



## **FORT BRAGG POLICE DEPARTMENT**

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250 Cypress Street  
Fort Bragg, CA 95437-5437

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**MARK PUTHUFF**  
Chief of Police

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### **PRESS RELEASE**

Releasing Officer: **Sergeant Charles Gilchrist**  
Report Number: **FA0900234**  
Date / Time Incident: **02/24/09 1532 hours**  
Location of Incident: **Rite Aid, 189 Boatyard Drive**  
Crime or Incident: **Hit and Run Property Damage Traffic Collision**  
Victim: **Rite Aid**  
Suspect: **Cathy Westerling**

#### **CIRCUMSTANCES:**

On February 24, 2009, at approximately 1532 hours, the Fort Bragg Police Department received a report of a hit and run property damage traffic collision at Rite Aid, 189 Boatyard Drive. Witnesses reported the female suspect fled the scene after colliding with a pillar located in front of the store. The collision caused the pillar to be moved approximately 10 inches from the foundation.

The silver Porsche 911 involved in the collision received moderate damage to the front end. There was a fluid leak on the ground and the front license plate was left at the scene. Officers were able to follow the trail of fluids leaking from the vehicle, until they located the vehicle and driver on Ocean Drive south of Fort Bragg.

The suspect, Cathy Westerling stated that she thought she only had to stay at the scene of an accident if someone was injured. Charges will be filed with the District Attorneys Office against Westerling for causing a collision and fleeing the scene without providing notification.

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