

WINTER HAVEN POLICE

125 N. Lake Silver Dr., NW • Winter Haven, FL 33881 • Phone: 863-291-5858 • www.winterhavenpd.com

Date: April 28, 2015
Time: 4:45 P.M.
Contact: Jamie Brown – Public Information Officer
Office - (863) 295-5905 Cell – (863) 559-0449

WINTER HAVEN – Two men were caught red handed burglarizing a Winter Haven home after they had been seen days prior at a yard sale at a neighboring residence.

Twenty-two year-old Jimmy Lee Crotts (Ave. J, NW, Winter Haven) and 26 year-old Samuel David Fields (N 10th St., Eagle Lake) were arrested and charged with Burglary of an Occupied Dwelling, Possession of Burglary Tools and Grand Theft and booked into the Polk County Jail.

On 4-27-15 at approximately 7:15 a.m., the homeowner (Karen C. Rowan) at 1809 16th St., NW heard the doorbell ring two times before looking out of the front window. The resident saw two white males sitting in a van in the driveway and both were putting on gloves and placing blue bandannas over their faces. The resident recognized both males and the vehicle from a yard sale that was held earlier at another property owned by the same resident. The property where the yard sale was held sits on East Lake Cannon Drive and is directly behind the 16th St. residence.

While the victim was on the phone with the 9-1-1 operator, Fields and Crotts were seen going to the back of the residence. Officers quickly arrived on scene and found Crotts holding a brown jewelry box heading back towards the unoccupied van that was still in the driveway. Fields was seen running from the area, but officers caught up to him on Lake Cannon Drive. Crotts made it back into the van and tried to lock himself inside. Crotts started to place the vehicle in reverse, but officers were quick to get inside of the vehicle and take control, detaining Crotts. No officers suffered any injuries during the attempt to leave. However, Crotts suffered minor cuts by flying glass after officers smashed out the driver's side window in order to take control of the vehicle.

The tag on the van came back stolen and property of the victim was located inside of the van. The victim made a positive identification of all of the property. Also located inside of the vehicle was a suitcase containing multiple burglary tools including a crowbar, needle nose pliers, cable ties as well as a knife that was found on the ground just outside of the passenger door.

Initially Crotts gave a false name to officers, however it was determined his true identity and that he had an outstanding warrant. Crotts was charged with Burglary (F2), Possession of Burglary Tools (F3), Grand Theft from Dwelling (F3), Resisting Arrest W/O Violence (M1), Giving False ID to LEO (M1) and Petit Theft (M2). Fields was charged with Burglary (F2), Possession of Burglary Tools (F3), Grand Theft from Dwelling (F3) and Resisting Arrest W/O Violence (M1).

Both men were taken to Winter Haven Hospital for treatment of minor injuries and then booked into the Polk County Jail. Each has extensive criminal histories including charges of Burglary, Grand Theft, Drug Possession and Violation of Probation.