



News from the Shelby County Sheriff's Office

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Hunter Charged With Reckless Endangerment

Sheriff's detectives say a deer hunter who shot a man in a wooded area near Bartlett yesterday has been charged with Reckless Endangerment.

Robert Ocampo, 19, of Brunswick, was deer hunting with a friend near some TVA power lines along Germantown Road just east of Old Brownsville Road last evening about 5:30.

Ocampo told Sheriff's investigators he heard a rustling noise in the woods and fired his 30.06 rifle thinking an animal was about to charge him. The rifle shot traveled about 20 yards hitting Jay Wahlig in the shoulder. Wahlig, 45, of Arlington, had gone to the area to set raccoon traps near the banks of Buck Head Creek.

Deputies say at the time of the shooting, Wahlig and Ocampo were separated by a thicket and could not see each other. Wahlig also wore dark clothing.

Wahlig hollered when he was shot. Investigators say Ocampo and his hunting partner immediately went to Wahlig's aid and called 911. Wahlig was taken to the Regional Medical Center where he remains in stable condition.

Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency Officers say Ocampo had a valid hunting license. TWRA Officers and Sheriff's Deputies remind anyone who frequents wooded areas during hunting season to wear brightly colored clothing to help reduce the chances of being injured by hunters.

A picture of Robert Ocampo will be sent once it becomes available.

(End of Release)