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News Release

3 Arkansas City residents arrested on suspicion of burglary, theft

Griffith, two juveniles accused of stealing firearms, other items from vehicles

ARKANSAS CITY, Kan. (February 16, 2021) — The Arkansas City Police Department arrested three Arkansas City residents Thursday on suspicion of stealing firearms and other items from local vehicles.

Aaron Christian Griffith, 21, was arrested on suspicion of three felony counts of burglary of a motor vehicle, two felony counts each of contributing to a child's misconduct and theft of a firearm, one felony count of criminal possession of a firearm by felon, and one misdemeanor count of theft of property.

Griffith was transported to and booked into the Cowley County Jail in lieu of \$8,500 bond through Cowley County District Court in Arkansas City. He remained in custody at the time of this release.

Two Arkansas City juvenile males were arrested on suspicion of three felony counts of burglary of a motor vehicle, two felony counts of theft of a firearm, and one misdemeanor count of theft of property.

They later were released to the custody of a guardian.

About 8:04 p.m. Thursday, police received a report of three suspicious individuals who were allegedly attempting to enter parked vehicles in the 1400 block of South A Street.

Officers began searching the area located the three males in the 1200 block of South Third Street.

Two of the males fled the area and were not immediately apprehended. Police interviewed one of the suspects and learned he was a juvenile, found in possession of items they suspected to be stolen.

Through the course of the investigation, officers learned the three suspects allegedly stole items from multiple vehicles in Arkansas City. The two suspects who fled later were located and apprehended.

One of the suspects also was a juvenile male and the third suspect later was identified as Griffith.

Police determined the three suspects allegedly stole two handguns from different vehicles in Ark City, one in the 700 block of North Second Street and the other in the 400 block of West Walnut Avenue.

For immediate release

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The handguns were recovered later. Officers suspect the three males were checking for unlocked vehicles throughout the city, ranging from Cowley College to the 700 block of North Second Street. The suspects allegedly attempted to enter several vehicles in the 1300 blocks of South A, B and C streets.

A defendant's guilt or innocence is to be determined by a court of law.

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