



Town of Vienna, Virginia Police Department Media Information Release

Tree Service Workers Defraud Elderly Victim



Michael Dwayne Wharton



Kenneth Lee Foster

The Town of Vienna Police Department has arrested two subjects that defrauded an elderly homeowner out of thousands of dollars. The two men were soliciting in and around Vienna offering to do tree work. After beginning the tree work, the men then told the homeowner that he needed repair work on his house and that it would cost an exorbitant amount. Once the homeowner responded that he couldn't afford the price, the men told him they would do only the "essential" work for a reduced price; which was still thousands of dollars. The men then collected the reduced amount in the form of a check and cashed it. Days later the men returned to tell the victim that they had completed the work, when in fact they had not.

On August 27, 2008 the two men were observed by Detective Sergeant Wickes as they were driving near Cedar Lane in Vienna. After conducting a traffic stop, the individuals were placed under arrest for the warrants on the fraud case, which had been secured days earlier. The subjects were transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center where they are being held without bond.

Subsequent to an inventory of their vehicle prior to towing, Officer Mangan discovered stolen chain saws in the truck. As a result of this discovery, Mr. Wharton was also charged with Possession of Stolen Property for the chain saws.

Arrested: Michael Dwayne Wharton, 31, of Duncan Trail in Reva, Virginia
Kenneth Lee Foster, 44, of Massies Mountain Rd. in Washington, Virginia

**Anyone with any information or involvement with these individuals
may contact Detective Sergeant James Wickes of the
Vienna Police Department at 703-255-6394.**

**For Further Information regarding this case please contact
MPO Bill Murray- Town of Vienna Police Public Information Officer
at wmurray@viennava.gov or 703. 255. 6396**