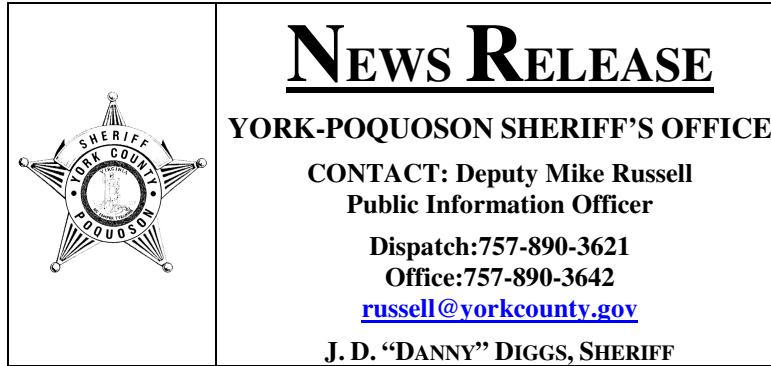


PR061108



For Immediate Release

3 Juveniles Arrested in Weekend Vandalism Spree

Yorktown- York-Poquoson Sheriff's Investigators have arrested three juveniles in connection with the vandalism spree that occurred last weekend which included two cases of arson and total damages nearing \$200,000.

Arrested were three York County middle school students ranging in ages from 14-15. Each juvenile was charged with the following and additional charges may be forthcoming;

- 2 counts- Arson-(felony)
- 3 counts- Property Damage (felony)
- 7 counts- Property Damage (misdemeanor)

Information provided to investigators about a recently suspended student lead to a break in the case. As of last night, all three juveniles were being held at Merrimac Juvenile Detention Center.

Original Crime Line released by Sgt. Ivey

Vandalism and Arson occurred in the early morning of 06-07-08 in the Bethel Manor area of York County. The most significant damage occurred when some unknown suspect(s) ignited a 2007 school bus on fire and totally destroyed it. A 2007 bus parked next to this one had radiated heat damage, window damage, melted a front tire, and burned the paint of the side of the bus. Two vans belonging to the school division were

sprayed painted with words degrading the York County School division and other vulgar words.

All of this paint was done in red and black. Vulgar words were all spray painted on the Bethel Manor Elementary school. The buses were found on fire at approximately 3:45 AM. This damage alone was in excess of one hundred thousand dollars.

We believe the same suspects tried to ignite a spill kit bucket on fire near the gas pumps at the Bethel Manor Shoppette located in the 1700 block of First Street. This caused minimal damage but could have caused a very serious fire. This damage was found by the manager later this same morning.

Several vehicles were spray painted with black and red painted vulgar words, pictures in the areas of 4th and 1st street. This damage in excess of several thousand dollars also.

We believe that all of this damage was done between 1 AM and 3:45 AM.

Deputies also found black spray paint on the Bethel Chapel signs at the Bethel manor Chapel. The paint was not words it was just covering half of the sign.

If anyone has information on these crimes or any other crimes please call Crime Line at 1-888 LOCK-U-UP.

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