



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

For Release: November 1, 2007
2:30 p.m

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Police Charge Juveniles in Church, Tot Lot Vandalism Case

Howard County Police charged two juveniles with theft and destruction of property after linking them to two vandalism cases from earlier this month, one at a church and the other at a nearby tot lot.

Police were able to determine through the investigation that two ex-River Hill High School students, a 16-year-old from Clarksville and a 17-year-old from Laurel, were responsible for the damage. The incidents, which took place on the night of Oct. 13, involved damage to a bench, archway and fence at the memorial garden of the Linthicum United Methodist Church. The suspects also poured Drano down the slide of the nearby tot lot and blanketed the gym equipment with register receipts. Fire department personnel were able to wash away the chemical before anyone was injured.

Police were able to obtain suspect information from several witnesses who came forward. Over the last two days, police located and charged the juveniles with two counts of destruction of property. They were also charged with theft after police determined that they shoplifted the items they used in the vandalism, including register receipts and Drano, from a local Giant grocery store.

The juveniles attended River Hill High School until September 21, but are not currently enrolled. Their identities will not be released due to their age.

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