



Carteret County Sheriffs Office

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NEWS RELEASE

Man claiming to be robbed by knifepoint finds himself behind bars

On 03-11-2011 Sheriff's deputies arrested Dean Nichols Hardesty, 57 of Hatcher Drive, Newport for making a false report that he was kidnapped and robbed by knifepoint for cash.

Deputy Tami Thomas who investigated the case said she took a report from Hardesty at his residence who claimed two days earlier that a man and woman entered his residence, held a knife to his throat, and demanded money. Hardesty then told deputies he discovered the man used his stolen money to send a "money gram" using the service provided by Walmart.



Deputies were immediately suspicious of the entire story and traveled to Walmart where surveillance video tape shows Hardesty himself making the entire "MoneyGram" transaction wiring \$260.00 to a man in Florida. It is believed the motive for committing the fraud and filing to the false report was an effort by Hardesty to file a claim through the "MoneyGram" service and try to double up on his money.

Hardesty was charged with one count of Filing a False Police Report to the Carteret County Sheriff's Office. He was released from the Carteret County Jail after posting a \$500.00 bond. He is scheduled to appear in court on 04/14/2011.

**ANONYMOUS REPORTS OF CRIMINAL ACTIVITY CAN BE REPORTED TO
CARTERET COUNTY CRIME STOPPERS AT (252) 726-INFO OR EMAIL
CRIMETIPS@CARTERETCOUNTYGOV.ORG**

You can now text your Crime Stoppers Tip to (252) 241-0946