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MEDIA RELEASE

DATE: 01/02/2019	CONTACT: Bridget Coit
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SUBJECT: 18PD27746 and 18SO8392	 @EauClairePD  @EauClairePD  @EauClairePD

In the early morning hours of Wednesday December 26, 2018 the Eau Claire Communications Center received a 911 call from the Circle-C gas station at 1514 North Clairemont Avenue in Eau Claire County. An employee called stating three individuals had broken the front door and made entry into the business. The employee was able to lock herself in the office.

The Eau Claire County Sheriff's Office responded to the call, and was assisted by the Eau Claire Police Department. No suspects were located upon arrival and the female employee was not injured. While Officers were on scene at Circle-C, the Communications Center advised Officers a burglary alarm was being reported at the Pinehurst Dairy Queen at 3057 North Hastings Way in the City and County of Eau Claire.

Officers from the Eau Claire Police Department responded to the Pinehurst Dairy Queen and learned entry had been made into the building by breaking the drive-through window. Surveillance video showed three individuals around the building, one of which forced entry into the business, which was unoccupied at the time. The suspect had tried to gain access to the safe, and no suspects were located at the business.

Officers and Deputies believed both burglaries to be similar, and a witness to the Circle-C burglary had advised officers a small white car had been seen driving around the business prior to the burglary. Officers checked public space cameras and located the small white vehicle in the area of Circle-C, and in the area of the Pinehurst Dairy Queen. It was found that vehicle was involved in both burglaries: The burglary to the Pinehurst Dairy Queen occurred, and then the vehicle traveled to Circle-C. Nothing was taken from either business.

Officers, Deputies, and Detectives from the Eau Claire Police Department and Eau Claire County Sheriff's Office have been working together to try and locate the individuals responsible. On December 27, 2018 the Eau Claire County Sheriff's Office released photos of three individuals wearing dark clothing and face masks asking for the public's help in identifying them. Numerous tips were reported and helped with leads for these cases.

Detectives were able to locate a license plate for the vehicle and found the vehicle had an owner applied GPS unit. The GPS records confirmed the vehicle had been in the area of both businesses when they were burglarized. A short time later Detectives were able to locate the vehicle and occupants. The driver and a passenger were detained and interviewed.

Subsequent investigation and information has led officers to believe four individuals were involved in both burglaries. Three of those individuals have been located and arrested:

- Alicia A Effertz DOB 1/20/00 (Charged with Burglary and Criminal Damage to Property.)
- Jared A Beaulieu DOB 6/16/01 (Charged with Burglary and Criminal Damage to Property.)
- A 16yo Juvenile male (Charged with Burglary and Criminal Damage to Property.)

Officers are still looking for the 4th individual involved. That individual is believed to be Derrick M. Rapley DOB 9/2/1999. If you have information regarding Rapley's whereabouts please do not approach him. Contact the Eau Claire Communications Center or provide your tip to Eau Claire County Crime Stoppers.

Detectives from the Eau Claire County Sheriff's Office and the Eau Claire Police Department are continuing to investigate this case.

Any media inquiries can be directed to:
ECSO Lieutenant Cory Schalinske
715-839-4709.