

SCSO arrests Melbourne Beach man for making written threats to kill - 03/23/2012

Seminole Co. Fla., (3/23/12)-The Brevard County Sheriff's Office today arrested John Carnduff Stewart, W/M, 3/16/44, of Melbourne Beach, Fla. on a Seminole County Sheriff's Office (SCSO) warrant for one count of written threats to kill or do bodily injury, a second degree felony.

The SCSO began investigating yesterday after Stewart sent a threatening email to Sanford Police Chief Bill Lee with the subject line "Coming after you." Stewart's email advised that he had multiple weapons and that Lee and his family should be killed. The email also suggested he would harm local police officers. The email was sent to Chief Lee's work account at 8:23 a.m. yesterday. It was signed by Stewart and listed his home address and a phone number. Investigators obtained a subpoena for the IP address of the computer from which the email was sent and determined it was Stewart's home residence. Investigators executed a search warrant this morning at Stewart's residence and uncovered additional threatening emails on Stewart's computer. Investigators obtained an arrest warrant and arrested Stewart at his residence without incident. Stewart admitted to sending the email to Chief Lee. Stewart is known to authorities in Brevard County for prior instances of threatening communications and was previously investigated by the Penn State University Police Department for making threats against Assistant Football Coach Mike McQueary.

Stewart was booked into the Brevard County Jail on a \$10,000 bond and was transported to the John E. Polk Correctional Facility in Seminole County to be placed on electronic monitoring, pursuant to the conditions of his bond. His bond conditions also prohibit him from possessing or using a computer, cell phone, or any other device that can be used to send or receive emails. Stewart was also prohibited from having any contact with Chief Lee or his family, or from coming within 1,500 feet of the Sanford Police Department.

The actions of John Stewart clearly were both a threat to the Lee family and to the safety of the community.