



PRESS RELEASE

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Date: October 10, 2002
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State Inmate Escapee Apprehended in Early Morning Raid

Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC) officials today reported that a Pike County Community Work Center inmate who walked away from a work detail at Percy Quin State Park on Sunday October 9 was apprehended at a local residence at Saucier, Miss., in Harrison County early today. State inmate Thomas Christopher Lott #R9059 was discovered missing from his work detail at the Percy Quin State Park maintenance shop on Sunday at 3:30 p.m.

Lott's arrest at 1:10 a.m. today was made possible by a cooperative effort between investigators representing MDOC's Internal Audit Division (IAD) and the Harrison County Sheriff's Department. Also arrested at the residence were Kevin Lott, brother of the escapee, and Heather Cumberland, a female companion. The two were charged with harboring a fugitive and were placed in Harrison County Jail. A bond of \$50,000 was set for the two for harboring a fugitive. Penalty if convicted under state law carries a fine of \$100-\$500 or imprisonment in the penitentiary for a term not to exceed *five* years.

"We are extremely pleased that inmate Lott has been apprehended," said Corrections Commissioner Christopher Epps, and "we are deeply appreciative of the valuable assistance given to our IAD by the Harrison County Sheriff's Department in making this arrest."

Inmate Lott is being held by Harrison County authorities and is awaiting transfer back into an MDOC facility. Inmate Lott, who is serving six years on two counts of general burglary from Harrison County, will face up to five years additional time for escape.

Thomas Christopher Lott
MDOC #R9059
White Male
5'8"
160 lbs.
Hazel eyes
Brown hair