

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

November 9, 2009

Escaped Work Crew Inmate Captured

Sheriff Jimmy Harris states as follows:

This morning at 7:30, Work Crew Corrections Officer Verlon White contacted dispatch to report an inmate had escaped from the work crew detail. The DeKalb County Inmate Work Crew, with about 8 inmates, was cleaning up on Sequoyah Caverns Road (County Road 731) when Inmate Ronald E. Pick asked Work Crew Corrections Officer Verlon White if he could use the restroom in the edge of the woods. After about 10 minutes when Pick did not return, Corrections Officer White made the call to dispatch. At that time we contacted the St. Clair Correctional Facility K-9 Unit and the Alabama Department of Public Safety helicopter and asked them to respond to assist in the search. Deputy Red Taylor was also flying in a fixed wing plane over the area in attempt to locate Pick. Deputies Sherry Johnson and Jeffery Bain and Reserve Deputy Rickey Higdon spotted Pick and took him into custody without incident at 10:07am he was escaped from custody a total of 2 hours and 37 minutes. Pick was currently charged with Unlawful Possession of Controlled Substance and Failure to Appear. He was returned to the DeKalb County Detention Center where he will be charged with Third Degree Escape.

Sheriff Harris said, “We would like to thank all DeKalb County Deputies, Corrections Officers, Investigators, Reserve Deputies, Drug Task Force, Valley Head Police Department, Ider Police Department, Alabama State Troopers, St. Clair Correctional Facility K-9 Unit, DeKalb County District Attorney’s Office, and the Alabama Department of Revenue for their quick response and support. Without the assistance of all agencies, we likely would have not been able to apprehend the escapee as quickly as it happened.”

