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(Wyo.)-Authorities Searching For Escaped Inmate Near Casper

By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 09/03/2013 09:35 AM

CASPER, Wyo. (ASSOCIATED PRESS) - Wyoming authorities are searching for an inmate who escaped from a rest area near Independence Rock in Casper while he was being transported to jail.

Natrona County Sheriff's Cpl. Kevin Norcross says Kenneth James Ward fled Saturday at about 5:40 p.m. while the party he was with went to the restroom. A private prisoner transport company was taking him to a jail in Sweetwater County.

The sheriff's office says Ward has a violent history and shouldn't be approached. It wasn't immediately known what he was going to jail for.

Ward was handcuffed in front of his body at the time of his escape. He was not wearing leg shackles.

Norcross says Ward also has a stab wound on his left side from his time at another jail.