Drug charges hold two in separate Atchison cases

(KAIR)--A theft at an Atchison business by a man wanted on a drug related Atchison County District Court warrant who allegedly fled from police following Friday's theft is now in custody.

According to a release from Atchison Police Chief Mike Wilson, 59-year-old Maurice Burnett was arrested early Saturday morning, shortly after midnight, when an officer on patrol spotted Burnett in the 600 block of Atchison's South 6th Street.

Knowing Burnett was wanted for the warrant, related to a May 31 case when Burnett was found to be in possession of fentanyl, the officer took him into custody.

According to Wilson, Burnett, at the time of his arrest, was found to be in possession of methamphetamine and marijuana.

Additionally, Burnett was charged with the theft case that occurred at Walmart, and for fleeing and eluding officers who attempted to stop his vehicle as he fled from the scene of the alleged theft.

Following his arrest, Burnett was booked into the Atchison County Jail.

In an unrelated case, an early Sunday morning traffic stop, in Atchison, sent a St. Joseph, Missouri man to jail on drug charges.

According to a release from Wilson, an officer on patrol spotted a vehicle in the 700 block of Kansas Avenue that had an expired license tag. The officer stopped the vehicle, driven by 37-year-old James Jones, around 1:30 Sunday morning and the resulting investigation led to the arrest.

Jones was taken into custody for possession of methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia, as well as for transporting an open container of alcohol.

Following his arrest, Jones was booked into the Atchison County Jail.