

State: New York

Attorney Says Shooter Mistook Claims Investigator for a Turkey: *EAST* [12/03/09]

A workers' compensation claimant accused of shooting a private investigator in the back with a shotgun says he thought the investigator was a wild turkey, according to a report by WKTV in Utica, N.Y.

William Wehnke faces assault and weapon possession charges for the shooting in a field outside his home last May. The investigator, 26-year-old Matthew Brady of New Jersey, was treated for serious injuries, WKTV reported.

Wehnke's attorney, Mark Curley, told the station that the shooting was an honest mistake: He said Brady was wearing camouflage pants and a dark shirt and was lying on the ground in a field with turkeys in the area.

Wehnke pleaded not guilty to all charges during an arraignment on Wednesday. He's due back in court in two weeks to decide whether he wants to accept a plea offer, the television station reported.

Source: WKTV

Taken From Work Comp Central