



College Place Police Department

Media Release

Chief Troy Tomaras

***For Immediate Release ***

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Date: May 27, 2020
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Officers Locate Attempted Vehicle Theft Suspect

On May 25th, 2020 at 9:10 P.M. College Place Police Department (CPPD) officers were dispatched to reports of a vehicle prowl that had just occurred in the 200 block of SE Ash Avenue, College Place.

The reporting party notified officers that the observed suspect had fled the scene just before officers arrived in the area. After further investigation officers were able to determine that the suspect not only broke into the victim's vehicle, but attempted to "hot wire" the vehicle by damaging the steering column to gain access to loose wires connected to the ignition. Officers also located several tools that were left behind by the suspect that are commonly used to prowl and steal vehicles.

Officers worked closely with the Walla Walla University Security Department to get access to security camera footage from near-by university buildings. After reviewing the footage officers were able to obtain an accurate description of the suspect.

Later that night at 1:21 A.M. on May 26th, officers were dispatched to another call of suspicious activity in the 100 block of Wallula Avenue. As officers arrived in the area and made contact with the subject, they quickly realized that the individual matched the description of the attempted vehicle theft suspect. The male was identified as a 31-year old man from Walla Walla, Skyler Pflieger.

Pflieger admitted to officers that he was in the area of the vehicle break in, wearing the same clothing as was observed on security footage and that he did enter the vehicle.

Pfleger was taken into custody and booked into the Walla Walla County Jail on charges of Attempted Theft of a Motor Vehicle, Vehicle Prowl in the 2nd Degree, Malicious Mischief in the 2nd Degree, and Possession of Vehicle Theft Tools.

CPPD would like to remind citizens that as we enter the summer months the prevalence of vehicle prowls increases. Citizens can help protect themselves by keeping vehicles locked and secured, parking in well lit areas and removing all valuables from vehicles when left unattended.

Media Notes: