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Date: 08/06/09

Released By: Wendy Rose

NR #:09-159

Two Grand Theft Arrests; Two Suspects Sought



Blanton

Roberts

Walker

Lawrence

The Sarasota County Sheriff's Office has arrested two men for stealing a prized 1980 Chevy Malibu from C and S Corvettes in Sarasota on May 14, 2009. The vehicle was valued for its LT1 Corvette engine, Moser rear end, custom disc brakes, air lift kit and other custom drive train parts.

Sam B. Blanton, DOB 11/8/77, 4018 Berkshire Dr., Sarasota, is charged with Burglary of an Unoccupied Structure and Grand Theft Auto for taking the vehicle and dismantling it at a property in Myakka City. Hobert Roberts, Jr., DOB 11/20/75, 41 Patterson Ave., Osprey, is charged with Grand Theft for taking possession of the vehicle's engine and drive train and installing them in his Chevy S10 pickup truck.

Detectives are searching for two other suspects in the case: Erik M. Walker, W/M, DOB 10/7/80, 6' tall, 165 lbs, with red hair and green eyes, last known address 12239 Durango Ave., North Port; and David P. Lawrence, W/M, DOB 3/27/87, 5'10", 150 lbs, brown hair and brown eyes, last known address 5329 36th Street East, Bradenton.

Anyone with information on their whereabouts is encouraged to call Criminal Investigations at 941-861-4900 or leave an anonymous tip with Crime Stoppers by calling 941-366-TIPS (8477), or online at www.sarasotacrimestoppers.com or via text message by texting TIP109 plus a message to CRIMES (274637).