



OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Officers Nab Burglars at Dunham's Sporting Goods

ATHENS, TENNESSEE – April 24, 2020– On the morning of April 24, 2020, at about 3:30 am, officers from the Athens Police Department responded to an alarm call at the Dunham's Sporting Goods store on Decatur Pike. Upon arrival, they made contact with two individuals (Ryan Striker and Zachery Roderick) in a car coming from behind the store. While one of the officers made contact with the car, another went behind the store and found signs of possible forced entry on some of the doors.

Officers found that one of the occupants of the vehicle was in possession of a handgun, as well as a small amount of suspected methamphetamine. Inside the car, officers found a crowbar, mask, and gloves. They also found various tools and tool sets, which appeared to be new.

Later, the occupants of the vehicle confessed to attempting to break into the Dunham's Sporting Goods store. Both subjects were arrested for the following charges and turned over to the McMinn County Jail:

Ryan Striker:

- Burglary
- Vandalism
- Possession of Firearm while in the Commission of a Felony
- Simple Possession of Methamphetamine
- Simple Possession of Drug Paraphernalia
- Possession of Burglary Tools

Zachery Roderick:

- Criminal Responsibility for the Conduct of Another (Burglary)
- Criminal Responsibility for the Conduct of Another (Vandalism)

For obvious reasons, officers believe that the various power tools found in the vehicle may have been stolen. The Police Department asks that if anyone has recently been the victim of theft of power tools or tool sets, to contact Detective Blake Witt at (423) 744-2730.

Chief Couch, of the Athens Police Department, said "I'm proud of the fast thinking and excellent police work that led to these arrests. We have reason to believe that this isn't the first time these men have done this. I hope anyone with information about other burglaries will reach out to us."