



OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Man Arrested for Burglarizing Business

ATHENS, TENNESSEE – April 1, 2020 – On Monday, March 30, 2020, officers responded to the Sunoco Gas Station on John J Duncan Parkway in reference to a burglary alarm. They found the front glass of the building shattered and the store in disarray but were unable to locate anyone on scene.

Officers spent the day investigating, and their investigation eventually led them to question a male they found staying at a residence on County Road 253. They responded to that address in the company of Deputies from the McMinn County Sheriff's Office.

Once there, they spoke with Christopher Todd Bennett. He had cigarettes (which had been stolen from the gas station) on his person and confessed to the crime. Mr. Bennett was arrested on charges of Burglary, Felony Vandalism, and Theft of Property Under \$1,000 and transported to the McMinn County Jail.

Chief Couch, of the Athens Police Department, said "our community is obviously going through a difficult time, but that doesn't create an excuse to do things that harm other people. Officers are still on the job and the law still stands. We'll continue to track down people that break it."