

Suspect is found guilty by a federal jury in a multi-jurisdictional case involving stolen firearms.

Ryan E. Wirsch, a 21-year-old white male of the 7000 block of Mill Valley Road in Hanover County, was found guilty by a jury on August 1, 2007, of a federal firearms related charge. Wirsch's trial was held at the United States District Court, located in the city of Richmond, which is where he will be sentenced on November 15, 2007. Wirsch will remain in federal custody until that time.

In March of 2006, the Hanover County Sheriff's Office began investigating a series of Breaking and Entering cases in the Mechanicsville area. In doing so, it was found that multiple firearms were stolen from each residence. During the course of the investigation, it was discovered that a similar crime had been committed in King William County. As a result, a joint investigation was conducted by investigators from the Hanover County Sheriff's Office, the King William County Sheriff's Office, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF).

After an extensive investigation, Wirsch was indicted by a federal grand jury and arrested in January of 2007 by the Hanover County Sheriff's Office, in conjunction with the ATF. To date, several firearms have been recovered in connection with this investigation, which is on-going. In addition, other suspects have been developed and further firearms related charges may be forthcoming.



Wirsch, Ryan E.

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