



EFFINGHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT

JEFFREY FUESTING, CHIEF OF POLICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SPECIAL NEWS RELEASE

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***ALL INDIVIDUALS LISTED AS ARRESTED OR ISSUED A CITATION ARE
INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY IN A COURT OF LAW***

Two Effingham Men Arrested in Connection to Vehicle Burglaries

Two burglaries to motor vehicles, both occurring while parked in the 1900 block of S. Banker, were reported on the morning of May 22nd to Effingham Police Department. Responding Bureau of Patrol Officers to the first incident discovered a van which had been burglarized overnight, and DJ equipment and CDs totaling approximately \$4,535.00 were stolen. At the second incident, Officers learned multiple power tools valued at more than \$1,400.00 were taken over the weekend from a work truck. Officers recovered some of the power tools immediately while canvassing the area nearby.

Later in the afternoon, Officers learned a local church had purchased DJ equipment which they believed to be stolen. Officers determined that this was the same equipment which had been reported stolen that morning. After conducting interviews, two suspects were developed. It was also learned that a van owned by the church had been used by one of the suspects for storage. The stolen power tools were located upon inspection of the van.

The two suspects, Richard A. Griffin, 47, and Michael L. Brown, 32, both Effingham, were taken into custody after being located by the Bureau of Patrol shortly after 6:00 P.M. on May 22, 2017. Griffin was charged with two counts each of Burglary and Theft, Class 3 and 4 felonies respectively; Brown was charged with Possession of Stolen Property, a Class 4 felony.

Chief Fuesting was encouraged to see more citizens becoming involved with reporting suspicious activity which led to the swift arrests by our Officers. He went on to state "We will not tolerate criminal activity, and will continue to act swiftly and tirelessly to follow leads and make arrests so that the citizens of Effingham can enjoy a safe environment to live, work and raise their children."