



"that guilt shall not escape, nor innocence suffer"

MEDIA RELEASE

STATE OF TENNESSEE
TENNESSEE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JUNE 6, 2008

CONTACT: KRISTIN HELM
615.744.4087 (OFFICE)
KRISTIN.HELM@STATE.TN.US

CONTACT: ERIC KEHN/ATF PIO
615-565-1252
ERIC.KEHN@ATF.GOV

CONTACT: MIKE BROWNING/THP PIO
615-969-2136 (MOBILE)
MIKE.BROWNING@STATE.TN.US

MANHUNT FUGITIVE DIES AT HOSPITAL

Grundy County, TN- This morning the fugitive, who was the focus of federal, state and local law enforcement's manhunt in Grundy County, TN yesterday, died from a self-inflicted gunshot wound at Erlanger Hospital at approximately 12:30am.

Kermit Eugene Bryson, 30, shot and killed Grundy County Sheriff's Deputy Shane Tate, 28, while Tate and two other officers were serving at probation violation warrant at 1111 Monteagle Falls Road, Monteagle, TN around 3:00am Thursday morning. Bryson also shot Monteagle Police Officer Brian Malhoit, 26. A third reserve deputy was not injured.

Bryson fled on foot and immediately became the focus of an intense fugitive manhunt led by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation. The FBI, ATF, THP and numerous local law enforcement agencies were involved in the search which included helicopters, K-9 units and two-man teams patrolling a perimeter. At about 7:00 pm Thursday evening, an agent with the ATF made contact with Bryson outside a home near the Monteagle Cementary. After forty minutes of negotiating with Bryson by telephone, Bryson shot himself.



Tate was a three-year employee of the Grundy County Sheriff's Office and had been on patrol for less than a year. He graduated from the Police Academy within the last month and leaves behind a wife and kids.