



CITY OF EUREKA

604 C Street

EUREKA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Eureka, California 95501-0341

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NEWS RELEASE

On 9-6-2012 at about 5:00 pm, the Eureka Police Department put into service their two patrol cars mounted with new License Plate Recognition camera systems. The cameras were recently purchased to assist officers in more effectively searching for stolen vehicles, vehicles associated with wanted suspects, or other wanted vehicles.

On 9-7-2012 at about 12:52 pm, the system alerted on a stolen BMW traveling north bound on Fairfield Street. Officers contacted the vehicle and its driver at the 1000 block of Broadway and the driver was taken into custody. The vehicle was reported stolen out of Shasta County. The driver initially lied about his name, but was soon identified as David Wayne Downs (32 years old of Cottonwood, Ca.). A records check of Downs revealed that he is on formal probation out of Shasta County and also a registered sex offender.

Downs was booked into the Humboldt County Correctional Facility on a charge of possession of stolen property. Downs does not qualify for bail due to a probation hold placed by Shasta County.

The Eureka Police Department is extremely pleased with the performance of its new system and is hopeful that this new technology will increase its already high vehicle recovery rate.

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Sergeant Patrick O'Neill
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