



303 E. 3rd Street Joplin, MO. 64801-2274

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Matthew Stewart
Chief of Police

Press Release Stolen Property/Forgery Arrests

On September 14, 2016 at 12:01am an officer with the Joplin Police Department stopped a vehicle at 7th and Empire. The officer had observed the driver at the gas station at 7th and Monroe acting suspicious. When the vehicle left he ran the Tennessee License plates on the vehicle and discovered they were reported stolen out of Springfield, Missouri.

After stopping the vehicle, the driver, Mark Wagner, 54 of Fayetteville, Arkansas and passenger, Raylen Bearden, 51 of Joplin, were both confirmed to have warrants out of Arkansas. During a search of the vehicle officers located numerous items of drug paraphernalia, credit cards, a check and other personal information belonging to other people.

Bearden had a felony warrant out of Benton County Arkansas Sheriff's Department for forgery, and Wagner had a felony warrant out of Washington County Arkansas for forgery. Wagner and Bearden were both transported to the city jail and charges were submitted to the Jasper County Prosecutor's Office. Today the Jasper County Prosecutor's Office filed Felony Fugitive from out of State Charges on Bearden and Wagner. Both are currently being held in the Joplin City Jail on a \$100,000 bond each.

Bearden and Wagner are also identified as the pictured subjects we posted on JPD Facebook on September 9, 2016 attempting to identify in a forgery/stolen property case. That case is still under investigation.

Sgt. Trevor Duncan
417-623-3131 ext. 600



Bearden, Raylen



Wagner, Mark