



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Secretary James M. Le Blanc

Sheriff's Deputies Quickly Capture Inmate Escapee

David Wade Correctional Center inmate booked on new charges

BATON ROUGE, La. – A David Wade Correctional Center inmate is back in custody following a short-lived escape from the Natchitoches Parish Courthouse this morning. Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Deputies quickly captured 34-year-old Kenneth Hardy Jr., who escaped while in court for a pre-trial hearing in Natchitoches Parish.

Hardy was in court this morning for a pre-trial hearing for the alleged crimes of Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon, Home Invasion, Illegal Possession of a Stolen Firearm, and Battery of a Dating Partner. Around 8:20 this morning, during a bathroom break, he escaped through a first floor bathroom window. Authorities put out an alert and deputies captured Hardy in less than 20 minutes without incident and without injuries.

Hardy is serving sentences totaling approximately 33 years for Possession With Intent to Distribute Marijuana and three previous escape convictions out of Natchitoches Parish.

Hardy has been booked in Natchitoches Parish with simple escape for this morning's incident.

As this escape is under investigation, no further details are available at this time.

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