

5:19 p.m. Burleson gets debriefed by Lt. Cross and gets contact info.

5:23 p.m. Lt. Cross takes a crew to get all inmates out of the barracks with their tablets to not throw off the dogs (Marshall)

5:43 p.m. Lt. Adams/Hawkins are relieved, and Byers is relieving Faust. Faust is debriefing Byers.

5:48 p.m. Felton/Collie and Glover/Johnson relieved.

5:53 p.m. Johnson/Vendenburg relieved.

6:03 p.m. Someone advised the command center that someone will be walking around the ASP building from Stone Co.

7:25 p.m. Command Center is starting to relieve officers on posts and having them come into help shake down 5 barracks.

7:42 p.m. Cottrell debriefs Fowler on post assignments

7:50 p.m. 02 asks Fowler about the mass 5 barracks shake down. Fowler informs him that as of right now they have not found anything.

8:04 p.m. Warden Byers authorized adding another checkpoint @ the prison side of luka to the moccasin creek low water bridge due to the water raising over the bridge.

8:04 p.m. ASP debriefs Border Patrol on the escape information on the map. Debrief ends @ 8:05 p.m.

9:00 p.m. Command Center starts composing together copies of the map for Border Patrol.

10:25 p.m. Sgt. Wyatt starts going over google earth pro with other staff members and finishes training at about 11:30 p.m.

6-5-2025

2:52 a.m. Command Center received a call from D.D. Gaylon Lay, who was responding to the escape at Texarkana WR, reported that there was a possible sighting at a dollar store in Delight, AR.

5:02 a.m. Command Center received a call from dispatch that while walking they heard a door close from a unoccupied house. State Police and Izard Co. are headed that way (250 Gray Ln)

5:08 a.m. Sohns and Hoskins are being set up at the Methodist church to get a good vantage point of the area.

5:14 a.m. Capt. Brandon informed the command center that the incident turned out to be nothing.

7:33 a.m. DW Bolden start the planned meeting to discuss the timelines of all agencies to make a coeusive timeline to see what the next step are.

Timeline – 5/28 grid search north to prison. Discovered a cell phone and I'M Hardin's badge. (Day 1)

5/29 – ASP cleared several caves in the area, down old Dolph rd by powerlines. 4 caves just S of Hwy 5. Multiple houses cleared, and there was a heat signature of 213, but not verified as human.

6/1- Lt. Maples cleared the area by the Hwy and the prison, cleared Driftwood Dr, area behind the air strip, spoke with houses in the area to see if they had any game cameras, security cameras and outbuildings.

6/4 Hwy 253/ Driftwood Dr, along the power lines, Moccasin Creek, ASP cleared Hwy 5, 249, and Hopewell Hollow Rd. and Grey Squirrel Ln. Started first clearing with 4 wheelers and side by sides. Second clearing on foot.

Lt. Cross asks once timeline complete and per DW Bolden, would like a packet for all agencies. DW Bolden advising all phone calls, interviews, all leads checked on thoroughly. No solid information saying he has left or that he is in the area. Lt. Cross is sending digital map for U.S. Marshals.

ASP has 6 to 7 officers here to help in anyway they can and the drone is available. Lt. Maples advised that they have four wheelers and side by sides with portable drone for quick use. Lt. Hubbard advised that the ERT team is available until Friday afternoon and is dialed back to patrolling and responding to calls. U.S. Marshals advise that there is not a house or out building that has not been searched within a 5 mile radius. Rail road tracks have been searched, all people seen have been interviewed and given the contact information for tips and help. Border patrol's global team will be here starting tonight with military grade helicopters and drones. Marshal's team are going to search a house and outbuilding that residents are not currently occupying. There have not been any calls regarding thefts of cars, trucks, boats, side by sides, etc. Lt. Maples advised that there was a residence on the river, however, they are not aware of their inventory and cannot confirm or deny if anything is missing. Lt. Maples also advised that they have informed their teams to keep an eye on the number of campers and to report immediately if you see an extra individual that matches the description of Inmate Hardin. The Brother-in-Law, of Inmate Hardin, does not like Inmate Hardin, and advised that if there were any contact between Inmate Hardin and his wife, who is Inmate Hardin's Sister, he would report it immediately.

Law Enforcement has spoken with Inmate Hardin's wife and parents. There is suspicion that Inmate Hardin will try to contact his mother as soon as he gets the opportunity. The possibility of Inmate Hardin being deceased is also likely. If he is deceased, only the cadaver dog will be able to locate him. Posts are advised to look for signs of decomposition and decay, while searching on foot, for example: buzzards in the air. Rock overhangs have been searched and there were no signs of fresh inhabitation. Possibility to re-check areas, due to getting pressured and feeling the need to move. AR Game and Fish have searched the water on boats with no leads on Inmate Hardin. Inmate Hardin made notes on stride and how long it would take him to travel. Per Inmate Hardin's notes, he could move at approximately three miles an hour. With Inmate Hardin having roughly an hour head start he could have covered a lot of distance. An ASP Sergeant advised he can get with the AR Game and Fish to talk about patrolling up and down the riverbanks for signs of a body and to clear any structures. Bull Shoals and Norfolk, currently have the flood gates open, so it may be difficult to see if a body is stuck in a thick vegetation area. Lt. Maples has been in light contact with the river outfitters but can talk to them more in depth on floating. Law Enforcement is working on obtaining a warrant to access Inmate Hardin's financial accounts. Discussed the roadblock with ACC to start checking both North and South bound traffic, while still in the area. There was an officer in an off-duty vehicle on Moccasin Creek running tags. The Command Center was informed that the Inmate interviewed at ORCU, stated that Inmate Hardin told him that he planned to escape by river transportation using a raft made from milk jugs. Baxter Co. advised that they had received very few tips on Inmate Hardin. The Inmate interview was from when Inmate was at ORCU four years ago. Hardin would have had access to recycling and all milk jugs from the maintenance room by the back dock. If Inmate Hardin had help he could have stashed items in that area. There were no cameras behind the ICC garage, so we are unable to verify what he may have had, when he left into the woods. A cabin on Chesmond Ferry Rd. has lots of buzzards circling above. IZard Co. Sheriff's Office has a deputy headed to location. Sheriff Melton has made arrangements with the Calico Rock School District to hold any meetings for larger groups during this time. Meeting is adjourned.

8:44AM Byers out to return to ORCU.

8:45AM A call came in from Brenda advising her father passed away a few days ago and his house was in Norfolk

8:47AM Lane and speaker from ORCU came to relieve their team at a check point.

8:50AM Lt. Cross takes a phone call regarding welfare check on Moccasin Creek for her sister. No contact has been made since yesterday morning. ASP has been notified, and units are being sent out to respond to call.

9:03AM Maples informs he is leaving post.

9:29AM A lady by the name "Christie McDonald" # (816) 908-4779, called and advised that she has 50 acres off Moccasin Creek, that authorities have permission to search. She informed the Command Center that there is a deer stand and several outbuildings. Lt. Cross notified ASP with her information and units are being sent out to location.

9:31AM Deputy Director Straughn and Lt. Cross discuss checkpoints and releasing the Grimes teams, so they could get a team up here from Pine Bluff.

9:47AM Lt. Davidson with K9 was debriefed by Lt. Cross.

9:50AM Sheriff Melton advised that the call from Brenda was cleared.

9:53AM Sheriff Melton also advised that the call from Christie McDonald is cleared.

9:55AM Lt. Cross calls the family back to advise that the search was clear.

9:57AM Rachel from the FBI asks Sgt. K. Delgado to pull phone records from Inmate Hardin from 2023 to present time.

10:11AM Sgt. Campbell, Throbe, Brown, and Ball checking in.

10:16AM Drew came in and advised that the AR Game and Fish cannot travel on the river today.

10:37AM 2017 Havner Rd. is the address for the call reported of 50 acres of land with outbuildings.

11:09AM ASP Ted Jones said boats in at lot 3 to Batesville tomorrow.

11:13AM Cpl. Harlow enters and turns in keys.

11:25AM Lt. Cross and Sgt. K. Delgado advises that Straughn reported visitation will be cancelled this week.

11:53AM A phone call was received by the IZARD Co. Sheriff's Office that a Patsy Beltz claimed a man was walking around in the Boswell area that she had never seen before. Deputies are sent out to call.

12:10PM Border patrol enters the Command Center. Lt. Cross debriefs Border patrol on Inmate Hardin's physical description and shoe size information.

12:20PM Sheriff Melton updated on the man walking in Boswell. He advised that it was not Inmate Hardin, and that he lived on the area.

12:55PM Meeting begins with Chris Voss from Border Patrol. Mr. Voss briefs on the different teams and equipment they have for use.

2:56PM Meeting adjourned.

2:56PM Lt. Lively called in the address 1933 Jordan Rd by Sgt. Stinnett from ASP. Someone has been sneaking around the chicken coop. ASP is sending officers and Lt. Lively is responding to the call.

3:03PM ASP notified the Command Center that Channel 7 news would be flying a drone near the unit.

3:10PM Sgt. Balentine called the Command Center and stated that the blessing box in Dolph had been emptied out.

4:18PM Lt. Lively called and advised that they had checked on the rabbit missing on Jordan Rd. No leads were reported.

5:00PM Randy Shores entered the Command Center.

5:14PM ASP and Border Patrol on their way to 2017 Havner Rd. to check out property.

5:18PM Sheriff Melton advised that the guy at Mount Pleasant is not Inmate Hardin.

6:05PM The Command Center received a call from Cpl. Hoskins, verifying his patrol route.

6:10PM The Command Center received a call from Cpl. Hawkins, relief post verification.

6:15PM The Command Center received a call from Capt. Sanders, asking for update on information.

6:16PM The Command Center received a call from Major. Lowe and DW Ricketts, confirming they are on post.

6:18PM The Command Center received a call from Cpl. Pollock and Sgt. Cohoon, confirming they are on post.

6:18PM The Command Center received a call from a Samantha Greer, reporting a sighting of a man wearing a gray sweatshirt and blue jeans, on Mount Olive Rd., on an abandoned property.

6:20PM Cpl. Statton with Baxter Co. said Harry Right, a widow, had sexual relations with Grant Hardin in the past.

6:37PM The Command Center received a call in, verifying day shift all reported in.

6:53PM Homeland Security deployed teams to green gate on Piney Creek off Boswell Rd.

6:39PM The Command Center received a call in; Adams and pool are back.

6:53PM The Command Center received a call in. Capt. Sanders is verifying shift change.

7:26PM The Command Center received a call in. Lt. Lively asked for a report of sighting that was made on Mt. Olive Rd.

7:31PM Report of a cave found off Havner Rd.

7:56PM The Command Center received a call in about getting the housing sorted out.

8:05PM Lt. Lively reported finding the exact driveway. There were no signs of anyone at that location. A game camera was found on another driveway, and they are currently looking at the SD card.

8:50PM The Command Center received a call from Baxter Co. Charles Heathcoat lives on 448 CR 213 and he reported seeing a man with baggy clothing.

9:00PM The Command Center received a call in for Sgt. Fowler.

9:05PM The Command Center received a call in for Lt. Colbert.

9:55PM 448 CR 213 is reported to be all clear.

9:58PM Boswell area is reported to be all clear.

10:30PM Butcher and McSpadden are secure on their post.

11:38PM The Command Center received a call in for Sgt. Wyatt about the housing keys.

6/6/2025

12:04AM The Command Center received a call in about a parked electric company truck's brake lights turning on. Reported by Sgt. Vaile and Peterman.

12:36AM ASP cleared the parked electric company truck.

12:40AM ASP Troop B called Troop I about a possible sighting.

3:13AM The Command Center received a call in from Ellison. Ellison advised that he was coming in for a gas refuel.

3:59AM The Command Center received a call in from Ellison, reporting that he is back on post.

7:00AM Burnett and Watson checked in.

7:30AM Gaona and Marks checked in.

8:30AM Lt. Cross advised that Maples K9 is scaling back, letting border patrol take the lead. Maples K9 advised they will be on stand by and still have their four wheelers and side by sides if needed.

8:48AM Mr. Lay enters the Command Center and Warden Hurst debriefs him on what is currently going on.

10:12AM Lt. Maples enters the Command Center with a yellow mop handle and reports it looks like one of the mop handles out of the kitchen. Lt. Maples marked the location of the handle and took a picture. Maples is heading to the kitchen to check the log and see when it was last checked out and who checked it out. Mop found on the side of Hwy 5.

10:19AM Maples enters the Command Center with the inventory from the kitchen of mop broom.

10:23AM Dickie and Border Patrol discuss Inmate Hardin's house location and property, as well as a possible cave located on his property on Gann Rd. in Garfield. Border Patrol advises that they deploy a drone to search above his property.

10:25AM ASP Jamie is locating the Water Dept. Man who advised there is a cave on the property.

11:46AM Cpl. Giger is bringing Inmate Ray Parker up for an interview with Border Patrol.

12:10PM Slow roll Lincoln Navigator on Old Staggs Rd. Female in passenger seat.

12:50PM Black Ford F-150 driving the tree line suspiciously. Authorities made contact and confirmed the owner was checking the property.

1:15PM The Command Center received a call of a vehicle sitting at the church across from the ASP building the day before the escape. Lt. Cross is checking the cameras at the ASP building.

1:25PM Inmate Chaney is being interviewed by Border Patrol.

1:50PM K9 is going to sweep the junkyard again.

3:16PM AGF J. Williams enters the Command Center and Dickie J. Debriefs him on daily operations.

3:24PM Sheriff Melton advised they are going through caves and needing map locations.

3:28PM Border Patrol has suspect in custody.

4:07PM State Vehicle has suspect heading back to the unit.

5:00PM Debrief Meeting.

5:03PM Subject is in state van and is being transported to Varner Super Max Unit.

5:03PM Border Patrol starts meeting.

11:30AM Dog team starts at the warden's house and back tracked. They searched for the brush line at the warden's house. Border Patrol advises of broken bush in a line. The Border Patrol were tracking Northwest of the Unit. Border Patrol states they found a black hat leaning on a tree about 4 foot high off the ground. Border Patrol reached a plateau, where they could see a shirtless male individual. The individual looked up at the Border Patrol officers and started running away. Border patrol started chasing the suspect, when the suspect then tripped and fell. Border Patrol then caught up to the suspect where they apprehended him.

Dickie advises that he has pictures and shows pictures of Inmate Hardin and the campsite he made.

Border Patrol stated that Inmate Hardin said he got water out of the Moccasin Creek and ate berries and ants. Jamie advised that ASP will interview Inmate Hardin at the Varner Super Max Unit. Dickie Johnson states that everyone did a job well done. Warden Hurst thanks all agencies involved.

5:15PM Meeting adjourned at 5:15PM

5:22PM Sgt. Cottrell advises East Tower that Vehicle 1134 will be headed to the Varner Super Max Unit. The ETA will be approximately 3 hours.

Arkansas State Police

INVESTIGATIVE SUPPLEMENT ASP-2025-0704/23

Report Date: 06/25/2025

Primary Information

Description:	INTERVIEW OF NCU CAPTAIN-CHRISTOPHER BRANDON
Dissemination Code:	CHAIN OF COMMAND
Reporting LEO:	CHAMPAGNE, DRAKE (SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS / ARKANSAS STATE POLICE)
Report Status:	Approved
Report Status Date:	07/03/2025
Approved By:	RHOADS, STACIE (ARKANSAS STATE POLICE)

Narrative begins on the following page.



ARKANSAS STATE POLICE

Criminal Investigation Division

INTERVIEW OF SUBJECT

On Wednesday June 25, 2025, I interviewed Christopher Brandon. Brandon is identified as a Captain at the ADC North Central Unit. The below interview summary is not intended to be a verbatim account and does not memorialize all statements made during the interview. Communications by the parties in the interview were electronically recorded. A copy of the recording will be included in the case file.

Brandon advised that on May 25, 2025, he was on duty at the North Central Unit when it was suspected that Grant Hardin had escaped. Brandon said that he ordered a roster count and notified Warden Thomas Hurst of the situation in person. Brandon said that he watched the security footage and observed Hardin walk out the sally port gate. Brandon advised that when he confirmed that Hardin escaped, he ordered Corporal Nathan Williams to call Sergeant Delgado to get the Emergency Response Team on the way and also ordered Williams to begin making notifications from the notification manual. Brandon said that Hurst told Brandon to open the command center while Hurst began making phone calls. Brandon said that when Lieutenant Robert Cross arrived, he asked if the notifications had been made. Brandon then asked Hurst, to which Hurst replied "yes." Brandon said that Cross assigned someone to begin notifying the local residents of the escape. Brandon said that he called Williams to the command center to be a scribe, forgetting that he had assigned Williams to make notifications. Brandon acknowledged communication failures were a major factor in notifications not being made. Brandon said that when representatives from law enforcement agencies began showing up, he assumed the notifications had been made. Brandon said that it was a day or two later when it was discovered that the local law enforcement agencies weren't notified. Brandon stated "looking back now and dissecting it, I think the agencies notified each other, it was word of mouth."

Case #: ASP-2025-0704	Agent: CHAMPAGNE, DRAKE
Report Date: 06/25/2025	ESCAPE

Arkansas State Police

INVESTIGATIVE SUPPLEMENT ASP-2025-0704/24

Report Date: 06/27/2025

Primary Information

Description:	INTERVIEW #2 OF SECRETARY OF ADC-LINDSAY WALLACE
Dissemination Code:	CHAIN OF COMMAND
Reporting LEO:	CHAMPAGNE, DRAKE (SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS / ARKANSAS STATE POLICE)
Report Status:	Approved
Report Status Date:	07/03/2025
Approved By:	RHOADS, STACIE (ARKANSAS STATE POLICE)

Narrative begins on the following page.



ARKANSAS STATE POLICE

Criminal Investigation Division

INTERVIEW OF SUBJECT

On Friday June 27, 2025, I interviewed Lindsay Wallace. Wallace is identified as the Secretary of the Arkansas Department of Corrections. The below is an interview summary, it is not intended to be a verbatim account and does not memorialize all statements made during the interview. Communications by the parties in the interview were electronically recorded. A copy of the recording will be included in the case file.

Wallace advised that there are 3 levels of Directives as follows:

Secretarial Directives

Administrative Directives

Unit Directives

Wallace said that the goal is for lower level directives to avoid conflict with the upper level directives. Wallace said that secretarial and administrative directives are reviewed on an annual basis but her office does not review unit level directives.

Wallace said that she was unaware that the North Central Unit had changed their policy to reflect that the Pine Bluff Radio Room would notify local law enforcement agencies and that from her conversations with Director Dexter Payne, the NCU should have notified local law enforcement. Wallace said that Warden Thomas Hurst would have been responsible for knowing that the NCU policy conflicted with administrative policy, as the policy wasn't reviewed by anyone with higher authority. When asked if she had recommendations to fix the issue of conflicting policies, Wallace said that it would be helpful to have a position that is dedicated solely to policy. Wallace said that it would be helpful to have someone who is continuously reviewing all three levels of directives to make sure there aren't conflicts between the three, or with state law. Wallace also said that the Command Center at NCU seemed "disjointed," as there were three rooms where communication was taking place and it seemed that there were breakdowns in communication between the three rooms. Wallace explained that people were in the Warden's office, people were in the main command center room, and people were in another room that contained mostly external law enforcement representatives. Wallace said that information was being shared between the three rooms but it didn't seem to flow smoothly.

Case #: ASP-2025-0704	Agent: CHAMPAGNE, DRAKE
Report Date: 06/27/2025	ESCAPE

Arkansas State Police

INVESTIGATIVE SUPPLEMENT ASP-2025-0704/25

Report Date: 06/27/2025

Primary Information

Description:	INTERVIEW OF ADC SERGEANT-SHANETTA BROWN
Dissemination Code:	CHAIN OF COMMAND
Reporting LEO:	CHAMPAGNE, DRAKE (SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS / ARKANSAS STATE POLICE)
Report Status:	Approved
Report Status Date:	07/02/2025
Approved By:	RHOADS, STACIE (ARKANSAS STATE POLICE)

Narrative begins on the following page.



ARKANSAS STATE POLICE

Criminal Investigation Division

INTERVIEW OF SUBJECT

On Friday June 27, 2025, I interviewed Shanetta Brown. Brown is identified as the Supervisor of the ADC Radio Room in Pine Bluff. The below is an interview summary, it is not intended to be a verbatim account and does not memorialize all statements made during the interview.

Brown advised that she is unaware of a policy from the North Central Unit that would have the Pine Bluff Radio Room contacting external law enforcement agencies during an event such as an escape. Brown said that the units generally contact law enforcement agencies local to them as the Radio Room does not have those contacts. Brown said they do not have copies of the unit specific policies at the Radio Room.

Case #: ASP-2025-0704	Agent: CHAMPAGNE, DRAKE
Report Date: 06/27/2025	ESCAPE

INVESTIGATIVE SUPPLEMENT ASP-2025-0704/26

Report Date: 06/28/2025

Primary Information

Description:	NORTH CENTRAL UNIT HISTORICAL ESCAPE NOTIFICATION POLICY
Dissemination Code:	CHAIN OF COMMAND
Reporting LEO:	CHAMPAGNE, DRAKE (SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS / ARKANSAS STATE POLICE)
Report Status:	Approved
Report Status Date:	07/02/2025
Approved By:	RHOADS, STACIE (ARKANSAS STATE POLICE)

Narrative begins on the following page.



ARKANSAS STATE POLICE

Criminal Investigation Division

SPECIAL AGENT NOTES

Attached to this report are copies of the North Central Unit's escape notification policies dating back to 2008. The policies were provided to me by NCU Lieutenant Robert Cross, who advised that 2008 is the earliest that such records were available. Each version of the policy, 2008 through 2025 (prior to Hardin's escape), includes, under the responsibilities of the control center operator, the following directive adjacent to paragraph 2. "Contact the **ADC Radio Room (267-6421)**. Advise them an **EMERGENCY COUNT** is in progress. Request them to notify all agencies and individuals on **ATTACHMENT #1** of the North Central Emergency Notification list." Attachment #1 includes all surrounding external law enforcement agencies.

Also included is the updated policy dated 5/28/25, which removed the requirement of the Pine Bluff Radio Room to contact surrounding law enforcement agencies.

Case #: ASP-2025-0704	Agent: CHAMPAGNE, DRAKE
Report Date: 06/28/2025	ESCAPE

