

Elyria Police Department
Press Release
April 19, 2007

On April 17, 2007, the Elyria City Schools notified the Elyria Police Department that an employee of the Elyria City School system reported seeing an individual in the area of Eastern Heights and Sherman Ave that he believed was televised on America's Most Wanted.

The Elyria City School Employee has a relative living in the 300 block of Princeton Ave. In the late hours of April 13, 2007, the relative heard a noise outside their home. Upon investigating they turned on an exterior light, opened the door and saw a subject on their property, before the subject fled. The relative then watched the April 14th showing of America's Most Wanted and believed they recognized Dan William Hiers Jr as the subject in their driveway the night before.

On April 16, 2007 in the evening hours the Elyria City Schools employee was walking in the area of Eastern Heights and Sherman Ave when they saw a male subject wearing a hooded coat that they believed may have been the same subject his relative had seen in their driveway on April 13th.

On April 17th the Elyria City Schools employee advised his employer of his observations. The Elyria City Schools then contacted the Elyria Police Department. Officers responded to the Eastern Heights area in marked and unmarked police vehicles in an attempt to locate Hiers or anyone that may have seen someone which looks like Hiers.

On April 19th the Elyria Police Department and the U.S. Marshals stopped and questioned a subject in the Eastern Heights area that resembled the description of Hier. A photograph of this subject was taken and shown to the initial witness claiming to have seen Heirs. The witness then positively identified the photograph as the person seen on their property and subsequently identified as Hiers. The Elyria Police Department and U.S. Marshals identified the subject and released him. This case will be closed as a mistake in identity. The Elyria Police Department and the Elyria City Schools will continue to work together to provide a safe environment for our community.

Lt A.D. Eichenlaub
Elyria Police Department