

**CONTACT:****Philip A. Strouse**

Community Relations

Garfield County Sheriff's Office

107 8th Street

Glenwood Springs, CO 81601

Phone: 970-309-9697

E-mail: [pstrouse@garcosheriff.com](mailto:pstrouse@garcosheriff.com)**Tanny M. McGinnis**

Community Relations

Garfield County Sheriff's Office

107 8th Street

Glenwood Springs, CO 81601

Phone: 970-309-9248

E-mail: [tmcginnis@garcosheriff.com](mailto:tmcginnis@garcosheriff.com)**SHERIFF LOU VALLARIO  
GARFIELD COUNTY, COLORADO****NEWS RELEASE**

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**For Immediate Release**

July 2, 2010

**Sheriff's Deputies, Dog Arrest Mesa County Registered Sex Offender**

BATTLEMENT MESA, Colo. – At approximately 6:21 p.m. on Thursday, July 1, 2010, the Garfield County Emergency Communications Authority (Dispatch) advised area law enforcement of a suspicious male subject in the Battlement Mesa area. The reporting party called Dispatch with a detailed description after the suspect approached her asking for water and a ride to Grand Junction.

On June 30, 2010, the Mesa County Sheriff's Office had contacted the Garfield County Sheriff's Office to advise that Nicholas Butterfield, 24, last known address of 632 Colony Road in Clifton, had an active warrant for his arrest for Failure to Comply, with an original charge of Failure to Register as a Sex Offender. He was listed on Mesa County's recent criminal "hot sheet" and was believed to be hiding in the Battlement Mesa area.

The suspect's description matched that of Butterfield, and a corporal from the Garfield County Sheriff's Office responded by canvassing the area. The Cpl. spotted Butterfield crouched behind a vehicle near the intersection of Thunderberg and Cobre.

As the corporal approached, Butterfield stood up and started walking away from the area. When the Cpl. exited the patrol vehicle, Butterfield immediately began running south toward Stone Quarry Road. The Cpl. pursued on foot with verbal commands to stop while three other deputies, along with a Parachute police officer, responded to the area to establish a roving perimeter patrol and observation post.

As Butterfield fled into the surrounding terrain, another corporal and his K9 Ejon arrived to track his whereabouts. At approximately 7:17 p.m., Ejon gave a positive alert to a stand of vegetation where Butterfield was hiding. Butterfield immediately complied with all commands and was taken into custody.

Nicholas Butterfield is currently housed in the Garfield County Jail for his original warrant along with new charges of obstructing a peace officer (misdemeanor), second degree criminal trespass (felony) and failure to register as a sex offender (misdemeanor) in Garfield County. His bond is set at \$4,000.00.

*The mission of the Garfield County Sheriff's Office is to provide solutions for the people by utilizing and employing strong morals, good character, untarnished integrity, technical knowledge and fiscal responsibility through professional, ethical and equitable conduct.*

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