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CHIEF  
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## Media Release

August 6, 2016

On August 3, 2016, approximately 12:30 a.m., an explosive device was placed and detonated on the hood of a marked Thurmont Police Department vehicle, which was parked outside of the officer's residence.

The explosion caused significant damage to the front end and windshield of the vehicle and sent fragments into the officer's occupied residence. There was no injuries associated with the explosion.

Due to the nature of the incident, the Thurmont Police Department, Frederick County Fire Marshall, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Frederick County Sheriff's Office, Maryland State Police and the Frederick Police Department conducted a joint investigation.

Located at the scene, lying next to the vehicle was what appeared to be a "Pipe Bomb" or Improvised Explosive Device. The pipe was covered with a burnt residue consistent with a Black Powder type material. Duct taped to the exterior of the pipe were 2 ½ inch finishing metal nails. Also, found was a partial end cap that had blown off, which had a small diameter hole drilled through it, which is common for inserting a fuse as an ignition device. Items were collected and were sent to the ATF laboratory to be analyzed.

While at the scene, investigators were informed that on Sunday, July 31, 2016, a discarded bag of trash from Burger King was located next to the vehicle. The bag contained a receipt from Burger King. The bag was collected as well.

During the course of the investigation, it was found that the suspect, later identified as Kyle Rutger Mueller, Moser Road, Thurmont, MD., DOB – 12/20/1993 was responsible for manufacturing and detonating the bomb.

Identification was made as a result of witness accounts describing a possible vehicle fleeing the scene (Toyota Highlander), investigators linking receipts from a debit card used by Mueller to purchase food from Burger King, and Black Powder from a gun shop in Waynesboro, PA. Additionally, video footage from Lowes in Waynesboro, PA showing Mueller purchasing a 12 and 1 ¼ inch pipe and two end caps, which match the pipe at the scene.

August 5, 2016, approximately 7:54 p.m., investigators observed Mueller driving a Toyota Highlander at the Burger King Drive Through. Mueller was subsequently stopped and placed under arrest. After interviewing Mueller, he was transported to the Frederick County Adult Detention Center, charged with the following:

- CR4-503(a)(1) Destructive Device Manufacturing
- CR4-503(a)(1) Destructive Device Possession
- CR4-503(a)(1) Destructive Device User
- CR4-503(a)(1) Destructive Device Storage
- CR3-204(a)(1) Reckless Endangerment
- CR6-301 Malicious Destruction of Property +\$1,000
- CR6-301 Malicious Destruction of Property -\$1,000

Investigators executed a Search and Seizure warrant at Mueller's residence and located items linking him to the bombing.

Investigation is continuing.

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Media release was prepared by:

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