



BROOME COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff Frederick J. Akshar II

Undersheriff Sammy L. Davis

155 Lt. Van Winkle Drive, Binghamton, NY 13905

For Immediate Release:

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BROOME COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE PRESS RELEASE

Couple Charged with Falsely Reporting Burglary to Create Alibi for Separate Burglary

(TOWN OF TRIANGLE, NY) A man and a woman in Whitney Point are facing felony and misdemeanor charges after investigators discovered they falsely reported a burglary in December to conceal their own alleged burglary in Chenango County.

On Sunday, December 15, 2024, at approximately 11:32 PM, Broome County Sheriff's Office deputies responded to a report of a burglary at a residence on Route 26 in the Town of Triangle. The alleged victims, Samuel C. Michaels, age 27 of Cuddebackville, NY and Jennifer M. Briggs, age 33 of Whitney Point, NY, reported that after a weekend trip to visit family, they had returned to find their residence had been burglarized, with several items stolen, including a 12-gauge shotgun. The case was opened and turned over to BCSO detectives.

As BCSO detectives began their investigation, they learned that Michaels and Briggs were suspects in a burglary case being investigated by the Chenango County Sheriff's Office, where a shotgun was utilized to shoot into a vacant Chenango County residence.

Following additional interviews by detectives, Michaels and Briggs admitted to having falsely reported the initial burglary to create an alibi and eliminate themselves as suspects in the Chenango County Sheriff's Office burglary investigation. The couple stated that the fabricated burglary report would also help explain the disappearance of the shotgun used in the real burglary, which they had subsequently disposed of.

Michaels informed detectives that the gun had been smashed and discarded. He then produced a destroyed shotgun receiver bearing a serial number matching that of the shotgun reported stolen.

Following the investigation, on December 31, 2024 Michaels and Briggs were arrested and charged with:

General Information:
(607) 778-1911

Fiscal:
(607) 778-2928

Garnishees:
(607) 778-2926

Civil:
(607) 778-2145

Identification:
(607) 778-2924

Records:
(607) 778-2166

Samuel C. Michaels:

- Tampering with Physical Evidence, a Class E Felony
- Providing a False Written Statement, a Class a Misdemeanor
- Falsely Reporting an incident in the 3rd Degree, a Class A Misdemeanor

Jennifer M. Briggs

- Tampering with Physical Evidence, a Class E Felony
- Falsely Reporting an Incident in the 3rd Degree, a Class A Misdemeanor

Michaels and Briggs were processed at the Broome County Sheriff's Office and issued appearance tickets returnable to the Town of Triangle Court. Michaels and Briggs were charged separately by the Chenango County Sheriff's Office in relation to the Chenango County burglary investigation.

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