

Lake County Sheriff's Office



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John D. Idleburg
Sheriff

MEDIA RELEASE

Two Lake Villa Township Men Arrested After Found with Stolen Car, Firearms

On March 29, 2021, at approximately 8:00 a.m., Lake County Sheriff's Deputies responded to a residence in the 37100 block of Piper Lane, Unincorporated Lake Villa, during a stolen vehicle investigation. Sheriff's deputies located a vehicle that had been stolen from the 37900 block of North Watts Avenue, Unincorporated Spring Grove, earlier the same day.

Sheriff's deputies attempted to make contact with the residents inside the Piper Lane home, but nobody came to the door.

Sheriff's deputies remained on the scene and were seeking a search warrant for the residence, as it was believed additional stolen property was inside the home. At approximately 5:00 p.m., a subject exited the home. He advised he lived at the home and told sheriff's deputies there were five additional people inside the residence, and they possessed numerous firearms. Two additional individuals then came out of the house and reported the same information as the first person. One of the individuals who remained inside, Wayne M. Mikulski, 41, of the same address, is a parolee through the Illinois Department of Corrections.

After learning the information about the home's occupants being armed, sheriff's deputies established a perimeter around the home. Additional units responded to the scene. Sheriff's detectives contacted the Illinois Department of Corrections to inquire about Mikulski's status and were informed the Illinois Department of Corrections was issuing a parole violation warrant.

Members of the sheriff's office patrol division, special investigations division, criminal investigations division, and tactical response team entered the home. They took Mikulski into custody as well as Elliot Ventura, 31, of the same address. Sheriff's detectives recovered stolen property which was previously stolen in area thefts and burglaries.

Following yesterday's investigation sheriff's detectives reviewed the facts and circumstances with the Lake County

State's Attorney's Office. The Lake County State's Attorney's Office approved the following charges:

Mikulski (in addition to his parole violation warrant):

Five Counts of Unlawful Use/Possession of a Weapon by a Felon (Class 2 Felonies)

Unlawful Possession of Stolen Registration (Class 2 Felony)

Ventura:

Unlawful Possession of a Stolen Vehicle (Class 2 Felony)

Unlawful Possession of Stolen Property (Class 2 Felony)

Theft (Class 2 Felony)

Sheriff John D. Idleburg said, "This is an example of great police work which led to several victims being able to recover their stolen items. Additionally, five firearms were seized from a convicted felon who is not authorized to possess such weapons."

Mikulski and Ventura appeared in court this morning. Mikulski remains held without bail, due to his parole violation warrant and his next court date is pending. Ventura's bail was set at \$20,000.00. He is next due in court on April 20, 2021 at 1:30 p.m. in courtroom T020.

Sheriff's detectives continue to investigate, and additional charges are possible.

The Lake County Sheriff's Office thanks the Antioch Police Department for their assistance.

All defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty in court.

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