about one foot from an embankment that led to a 40-foot drop to a creek below. The deputy contacted the driver, Robert Charlie McCovey, 46, and knew he had outstanding warrants. The deputy also knew, from previous contacts, that McCovey has a history of fleeing from law enforcement if given an opportunity. The deputy started to place McCovey in handcuffs just as the vehicle started to slide due to the steep grade. The deputy jumped into the vehicle and applied the brakes while still holding on to McCovey. A second deputy arrived and took custody of McCovey. The vehicle was secured and McCovey's passenger was able to exit safely. A search of the vehicle revealed a concealed, fully loaded rifle with a loaded magazine under the driver's seat. Deputies found a hypodermic syringe in the vehicle, additional ammunition throughout the vehicle and on McCovey's person.

McCovey was arrested and transported to the Humboldt County Correctional Facility where he was booked for being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm, carrying a loaded firearm, carrying a concealed firearm within a vehicle, possession of ammunition, possession of a hypodermic syringe, and his original warrants that include evading a peace officer and multiple traffic offenses. His passenger was not charged with a crime and she was transported to a nearby residence.

Gary Philp  
Sheriff

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