



NEWARK POLICE DEPARTMENT

Paul M. Tiernan, Chief of Police



PRESS RELEASE

April 20th, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUBJECT: Two Arrested for residential burglary

The Newark Police Department has identified and arrested two individuals for their involvement in the spring break burglary of a rental apartment in the 400 block of Scholar Drive.

The burglary was initially reported by the victims, both UD students, on April 4th upon their return from spring break. During the burglary several items including a video gaming system, laptop computer and hair straightener were stolen from the apartment. Soon after, several of the stolen items were discovered for sale on Craig's List. On April 6th, 2011 undercover officers arranged for the purchase of one of the stolen items and arrested David May of Bear, Delaware after he sold the item to the undercover officers.

Melanie Sturgis of New Castle, Delaware was also identified as a suspect in the burglary and turned herself in to investigators on April 19th. It was determined that the defendants were both acquaintances of one of the victims, knew the apartment would be unoccupied for spring break, and had access to a key which was used to gain entry to the apartment.

The defendants were not University of Delaware students.

Defendant 1: David May DOB 2/1/82
24 St. Georges Terrace
Bear, DE 19701

Charges: 1 count Burglary 2nd
2 counts Theft under \$1500

Committed to Howard Young Correctional on \$7,000 secured bond.

(Continued)



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Defendant 2: Melanie Sturgis DOB 5/1/89
 375 New Churchmans Road
 New Castle, DE 19720

Charges 1 count Burglary 2nd
 2 counts Theft under \$1500

Released on \$6,000 unsecured bond.

Anyone with additional information about this incident should contact Det. Greg Delia at 302-366-7110 ext. 132 or greg.delia@cj.state.de.us. You can send an anonymous text message tip by texting 302NPD and your message to TIP411. Information can also be provided anonymously to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at www.tipsubmit.com where a reward may be available.

The Newark Police Department affirms that all defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

Media Contact: Lt. Mark A. Farrall, Public Information Officer, 302-366-7110 ext 125 or mark.farrall@cj.state.de.us.



