



BROOME COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff Frederick J. Akshar II

Undersheriff Sammy L. Davis

155 Lt. Van Winkle Drive, Binghamton, NY 13905

For Immediate Release:

March 28, 2024

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BROOME COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE PRESS RELEASE

Man Charged with Felony Weapon and Drug Possession Following Domestic Incident in the Town of Chenango

(CHENANGO FORKS, NY) A Chenango Forks man is facing multiple charges, including felony weapon possession and drug possession following a domestic incident in the Town of Chenango.

On Wednesday, March 26, 2024, Sheriff's Deputies responded to a report of a domestic incident at a residence on Marshman Road in the Town of Chenango. The victim informed patrols of repeated incidents of verbal and physical disputes, including threats on her life with a firearm from Christopher G. Merwin, age 49 of Chenango Forks. These incidents culminated with a dispute on March 14, 2024 in which the victim recounted being threatened and choked by Merwin. With assistance from community partners, the victim contacted law enforcement to press charges and request an order of protection.

A domestic violence Lethality Assessment Screening was performed and based on the victim's statements and prior domestic incidents, deputies submitted a request for an Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPO), which was granted by the Town of Chenango Court.

While serving the ERPO, deputies located a loaded 9mm "ghost" handgun and a small container of a substance that field tested positive for methamphetamine.

Following an investigation, Christopher G. Merwin was arrested and charged with the following:

- Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree, a Class C Felony
- Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree, a Class D Felony
- Criminal Obstruction of Breathing in the 2nd Degree, a Class D Felony
- Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 7th Degree, a Class A Misdemeanor
- Harassment in the 2nd Degree, a Violation

General Information:
(607) 778-1911

Fiscal:
(607) 778-2928

Garnishees:
(607) 778-2926

Civil:
(607) 778-2145

Identification:
(607) 778-2924

Records:
(607) 778-2166

Merwin was taken into custody without incident, arraigned at Central Arraignment and remains in custody at the Broome County Sheriff's Correctional Facility.

"I applaud the victim for their bravery in coming forward, working with our community partners and removing herself from a dangerous situation," said Sheriff Fred Akshar. "We continue to urge anyone involved in an abusive domestic situation or environment to seek help immediately. Your life may depend on it."

If you or someone you know is in a dangerous domestic situation, please don't hesitate to get help immediately. For 24/7 Crisis Help and Support, please contact the Crime Victims Assistance Center at 607-722-4256 or text 607-725-8196 or RISE Domestic Violence Services at 607-754-4340. To report a crime to the Sheriff's Office, please call 607-778-1911, but in an emergency, always dial 911.

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