

Shots Cause Hotel Evacuation; Suspect Sought

Written by Steve Frank

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Lenoir Police are seeking a suspect in a morning armed assault that caused the evacuation of a Lenoir Hotel. Just after 8 Saturday morning, Lenoir officers were called to the Days Inn on Blowing Rock Blvd with the report of two men fighting, one armed with a handgun with shots fired. Arriving officers secured the woman caller, Tasha Dawn Presnell and the unarmed man involved in the fight, Andrew Keith Dellinger, then began an extensive search for the armed suspect, clearing the entire hotel in that effort. Unable to locate the suspect, police issued a bulletin on Ralph Garland Prestwood of Zacks Fork Road, Lenoir, with warrants issued for Assault with a Deadly Weapon and Discharging a Firearm in the City Limits and Assault by Pointing a Gun. Anyone with information about Prestwood's location should call 9-1-1, Caldwell Crimestoppers at 828-758-8388, or Lenoir Police.