



## **FORT BRAGG POLICE DEPARTMENT**

250 Cypress Street  
Fort Bragg, CA 95437-5437

**MARK PUTHUFF**  
Chief of Police

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### **PRESS RELEASE**

**Releasing Officer:** Sergeant Charles Gilchrist  
**Report Number:** FA08001276 FQ0801276 FG0801276  
**Date / Time Incident:** 10/13/08 – 2219 hours  
**Location of Incident:** Intersection of N Harold and Cedar Street  
**Crime or Incident:** 23153 CVC Driving under the influence causing an Injury, 273a Endangering a child, 1203.2 Violation of Probation  
**Victim:** State of California  
**Suspect:** Shawn Welch, 37 years of age.

**CIRCUMSTANCES:** On 10/13/08, at approximately 2219 hours, the Fort Bragg Police Department received a report of an injury traffic collision at the intersection of N. Harold and Cedar Street. It was reported that a single vehicle had collided into a fire hydrant. Upon arrival, Officers observed a column of water approximately 30 feet high shooting from the damaged fire hydrant. A single vehicle had damaged the fire hydrant and continued through a metal fence until it came to rest after striking the front deck of a residence on the west side of Harold Street. Officers located the driver of the vehicle, later identified as Shawn Welch, slumped over into the passenger's seat of the vehicle. An off-duty Fort Bragg Fireman and several civilians were assisting the driver with his injuries. Welch was bleeding from his head and appeared to have a head injury. A witness located at the scene directed Officers to a male juvenile that may have been a passenger in the vehicle. Further investigation, and evidence located at the scene, indicated the male juvenile was a passenger in the vehicle and the driver may possibly be under the influence of alcohol and or drugs. Several Fort Bragg Fire Department units and Medic 9142 arrived at the scene to treat the injured.

Welch and the male juvenile were transported to the Mendocino Coast District Hospital for treatment of their injuries. Welch was released from the hospital after treatment for his injuries. Officers arrested Welch for the above listed violations and transported him to the Mendocino County Jail in Ukiah.

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