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**NEWS ADVISORY**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Offender Walks Away from Work Site in Licking**

At approximately 10:15 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 25, offender John Toy Long, Department of Corrections No. 1096524, walked away from the grounds of South Central Correctional Center in Licking, Missouri. Long, who is assigned to the minimum security unit, left his work assignment, which is located outside the secure perimeter of the facility.

Local law enforcement and the Missouri State Highway Patrol are working with the Department of Corrections to apprehend Long. K-9 Units from Farmington Correctional Center and Ozark Correctional Center have been dispatched, and the Corrections Emergency Response Team has been activated. A helicopter is involved in the search.

Long, a 41-year-old white male, is 5 feet five inches tall and 166 pounds. He has brown hair and hazel eyes. Residents are asked to contact local law enforcement or the Missouri State Highway Patrol if they see him.

Long is serving two concurrent six-year sentences for receiving stolen property and second-degree burglary. He was received into Department of Corrections custody from Texas County on June 2, 2017, and has a presumptive parole date scheduled for Sept. 14, 2019. He has previous convictions for second-degree assault, operating a vehicle while intoxicated resulting in injury, possession of a controlled substance, resisting/interfering with arrest, second-degree domestic assault and misdemeanor stealing.

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