



Greenhills Police Department

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CHIEF OF POLICE



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Members of the Greenhills Police Department, in partnership with our citizens, will excel in providing dependable and professional service to ensure the safety of our community.

Our Values: Integrity - Honor - Respect - Excellence - Accountability

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Officers Halt Multi-State Crime Spree Five Indicted by Grand Jury, Other Charges Pending

A multi-state crime spree, extending from West Chester into Northern Kentucky, and including Greenhills and Cincinnati, was brought to a halt on September 3rd due to the good investigative instincts of a Greenhills police officer. A group of criminals defrauded merchants throughout the Greater Cincinnati area out of merchandise that will easily exceed \$100,000 in value.

On September 14th, the Hamilton County Grand Jury issued indictments for five suspects involved in the crimes:

- **Kevin Roberson**, 1469 Summe Drive in Cincinnati, for 13 counts of felony Theft, and seven counts of felony Telecommunications Fraud;
- **Dionte Dorsey**, 7875 Reading Road in Cincinnati, for five counts of felony Theft, and four counts of felony Telecommunications Fraud;
- **Jacqueline Collins**, 5622 Prentice Court in Cincinnati, for one count of felony Theft and one count of felony Telecommunications Fraud;
- **Ciarra Asbury**, 2710 East Tower Drive in Cincinnati, for one count of felony Theft and one count of felony Telecommunications Fraud;
- **Jacinda Humphrey**, 3207 Bowling Avenue in Cincinnati, for one count of felony Theft and one count of felony Telecommunications Fraud.

Greenhills Police Officer Zachery Clark responded to a call at Bargains and Buyouts in Greenhills to investigate the possible misuse of a credit card. The clerk told the officer that the suspects had left after the suspicious transaction was processed, and were returning with trucks to load up the furniture that had been purchased.

Officer Clark conferred with his supervisor and was permitted to return to the store to conduct surveillance in an unmarked police vehicle. He observed the suspects return with two rented U-Haul trucks and two vehicles used to lead the trucks to their destinations. When the vehicles left the loading dock, Officer Clark secured assistance from other undercover vehicles and from the Springfield Township Police Department.



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All of the vehicles were followed but the trucks split up. One group was stopped on the Norwood Lateral in Cincinnati, and the other group was confronted when they arrived at their destination at Race and Green Streets in Over the Rhine near downtown Cincinnati. There was another U-Haul truck discovered at this location. All of the trucks were stacked full to their capacity with thousands of dollars' worth of stolen furniture.

The vehicles were all towed and the stolen goods were impounded. Search warrants were obtained so the contraband could be inventoried. Suspects were detained and interviewed.

The investigation revealed that the suspects have been going into stores to buy merchandise and when cashing out, they used a credit card that had not been loaded or activated. The card actually had a zero balance. When the card did not go through, the suspects said they are going to call the telephone number on the back of the card. Instead, they then called an accomplice on their cell phone who pretended to work for the financial institution that issued the card. The suspect then asked the cashier to speak to the so-called bank representative, and the cashier was provided with a four-digit code to force the transaction through.

The information to learn how to force these transactions is available on the Internet. Once the transaction is forced, the business usually will not know the transaction is fraudulent for up to 48 hours later, long after the suspects are gone.

The furniture thefts at Bargains and Buyouts began on August 31st in an amount over \$20,000, and continued onto September 3rd when over \$30,000 in purchases were made.

On September 5th, Greenhills Officer Clark met with officers from Cincinnati Police and representatives from the Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office to coordinate ongoing investigations of similar offenses by suspects associated with Roberson and Asbury. On September 7th, Roberson was taken into custody by parole officers from the Ohio Department of Rehabilitations and Corrections.

On September 19th, 2018 Hamilton County Probations Officers went to a residence on Park Avenue in Walnut Hills to do a probation check and discovered additional stolen furniture from Bargains and Buyouts. At this scene, Officer Clark recovered stolen merchandise from surrounding jurisdictions which included additional furniture and stolen electronics such as wide screen televisions, computers, and other digital devices.

Using the fraudulent credit cards, the gang of criminals since June bought alcohol, more than a dozen vehicles from small car lots, and even rented the trucks used in the commission of the furniture thefts. Other charges are still pending that will add to the current estimated loss of over \$100,000 in goods and services. The loss in Greenhills alone exceeds \$50,000.

Numerous police agencies participated in the investigation, including Greenhills Police, West Chester Police, Springfield Township Police, Cincinnati Police, the Hamilton County Sheriff's Department, the Hamilton County Probation Department, and agencies in Northern Kentucky. Greenhills Police Chief Neil Ferdelman stated that *"This investigation serves as a reminder that merchants must be alert for new and innovative methods used by criminals to steal their merchandise. It is also shows that law enforcement will work together to apprehend criminals wherever the evidence leads."* He thanked the other agencies and the Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office for all of the work done to bring the charges placed so far. He also commended Greenhills Officer Clark for his initiative and excellent instincts to quickly organize the investigation that led to the charges.