



"Safety, Professionalism & Community Service"

**Cedric Crook**  
Chief of Police

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## PRESS RELEASE: UPD CASE # 25-0081

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**Date:** 01/11/2025

**Location:** Walmart (1155 Airport Park Boulevard) in Ukiah, CA.

**Victim:** People of the State of California.

**Suspect:** Dustin Reid Bruce  
41-year-old Willits, CA resident.

**Violations:** 11370.1(a) H&S – Possession of a loaded firearm and a controlled substance (Felony.)  
29800(a)(1) PC – Convicted felon in possession of a firearm (Felony.)  
30305(a)(1) PC – Convicted felon in possession of ammunition (Felony.)  
11395(a) H&S - Possession of drugs with prior convictions (Felony.)  
25400(a) PC - Conceal firearm in a vehicle (Misdemeanor.)  
11364(a) H&S - Possession of drug paraphernalia (Misdemeanor.)

On 01/11/2025 at approximately 9:00pm a Ukiah Police Department (UPD) Officer was on routine patrol in the parking lot of Walmart, when he noticed a male in and around a pickup truck that had multiple California Vehicle Code violations. The officer took note and it appeared that the male hastily walked away from the pickup upon seeing the officer.

A short time later the officer saw the male, who was identified as Dustin Bruce of Willits, CA, walk out of Walmart and return to the vehicle. Multiple officers contacted Bruce to speak with him about the pickup truck and the violations. While speaking with Bruce, officers observed drug paraphernalia in plain view inside the truck.

Officers began a probable cause search of Bruce's person and located a bindle of methamphetamine. Inside the vehicle officers found a loaded .22 caliber rifle, multiple rounds of ammunition in different calibers, and drug paraphernalia. A records check of Bruce's criminal history informed the officers that Bruce was a convicted felon, prohibited from possessing firearms or ammunition. Bruce also had multiple previous convictions for drug possession, making him in violation of California's newly formed law 11395(b) H&S: unlawful possession of a hard drug with two or more prior convictions for possession (Prop. 36). Bruce was arrested and transported to the Mendocino County Jail where he was booked for four felony charges: 11370.1(a) H&S,



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29800(a)(1) PC, 30305(a)(1) PC, and 11395(b) H&S. Bruce was also booked for misdemeanor charges of 25400(a) PC and 11364(a) H&S.

As always, UPD's mission is to make Ukiah as safe a place as possible and rid the community of unlawfully possessed firearms and weapons. If you would like to know more about crime in your neighborhood, you can sign up for telephone, cellphone, and email notifications by clicking the Nixle button on our website; [www.ukiahpolice.com](http://www.ukiahpolice.com).

