



College Place Police Department

Media Release

Chief Troy Tomaras

***For Immediate Release ***

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Shoplifting Leads to Search Warrant and Eight Individuals Being Arrested

On February 19, 2020, around 11:00 AM, Walla Walla Police Department (WWPD) officers were responding to a report of a shoplifting that had occurred at Sportsman's Warehouse in Walla Walla.

During a separate call, a College Place Police Department (CPPD) officer received information that a vehicle that was associated with the shoplifting was now parked in the 200 Block of W. Whitman Drive, College Place. This information was forwarded to WWPD officers.

Officers from CPPD and WWPD as well as deputies from the Walla Walla County Sheriffs Office (WWCSO) and officers from the Washington State Department of Corrections began to respond to the location as information was received that several wanted subjects were potentially inside of the residence at 220 W. Whitman Drive.

Due to the police response in the area, W. Whitman drive was closed from SW Bade Avenue to SW Clay Avenue, and the neighboring homes were evacuated out of precaution.

Officers and deputies set up a perimeter on the residence and began calling subjects out of the home with the use of a loud speaker on a patrol vehicle.

Several subjects were contacted in the front yard and were identified as having warrants for their arrest. One subject resisted arrest initially before he was taken into custody. Two other subjects attempted to escape the residence through the back but were contacted by perimeter officers before they retreated back into the home.

After several warnings, all occupants exited the home without further issue. One subject was taken into custody after exiting through an attic window and giving himself up on the roof of the residence.

Local detectives received an approved warrant to search the residence for evidence in connection to the shoplifting. Upon searching the home, detectives located narcotics as well as an unsecured firearm. Detectives had their warrant amended and retrieved the items from the home. Three vehicles were also seized from the residence, one for its involvement in the shoplifting and two others for positive hits from a drug K-9 unit.

In all, eight different subjects were taken into custody. 31 year old, Mark Zabor for failure to comply. 40 year old, Donald Cowden on a warrant for his arrest. 48 year old, Lisa Korte on probable cause for her arrest in connection to another incident. 34 year old, Kevin Dufur on a warrant for his arrest. 25 year old, Lavandre Sabb Garcia on a warrant for his arrest. 46 year old, Mitchell Seymer on a warrant for his arrest. 33 year old, Charles Buettner on probable cause for his arrest in connection to another incident, theft charges related to the shoplifting and failure to comply. 31 year old, Calvin Lee on charges of possession of a control substance, possession of drug paraphernalia and unlawful use of a building for drug purposes.

As detectives continue to process evidence, additional charges for the involved subjects is anticipated.

The success of this event was possible due to the seamless teamwork of our local agencies.

Media Notes: