



News from the Shelby County Sheriff's Office

Mark H. Luttrell, Jr., Sheriff

9th Floor, 201 Poplar Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee 38103

Public Information Officer: Steve Shular

- Office (901) 545-5532 FAX (901) 545-3310
- E mail: steve.shular@shelby-sheriff.org

All news releases may be viewed at www.shelby-sheriff.org in the News Releases Listing

July 2, 2009

Thieves Capitalized on “Opportunities” During Crime Spree

Sheriff's detectives have arrested two men for riding through neighborhoods in Shelby and Tipton Counties looking for items to steal. Deputies have already linked the suspects to more than 60 thefts.

Christopher T. Brown, 46, of Hillbrook Road in Memphis and David Whittamore, 39, of Oak Branch Circle in Bartlett, have been charged with taking a variety of items from lawn mowers to construction equipment.

Brown was arrested on June 18. Detectives arrested Whittamore this past Tuesday, June 30. After his arrest, Whittamore took detectives to more than 20 locations in Brunswick and other neighborhoods in north Shelby County where the thefts occurred. The goods were sold on the street or at pawn shops. It was through checking pawn shop records that detectives got their break in the case.

Shelby County detectives also worked with Tipton County Sheriff's Office detectives after Brown and Whittamore were linked to thefts there.

Detectives say the suspects were meticulous about their work. They stole only during the daytime hours and targeted homes where items were left in yards or stored in carports and outdoor sheds. The suspects said they avoided upper-scale homes with garages and security systems.

Shelby County detectives say David Whittamore and Christopher T. Brown face a variety of charges.



(End of Release)