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News Release

Shooting in Harrisonburg

Feb. 16, 2013

On February 16, 2013, the Harrisonburg Police Department received a call for shots fired in the 800 block of Port Republic Road. The caller was able to provide dispatch with a description of the vehicle. An officer with the Harrisonburg Police Department observed the vehicle get on Interstate 81 traveling south from Exit 245 (Port Republic Road).

While police were traveling behind the suspect vehicle, a firearm was thrown out, striking the police vehicle. Police Officers with Harrisonburg, Rockingham County, and the Virginia State Police were able to stop the vehicle at exit 240 on Interstate 81 in Bridgewater.

The passenger in the vehicle was identified as the person that fired the shots, and threw the gun out of the window. The firearm was recovered on the interstate by the Harrisonburg Police Department. The passenger of the vehicle was identified as Sean Michael Patty of Staunton, Virginia.

Sean Patty was charged with:

Reckless handling of a firearm in violation of Virginia Code 18.2-56.1

Possession of a Stolen Firearm in violation of Virginia Code 18.2-108.1

Discharging a firearm inside of City limits in Violation of City Code 16-6-41

At the time of arrest there is no photo available.