

Rimbey RCMP solve multi theft files

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The arrests of four suspects earlier this month in Leduc and in Blackfalds have cleared up warrants issued by Rimbey RCMP, in relation to several property crime investigations that have been ongoing in Rimbey over the last month.

The investigations which have been solved started in Rimbey on November 10, 2016 when RCMP investigated the report of a theft. A citizen trying to stop the theft had jumped into the box of a truck in order to stop the suspects, however, jumped out of the truck when it was obvious that the suspect male was not going to stop. As a result of this incident, the following charges have been sworn: 21-year-old Austin Derkatz is charged with:

- Possession of property obtained by crime (x2),
- Fail to comply with condition of an undertaking (x2)
- Fail to comply with a probation order (x2).

Derkatz is remanded in custody and scheduled to appear in Rimbey Provincial Court on December 2, 2016.

23-year-old Cody Estelle-Pittman is charged with Possession of property obtained by crime.

25-year-old Mickala Schultz has been charged with possession of property obtained by crime.

29-year-old Harold Sturm is charged with:

- Break, enter and commit theft
- Possession of property obtained by crime (x2),
- Operation of a motor vehicle while being pursued
- Dangerous operation of a motor vehicle, Drive a motor vehicle while disqualified (x2)

On November 12, 2016 the Bluffton Community Centre was broken into and several items of food were stolen. As a result of this break-in Sturm is facing a charge of Break and enter and theft.

On November 14, 2016 an investigation was launched into a report of a suspicious vehicle and travel trailer, both of which were determined to be stolen. Harold Sturm was identified as the suspect and has been charged with 13 criminal code charges.

On November 18, 2016 a complaint of a break and enter in progress was received. The suspect was not immediately apprehended, but was later identified as Harold Sturm. In connection to this incident, Sturm is facing charges of Break and enter and theft and from earlier that same day, charged with theft of a truck from Rimbey Implements and Operation of a motor vehicle while being pursued by police.

On November 19, 2016 a report of a theft of a cargo trailer was received in Leduc. The RCMP located the trailer attached to a truck within the City of Leduc. The female passenger, Mickala Schultz, was arrested on scene while the male driver fled. The Leduc RCMP contained the area and later located

the male driver, Harold Sturm, who was taken into custody without incident. A truck stolen out of Rimbey was recovered during this incident.

Sturm is facing nine criminal charges and will attend court in Leduc as a result of the above incident. Schultz is facing three criminal code charges.

Bail hearings have been conducted on all matters. Harold Sturm remains in custody and is scheduled for Provincial court in Rimbey on December 2, 2016. Mickala Schultz has been released from custody and is scheduled for Provincial court in Rimbey on December 2, 2016.

Other arrests have been made in connection to stolen vehicle occurrences in the Rimbey community. On November 6, 2016 a male was arrested for Possession of property obtained by crime and Possession of a break-in instrument. The same male was arrested for Possession of property obtained by crime (x2) and Drive while disqualified following a traffic stop on November 14. A female was also arrested for possession of property obtained by crime during this traffic stop. The names of these subjects cannot be released as the Informations have not been sworn in court.

“Rimbey residents are encouraged to report all crimes, and the RCMP are committed to solving these crimes” says Sergeant Kurtis Phillipow, Rimbey RCMP Detachment Commander. “We strive to have rightful property owners get their property back.”

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