

Press Release

Contact: Jeffrey Trotnic

Phone: (608)392-0273

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

11 April 2013

Solid Police Work Breaks up Local Crime Ring

Recently the City of Onalaska and surrounding areas have been plagued by a rash of retail thefts of alcohol. Reports from Kwik Trip and Festival Foods read the same, a group of black male and female suspects entered the store, distracted the clerk and walked out with hundreds of dollars in alcohol. Though there was security camera footage of the suspects they remained unidentified and at large until last night when Onalaska Police Officers apprehended four suspects immediately after a retail theft at the Onalaska Festival.

Arrested were Latasha Elder 23, Lance Booth 17, Lenard Booth 21 and David Dorenzo 18. The four suspects are all residents of Rochester, Minnesota.

"This is a prime example of solid police work" said Onalaska Police Chief Jeffrey Trotnic, "the investigator assigned to the case studied all of the incidents, identified a pattern and then alerted local retail stores. His attention to detail and the clerk's quick action when he spotted the suspects allowed our officers to quickly apprehend all four suspects as they left the

~ MORE ~

scene. This is how the public working with the Police keeps our community safe."

All four suspects along with two as of yet unidentified individuals were wanted for three recent retail thefts in Onalaska and one in La Crosse. Latasha Elder was charged with three counts of retail theft, Lance Booth was charged with three counts of retail theft and one count of obstructing, Lenard Booth was charged with three counts of retail theft and a charge of operating while suspended and David Dorenzo was charged with retail theft.

"Attention to detail and pattern recognition coupled with citizen cooperation and the quick action of our Patrol Officers is what enabled us to put a stop to this ring of retail thieves," said Investigator Marcon of the Onalaska Police Department, "Patrol Officers Miller, Gerbig, Proctor, Sergeant Berg along with Officer Hanson of the Holmen Police Department all deserve a lot of credit for this arrest."

The suspects are still under investigation for possible connection to other area thefts.