

Deputies Capture Jail Inmate who walked away on April 18

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Deputies searching in the area of Tide Creek Rd. on Wednesday located the inmate who walked away from our outside worker program April 18..

On Monday April 18th, Everett Eugene Stougard, Jr., Age 40, walked away from the yard at the Columbia County Jail. Stougard, who was booked into jail on March 12, 2016, was serving a 120 day sentence for Possession of Methamphetamine. He was due to be released on May 27, 2016.

Deputies spent the afternoon hours today conducting consent searches of possible residences where Stougard was known to frequent. At 5:30 p.m., deputies, with the assistance of our Tracking K "Lars," encountered the inmate hiding in a residence. The inmate initially refused to come out, but surrendered to deputies who threatened to deploy the K9 deputy.

"We are reviewing our security measures and qualifying procedures for those assigned to the outside worker program," Sheriff Jeff Dickerson said. "While Inmate Stougard had been in our facility before and had successfully taken part in the program in the past, we will take a look at any other factors that contributed to a different outcome in this instance. We remain committed to finding ways to assist inmates in developing positive attributes that can help keep them from committing new crimes. Needless to say, Stougard has been rescinded from ever participating in this program."