

**STANISLAUS COUNTY
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

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ADAM CHRISTIANSON, SHERIFF - CORONER

PRESS RELEASE

For Release: 3:00PM, August 9, 2011

Sheriff's Detectives Look for Suspect Wanted For Stolen Property from Oakdale Police Department

Modesto, CA – On August 1st Sheriff's deputies arrested 34-year-old Yuri Pearson of Modesto, CA for attempted rape and criminal threats. When he was arrested he was found to have in his possession 18 firearms many of which were loaded and accessible to minor children in the residence. Pearson had police issue body armor, a police raid vest, nylon duty belt, and a launchable pepper spray grenade.

Sheriff's detectives took over the investigation to determine how he was able to obtain the police issue equipment. Detectives learned that Pearson was a former City of Oakdale employee who had access to the police department. During the investigation detectives learned that the police issue body armor, police raid vest, nylon duty belt and launchable pepper spray grenade had been stolen from Oakdale PD.

Detectives returned to Pearson's residence in the 3100 Block of North Avenue in Modesto, CA with a search warrant and found a chemical agent riot grenade, which was stolen from Oakdale Police Department. He also had 4 stolen Modesto PD traffic cones.

Detectives learned that the stolen chemical agents, police issue body armor, police raid vest and duty belt had been stolen from a chemical agent locker that belonged to the Oakdale PD S.W.A.T. Team. The locker, which can no longer be found, contained an unknown amount of chemical agents and projectile chemical agents. The last inventory of the locker was conducted in 2007 when S.W.A.T. was disbanded.

Pearson, who has since bailed out of jail, is currently wanted for child endangerment, possession of stolen property, possession of a destructive device, and possession of high capacity magazines.

Anyone with information about this case can contact Detective Cory Brown at (209) 567-4485. Callers can also leave an anonymous tip by calling Crime Stoppers at (209) 521-4636. Tipsters can also e-mail tips at <http://www.modestopolice.com/CrimeStoppers>, or text them to CRIMES (274637) by typing "Tip704" plus the message and be eligible for a cash reward.

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