



# EFFINGHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT

**JEFFREY FUESTING, CHIEF OF POLICE**

201 EAST JEFFERSON AVENUE, EFFINGHAM, ILLINOIS 62401

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **SPECIAL NEWS RELEASE**

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**January 26, 2018**

### **Investigation into Zales Jewelry Burglary Continues; One Arrest Made, Another Expected**

Effingham Police Department received a report of a burglary to a business in the Village Square Mall January 25<sup>th</sup> at approximately 3:18 A.M.

Upon arrival, Bureau of Patrol Officers discovered a vehicle occupied by unknown suspect(s) had driven through the mall glass doors, proceeded to drive through the mall hallway and then struck the glass entrance at Zales Jewelry, Suite 82. An undetermined amount of jewelry and merchandise was stolen from Zales. The vehicle then left the scene by traveling back through the mall in the same direction it had entered.

After conducting an initial investigation, Bureau of Criminal Investigations Detectives obtained information regarding the suspect vehicle, which was then recovered by Law Enforcement on January 25<sup>th</sup> in Shelby County.

Due to the extensive coverage of this incident on different media platforms and information garnered from various sources, Effingham Detectives, in conjunction with Shelby County Sheriff's Deputies, identified one suspect in the Zales burglary, who was taken into custody today on related charges by Shelby County Sheriff's Department. Jordan JA Johnston, 23, Shelbyville, Illinois, is expected to face charges of Burglary (Class 3 Felony) and Criminal Damage to Property (Class 4 Felony). He is currently being held on separate charges at Shelby County Jail. The Bureau of Criminal Investigations has developed a second person of interest who is currently being sought by Law Enforcement.

Chief Fuesting commended the public for providing information, stating "This is an outstanding example of the public working in cooperation with multiple Law Enforcement agencies to bring about a swift resolution to a serious crime. The Bureau of Criminal Investigations worked tirelessly to develop leads that led to this arrest." Chief Fuesting praised the work of the Deputies from the Shelby County Sheriff's Department, stating "Without their assistance and collaboration this investigation would not have been solved so quickly. I am proud of the work the Deputies put forth solving this incident."

Although the Village Square Mall was closed for a short period of time on January 25<sup>th</sup> to allow Detectives to gather evidence and provide time for Mall employees to clean up and make repairs, the Mall is now open for business as normal.

Any individuals with additional information about this burglary or other crimes are encouraged to call CRIMESTOPPERS at 217-347-6583 for cash rewards up to \$1,000.