



Aug. 3, 2014

## ***Patient Absconds from CCUSO Transition Release Program Last Seen in Storm Lake Area***

(Cherokee, Iowa) – Authorities in northwest Iowa are searching for a 42-year-old man who absconded from a sex offender transition release program early Sunday. He did not return from his place of employment and was last seen in the Storm Lake area.

Cory West is a Caucasian man who is 6 feet 5 inches tall, weighing 180 pounds. He has blue eyes, brown hair and is balding. He was last seen wearing a short-sleeved, red T-shirt with an OU – Oklahoma University – symbol on the front, light denim pants and a blue medical wrap on his left wrist.

West was ordered by the courts to the Civil Commitment Unit for Sex Offenders (CCUSO) on the campus of the Cherokee Mental Health Institute in 2011, and became eligible for the transition release program in fall of 2013 as authorized by the courts.

The CCUSO program provides long-term, structured inpatient treatment for violent sexual predators who have served their prison terms, but in a separate civil trial have been found likely to commit further offenses and are ordered to CCUSO for treatment. The program has an average of 100 patients, and the court reviews each individual's progress annually to determine if the commitment will continue. All patients are male and the average age in SFY13 was 51.

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