



**NEWS RELEASE  
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**NWA Fugitive Task Force Nets Terry Hayes Following  
Exhaustive Man Hunt**

**Fayetteville, Ark** – The Northwest Arkansas Sex Offender and Violent Crime Task Force arrested Terry Hayes, 41, in the Gravette, Arkansas area at approximately 3 am this morning after an exhaustive man hunt. Various tips and intelligence led investigators to the whereabouts of Hayes. Hayes was arrested in a wooded area in Gravette, and was on foot. Hayes did resist arrest and suffered minor injuries. He was treated at a local hospital and released to authorities. According to Deputy U. S. Marshal Dewaine Allen, “we are all very fortunate, particularly with Hayes’ violent past, there were no other injuries.” Investigators believe Hayes may have been hiding in various locations throughout the Northwest Arkansas region and Southern Missouri. Hayes was to be sentenced on September 24, 2009, following his felony convictions, but fled the area before a sentence could be handed down.

On September 25, 2009, the NWA Fugitive Task Force was asked by the Washington County Sheriff’s Office to adopt the case. On September 28, 2009, a federal warrant was issued for Hayes’ arrest for unlawful flight to avoid prosecution. The Washington County Sheriff’s Office and the Task Force worked tirelessly to apprehend Hayes. The U. S. Marshals sent leads to the Texas area and coordinated with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in efforts to post international border lookouts for Hayes. The U. S. Marshals Service in Springfield, Missouri assisted in the investigation, as did Berry County Missouri Sheriff’s Office and the Missouri State Police. The Gravette Police Department and the Benton County Sheriff’s Office also assisted in the arrest.

According to Allen, “this was a coordinated effort by a multitude of law enforcement agencies, and these coordinated efforts ultimately led to Hayes’ arrest.” Deputy Allen also said, “there is only one person to blame for Hayes’ failure to appear, and that’s Terry Hayes. Terry chose to flee, and when he

made that decision, he made a very poor one,” said Deputy Allen. After an exhaustive night of work, Hayes was taken into custody in Gravette, Arkansas, and transported to the Washington County Detention Facility, where he awaits further adjudication of his case.

With the magnitude of this case and the resources expended to track Hayes, more arrests may come from the investigation. “Persons that may have harbored and aided Hayes continue to be an ongoing focus in this investigation,” said Deputy Allen.

The NWA Fugitive Task Force and its many partners have arrested almost 950 fugitives since its inception in approximately November 2007.

The Northwest Arkansas Sex Offender and Violent Crime Task Force is comprised of the U.S. Marshals Service, Arkansas Department of Community Corrections, the Benton, Washington, Madison, and Carroll County Sheriff’s Office, as well as Fayetteville, Springdale, Rogers, Siloam Springs, and Bentonville Police Departments. The Benton County Sheriff’s Office currently manages the grant that funds the Task Force.

Every year, the U.S. Marshals and its associated Task Forces throughout the country arrest more fugitives than all federal law enforcement agencies combined. Last year, this number was more than 73,00 state and local fugitives and more than 36,000 federal fugitives. Additional information about the U.S. Marshals can be found at <http://www.usmarshals.gov>.

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