

Grand jury returns indictments

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The indictment says that Purdue had a 1997 Toyota Avalon in his possession on December 19, 2020 which had been reported stolen by Austin Overbay.

It adds that Purdue has previously been convicted of at least two prior felony offenses.

Deputy Brad Smith conducted the investigation.

Charles Creech, 25 of Noland Hill Road, Irvine was named in a six count indictment.

The indictment charges Creech with reckless driving, operating on a suspended or revoked operator license, speeding 26 mph or greater than speed limit, two counts of wanton endangerment, first degree of a police officer, and fleeing or evading police, first degree (vehicle) on October 28.

The indictment states that Creech passed several cars on the roadway at excessive speeds while operating his vehicle on a suspended license.

It adds that he wantonly engaged in conduct which created a substantial danger of death or serious physical injury to Deputy Brad Smith and Creech's girlfriend, Christy Gray. He allegedly disobeyed the direction to stop by a police officer.

A three count indictment was returned against Danny Abney, 41, of Dark Hollow Road, Irvine.

Abney was indicted on two counts of trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree and first offense and being a persistent felony offender, second degree.

The indictment states that on February 9, 2019, Abney sold a packet of heroin to a confidential informant, and on February 15, 2019, he allegedly sold two packets of heroin to a confidential informant.

It adds that Abney has been previously convicted of a felony.

Chief Sturniolo conducted the investigation.

Jimmy Nieves, 49, of Turner Avenue, Irvine, was indicted for trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree and first offense, less than two grams of methamphetamine.

The indictment says that Nieves sold .30 grams of methamphetamine to a confidential informant on October 21, 2020.

The investigation was conducted by Chief Sturniolo.

Michael McDowell, 42, of Elmer Richardson Road, Irvine was indicted on nine charges, including first degree robbery, kidnapping - adult, operating a motor vehicle under the influence, possession of a controlled substance, first degree and first offense, assault 4th degree -- dating violence (minor injury), first degree wanton endangerment, possession of a handgun by a convicted felon, intimidating a participant in the legal process, and first

degree persistent felony offender.

The indictment states on December 20, McDowell threatened Rebecca Robertson with a knife with the intent to rob her of cash. He allegedly restrained Robertson to keep her from leaving her house and holding her for ransom.

It adds that he was operating a motor vehicle under the influence and had two white pills in his possession. He intentionally caused injury to Robertson.

The indictment states that McDowell engaged in conduct which created a substantial danger of death or serious physical injury to Robertson while he was in possession of a handgun while being a convicted felon.

It adds that he threatened Robertson whom he believed was a participant in a legal process.

Sheriff Chris Flynn conducted the investigation.

Christopher Sizemore, 42, of Bertha Wallace Drive, Irvine was named in a six count indictment.

Those six charges include trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree and first offense (less than 2 grams of methamphetamine), trafficking in a controlled substance (heroin), trafficking in a controlled substance, third degree and first offense (less than 20 dosage units), trafficking in marijuana less than eight ounces, drug paraphernalia -- buy/possess, and possession of a handgun by a convicted felon.

The indictment states that Sizemore had the controlled substances and handgun in his possession on January 27. The paraphernalia included a set of scales and a glass pipe.

The investigation was conducted by Sheriff Flynn.

Jeff Hardy, 60, of South Irvine Road was indicted for possession of a controlled substance, first offense (fentanyl) and drug paraphernalia -- buy/possess.

The indictment states that Hardy had the fentanyl and three syringes in his possession on September 25.

Sheriff Flynn conducted the investigation.

Jeffery Hardy, 60, of Picnic Hill Road, Irvine was indicted on a single charge of possession of a controlled substance, first degree and first offense (methamphetamine) on October 3.

Deputy King conducted that investigation.

A 17-count indictment was returned against William Klema, 31, of Copperhead Road, Irvine.

The charges include two counts of fleeing or evading police, first degree (motor vehicle and foot), trafficking in a controlled substance, greater than or equal to two grams of methamphetamine, first degree criminal mischief, first degree wanton endangerment, tampering with physical evidence, failure to wear seat belts, drug paraphernalia -- buy/possess, trafficking

in a controlled substance, first offense (heroin), possession of handgun by a convicted felon, four counts of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, receiving stolen property, and persistent felony offender, second degree.

The indictment states that on April 8, Klema possessed a 9mm pistol, an AK-47, a Savage 270 rifle, a Remington 22 pump rifle, a 50 caliber black powder rifle, and a machine gun.

Klema was allegedy in a Hyundai car which had been reported stolen, and he wantonly damaged Trooper Ty Robinson's cruiser.

Chris Wasson, 43, of North Madison Avenue, Irvine was charged in a two-count indictment.

Wasson was indicted for second degree assault, domestic violence (minor injury) and first degree persistent felony offender.

On February 7, the indictment states that he caused serious physical injury to Mary Cockrell.

Trooper Jansen Hacker was the investigating officer.

Rosie Smith, 57 of Cressy Road, Irvine was indicted for operating a motor vehicle with expired operators license, failure to produce insurance card, possession of a controlled substance, first degree and first offense, and drug paraphernalia -- buy/possess.

The indictment states that Smith had methamphetamine and a syringe in her possession on July 22.

The investigation was conducted by Officer Conrad.

Mistie Combs, 45, of Richmond Road, Irvine was indicted for possession of a controlled substance, first degree and first offense (methamphetamine) on October 22.

The arresting officer was Deputy King.

Ryan Newton, 33, of Richmond was indicted for trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree and first offense, trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree and first degree persistent felony offender.

The indictment states that on February 5, Newton had more than two grams of methamphetamine and fentanyl in his possession.

Trooper Hacker conducted the investigation.

Dylan Spencer, 25, of Dry Ridge Road, Irvine was indicted for receiving stolen property under \$10,000, leaving scene of accident -- failure to render aid or assistance, no operators -- moped license, and first degree persistent felony offender.

The indictment says that Spencer was in possession of a black pickup truck on January 15 that had been reported stolen.

It adds that Spencer committed an accident in the black pickup truck, failed to report it and left the scene.

Chief Sturniolo was the investigating

officer.

Jean Ann Cole, 50, of Pitts Road, Ravenna was indicted for first degree burglary, tampering with physical evidence, and third degree criminal trespassing.

On February 15, the indictment states that Cole entered a residence at 745 Pitts Road to commit a crime and disposed of items stolen from the residence.

It adds that she had entered Billy Wesley's residence and remained there unlawfully.

Deputy Smith investigated the burglary.

Zachariah Dennis, 28, of Beattyville was charged in a five count indictment.

The indictment charges him with public intoxication of a controlled substance, second degree disorderly conduct, resisting arrest, and two counts of third degree assault (EMS, Fire, Rescue Squad).

The indictment states that on February 15, Dennis caused physical insurance to EMTs Raymond Cole and Brian Wilson. It adds that he cursed and tried to spit on officers.

Officer Conrad made the arrest.

Isaac Miller, 33, and William Klema, 31, both of Lincoln Avenue, Irvine were named as co-defendants in a nine count indictment.

The indictment charges both men with trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree and first offense (< 2 grams methamphetamine), trafficking in a controlled substance (heroin), and drug paraphernalia -- buy possess (syringes, several digital scales, a spoon, and small baggies with residue) on August 30.

Klema was charged by the indictment with receiving stolen property (firearm), possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, possession of a handgun by a convicted felon, receiving stolen property under \$500, and persistent felony offender, second degree.

The indictment states that on August 30, Klema had a stolen Rock Island 45 caliber pistol in his possession and a handgun while a convicted felon.

It adds that Klema had in his possession a stolen generator, three weed eaters, several hand tools, and a guitar.

Irvine Officer Jim Marshall conducted the investigation.

Delbert Estes, 45, and Paula Jordan, 39, both of Knob Lick Road, Irvine were named as co-defendants in an indictment.

The couple was each charged with first degree criminal abuse and first degree adult abuse.

The indictment states the couple caused serious physical injury to an adult female on June 21.

Trooper Hacker conducted the investigation.

Irvine accepts blacktopping bid

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Mayor James Gross added that there is currently not a planning and zoning commission, but he does have three people who are interested in serving on the committee.

He added that Tim Wiseman, a resident of Broadway, is interested in becoming certified and serving as the building inspector for the city.

Representative Bill Wesley updated the council on the painting of the Irvine bridge. He said that they are currently waiting on CSX to respond, but if all goes well then the bridge should be painted sometime this summer.

Wesley added that the 80 year old bridge will be painted green even though he would like to see it painted Engineer blue.

A potential walkway will be added to the bridge if Wesley can get

help from the state. He said he knows that many people walk the bridge, and that it's very dangerous.

He would like to see a walkway added to at least one side of the bridge.

Council members agreed with Wesley about the danger of the bridge. Councilman Billy Arthur said he sees a lot of people riding bicycles across the bridge, and vehicles have to stop to let them cross.

The council discussed the health insurance premiums for city employees. Robin Powell said they will have carry the insurance on 13 employees once the fire department hires an additional firefighter.

A few questions were raised about the vision insurance, and the council agreed to table the matter until the next meeting so they could review the vision plan.

Mayor Gross opened a sealed bid for the blacktopping project within the city. Hinkle was the only bidder on the project and that was for \$90,000. The project would include Oak Street, High Street, Rockhouse Estates, Plum Street, and an alley located on West Chamberlain Branch.

Gross said the garbage trucks runs down Chamberlain Branch alley, and to his knowledge that is the only time it is used. He said the council could elect to take Chamberlain Branch off the list to be repaired if they wanted to.

Police Chief John Sturniolo said that the police also use that alley, and that one section of it is really bad. If it's not repaired then there will be no use in ever fixing it.

"If we use it then I think we should take care of it," stated Councilman Kris Lee.

All members of the council were in favor of accepting the bid from Hinkle and fixing Chamberlain Branch as well as the other roads that were written on the bid.

Gross said they had been working with FEMA on the loss of the city garage and the contents. He added that Robin Powell had recently completed a two hour class online on how to submit the paperwork for the loss, and that they are trying to get it taken care of as soon as possible.

Fire Chief Justin Patrick said that a potential hire for the firefighter position will travel to Indiana this weekend to take a test.

He said the man has taken it twice already but has ran out of time at the end of the test. He's determined to pass it this time.

Patrick stated the fireman has been diligently training in order to pass the test.

Irvine Police Activity

Steven Ferguson, 32, of Valley Drive, Irvine was arrested May 20 on the Joseph Proctor Memorial Bypass.

A citation states that a 1996 Toyota Camry was being operated by Ferguson on River Drive. Sgt. Stuart Morris said that Ferguson was driving erratically and revving his motor.

When the vehicle turned onto Main Street, Morris said it almost hit the vehicle in front of him, which pulled off to the right. The officer stated that Ferguson almost hit the vehicle in front of him.

He said Ferguson's vehicle then sped on Main Street at a high rate. It

then stopped at the traffic control device at the intersection of 89N and the bypass. Morris added the vehicle squalled its tires when it started from the stop position.

Morris administered field sobriety tests, according to the citation.

He charged Ferguson with operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol, first offense, careless driving, improper start from parked position, and license to be in possession.

Sgt. Sam Hensley served an Estill County arrest warrant on **Jay Rawlins, 28,** of Laurel Street, Irvine. The warrant was for Rawlins' alleged failure to appear in court.

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