



Harris County Precinct 8

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PRESS RELEASE

December 30, 2020

Several people are facing charges following a vehicle pursuit and subsequent investigation by Precinct 8 earlier this week. The series of events began shortly before 1:00 AM on Monday, December 28, 2020. Deputy J. Gomez observed a white Dodge flatbed truck towing a gooseneck trailer loaded with a Ford F-450 near the intersection of Spencer Highway and Underwood Rd. Deputy Gomez also observed a white Chevrolet sedan following closely behind the trailer blocking his view of the trailer license plate. Deputy Gomez attempted to pass the Chevrolet sedan to view the trailer's plate, at which time the sedan swerved into Deputy Gomez's lane almost striking his patrol car. Deputy Gomez was able to maneuver around the sedan, observe the trailer license plate and learned it was reported as stolen. Deputy Gomez moved in behind the truck and trailer and the driver immediately attempted to evade him by pulling into the Sunoco gas station at Canada Rd. and Fairmont Pkwy. Deputy Gomez also observed the Chevrolet sedan pull into the gas station as well.

As Deputy Gomez attempted to make a traffic stop on the vehicle, the driver sped away through the parking lot at a high rate of speed, striking several curbs in the process. Deputy Gomez pursued the vehicle to northwest corner of the parking lot where the driver of the truck exited and fled on foot through the adjacent field towards a residential neighborhood. Deputy Gomez continued to pursue the subject both in his patrol car and on foot, but was unable to capture the subject due to heavy mud. Deputy Gomez put out a request for backup units and a description of the white Chevrolet sedan, which had been following the trailer.

Units arrived on scene and began to search the area. Precinct 8 units and La Porte PD units setup a perimeter and deployed a drone for air reconnaissance. Precinct 8 Deputy J. Mitchell observed the same white Chevrolet sedan circling the area multiple times as if searching for someone. Deputy Mitchell made contact with the vehicle and identified the driver as 29 year old Laura Michelle Butler. Through investigation, it was determined the flatbed truck was also stolen and that Butler was aiding the driver by following behind him and intentionally trying to block Deputy Gomez. The driver was determined to be 26 year old Cory Kellett, Butler's boyfriend. Deputies learned Butler had been in contact with Kellett by phone after he evaded the Deputy on foot and she was attempting to locate him in order to pick him up and flee the area. The Harris County District Attorney's Office accepted felony charges of Hindering Apprehension on Butler and she was booked into the Harris County jail. She was later released after posting a \$1000 bond.

Further investigation in this case led Deputies to seek and obtain an arrest warrant for Kellett and a search warrant for a residence in the 8200 block of Garden Parks Dr. in Houston. On December 29,

2020 at approximately 0504 hours, Precinct 8 Deputies executed both warrants. Kellett was located within the residence and was taken into custody. Four other individuals, including Buttler, were detained while the search was conducted. A four week old child was also located in the residence. During a search for stolen property, narcotics, drug paraphernalia and firearms were observed in plain view and within access to Kellett, who is a convicted felon. Paraphernalia and Methamphetamine residue were located in the same room as the four-week-old child as well. Child Protective Services was contacted and an investigation is underway with their agency.

The search of the residence resulted in the following items being recovered:

A stolen Dodge minivan

A Chevrolet Tahoe bearing multiple VINs (recovered for further investigation and VIN verification)

5.2 grams Psilocybin (Mushrooms)

1.6 grams Cocaine

4 grams LSD

23.46 grams Methamphetamine

20 Codeine pills

40 Trazadone pills

2 Lbs of Marijuana vacuum sealed

Multiple plastic baggies

1 Lever Action Winchester Rifle, 1 Bolt action Rifle and 1 shotgun were seized as evidence

1 Rifle/Shotgun located in a safe confirmed stolen in 1985 through the Houston Police Department

The Harris County District Attorney's Office accepted charges for Felon in Possession of Firearm, Possession of a Controlled Substance with Intent to Deliver and Evading Arrest in a Motor Vehicle on Kellett. His bond has been set at \$55,000 total. Possession of a Controlled Substance charges were also accepted on Buttler. Her bond has been set at \$20,000 in that case.

Jason Finnen, Chief Deputy

Harris County Precinct 8 Constable's Office