

News Release



Frederick County Sheriff's Office
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Motor Vehicle Theft

On Wednesday, October 17th, at approximately 5:30 p.m., Sheriff's Deputies were dispatched to a report of a motor vehicle theft at the Sheetz convenience store located on Buckeystown Pike in Frederick. The victim had parked their vehicle and entered Sheetz, and upon exiting Sheetz to return to the vehicle, saw it traveling south on Buckeystown Pike towards Guilford Drive.

After a search of the immediate area for the stolen vehicle turned up no results, deputies reviewed security camera footage and saw a white male in blue jeans and a dark colored jacket who walked around the vehicle, looked inside, then entered the vehicle, started it, and drove away.

Later in the evening, Sheriff's Deputies were dispatched to a suspicious vehicle on Manor Woods Road matching the description of the stolen vehicle. Witnesses on scene saw a man exit the vehicle and run onto a neighboring farm property. The witnesses' description of the man matched the description of the man seen on the security footage.

A K-9 track was conducted and led to a large brush pile on the property. The suspect was given commands and answered announcements. The suspect, identified as **Dennis Lee Smith, Jr.**, 47, of Mount Airy, was taken into custody without issue and transported to central booking.

The Frederick County Sheriff's Office would like to remind everyone that leaving a vehicle unoccupied with the keys inside is unsafe and illegal, and incidents like this may increase due to the coming cold weather. Always remember to keep your vehicle keys on you, and your vehicle locked upon parking and exiting.

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