

Wathena Officer Assaulted

The search is continuing for a man wanted in the Monday night assault of a Wathena Police Officer. KQ2 News is reporting that it happened around 9:00 Monday night as Officer Blaine Kennedy was making a routine patrol of the Mount Calvary Cemetery.

Apparently, as he did so, someone approached him from a side path of a wooded area; and, when Kennedy questioned the man, the suspect reportedly made an attempt to grab Kennedy's gun.

A struggle ensued, and the man grabbed the officer's flashlight, using it to strike him in the back of the head, before fleeing on foot.

Kennedy called for help, and was transported to Heartland Regional Medical Center in Saint Joseph. Following a check-up, he was released.

As Kennedy went to the hospital, the search for the suspect was launched, with a Kansas Highway Patrol officer searching from the skies above while a K-9 officer was used by the Elwood Police Department to the search on the ground.

The suspect is described as a white man with a dark, full beard and a tattoo on the underside of his left forearm, last seen wearing blue jeans and a white t-shirt.

Authorities believe he fled the scene in a vehicle that had been spotted near the cemetery.