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## Authorities: Abduction a Hoax; 'Victim' Charged

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COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (AP) \_ Prosecutors filed charges Wednesday against a woman who reported being abducted, and police said they might bill her for their investigation into her faked disappearance.

Carmel Woods, 23, admitted Tuesday she was lying when she said she had been abducted at knifepoint, bound three day and escaped, according to police. Her broken finger and rope burns were self-inflicted, authorities said.

The Fort Collins woman disappeared from the Colorado State University campus Friday, spawning an intensive weekend search that ended when she turned up barefoot in the city Monday night.

Authorities pressed a search for her supposed abductor, whom she said was driving a black van. But Tuesday afternoon, she admitted the hoax, police said.

"Basically, her entire story is a fabrication," Colorado Springs police Lt. Rich Resling said.

"She's shaken, upset and very remorseful about the incident."

Wednesday, the El Paso County district attorney's office filed a charge of false reporting against Woods. She is scheduled to appear in court on Feb. 13. If convicted, Woods could be sentenced to six months in jail and fined \$750.

Two of Woods' friends saw news reports about the supposed abduction Tuesday morning and told authorities she had spent the weekend with them at their Colorado Springs home. And a watch and other valuables that Woods said were taken by her captor were at the friends' home. When confronted with the information, Woods broke down, Resling said.

Woods was reported missing Friday when she failed to show up for work at Foothills-Gateway Rehabilitation Center in Fort Collins. Authorities later found her bloodstained car near the Colorado State library and feared foul play.

But Woods had taken a bus to Colorado Springs, where she had lived until October, police said.

Woods' motive for the deception was unclear.

Without elaborating, Resling said Woods "has emotional problems" and is receiving counseling.

Resling said Colorado Springs and Fort Collins police will compute the overtime cost of their investigations and Woods may have to pay that bill.

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