

Formal Charges Filed in Pursuit Turned Shooting

(KAIR)--Formal charges against one of two men accused of a weekend shooting that stemmed from a stolen vehicle have been filed.

He is identified as 23-year-old Zachary Bixby, who is charged with one count of criminal use of a weapon.

He is scheduled to appear in a Buchanan County Courtroom Tuesday morning.

The second person, identified as Kyle Butts, has not been charged in connection with the case.

According to the felony complaint, the charge against Bixby was filed based on the allegation that he fired a weapon at another vehicle on Saturday morning, on U.S. Highway 59.

According to the probable cause statement, the alleged shooting followed an encounter at the Dollar General Store on Saint Joseph's King Hill Avenue.

It was there that witnesses saw Bixby and Butts with a Volkswagen Beetle that the witnesses knew had been stolen from a friend Saturday morning.

Bixby and Butts drove off, with the witnesses following behind.

In the 9000 block of South Highway 59, in Buchanan County, the suspect vehicle slowed down and pulled onto the shoulder of the northbound lane, where both men exited the vehicle. It was then, the probable cause statement says, that Bixby used a handgun to shoot at the witness vehicle, with one round striking the car's hood.

The pair then fled on foot in opposite directions, with Bixby making his way to a residence along the highway where he allegedly entered without permission and demanded at gunpoint that the homeowner give him the keys to his vehicle.

Telling Bixby the keys were inside the Ford pickup parked outside, Bixby drove off, but quickly became stuck in a muddy field.

Fleeing on foot, Bixby was apprehended by authorities.

Butts was also located, taken into custody north of where the shooting occurred.

Court documents say that a search of the area led to the discovery of a loaded

9mm handgun.

The investigation was conducted through a joint effort between the Buchanan County Sheriff's Office and Saint Joseph Police.

No injuries are reported.

Editor's note: Below is an earlier version of the story as first reported.

(KAIR)--Two are in custody following the alleged theft of a vehicle that resulted in shots being fired.

The Saint Joseph News-Press [reports](#) it happened Saturday morning, on U.S.Highway 59, in Buchanan County.

Citing Sheriff Bill Puett, the newspaper reports that residents spotted the stolen vehicle, knew that it had been taken, and began to follow it.

Apparently seeing they were being pursued, the suspect vehicle stopped and allegedly opened fire on the other vehicle.

It's alleged that one of the suspects then went to a nearby residence and stole another vehicle.

No one was injured in the shooting.

The suspects were later captured through a joint effort of the Saint Joseph Police Department and the Buchanan County Sheriff's Office.

Eyewitnesses tells MSC News investigators were spotted along the highway Saturday, apparently searching the area with the assistance of metal detectors.

Law enforcement not connected with the investigation says that was likely being done in the attempt to locate shell casings connected with the alleged shooting.

The case remains under investigation.

Names are not immediately released pending the filing of formal charges.

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