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February 15, 2019

Two Suspects Arrested on Forgery and Drug Charges

ABILENE, TX – On February 15, 2019 Detectives with the Abilene Police Department’s Fraud Unit executed a warrant at a hotel room located at 800 block East Highway 80. Lana Murphy (51 yoa) and Bennie Coplin (39 yoa) were taken into custody without incident. During a search of the room and vehicles a lever-action rifle was located which is believed to be stolen. An additional search revealed that Lana had possession of over ten pieces of stolen identifying information which she used to make counterfeit checks and fraudulent credit card accounts.

Lana was also found to have possession of stolen checks which she had passed at various Abilene stores. Other items recovered in the search were marijuana, identifying information of others, a firearm, and stolen credit cards. The investigation is ongoing and detectives are working to identify victims.

Lana Murphy is charged with Second Degree Felony Identity Theft; Third Degree Felon in Possession of a Firearm; State Jail Felony Forgery of a Financial Instrument; and Class B Misdemeanor Possession of Marijuana. Bennie Coplin is charged with State Jail Felony Identity Theft and Class B Misdemeanor Possession of Marijuana.



Lana Murphy

Bennie Coplin

Respectfully,
Rick Tomlin, Public Information Coordinator

Stan Standridge, Chief of Police | 450 Pecan | Abilene, TX | 79602

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