

JUNEAU POLICE DEPARTMENT

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JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801

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INFORMATION RELEASE

Subject: Criminal Mischief Date: 2-25-10

From: Case or Incident: 100225-005

Summary:

On 2-25-10, at about 5:45 hours, a Juneau Police Department Officer contacted two men who were behaving suspiciously in the downtown area. Those men are now being investigated as having been involved in vandalizing downtown businesses. The investigating officer located a homemade stencil of the figure of a man with black paint on it. It appears the men were 'tagging' buildings using black paint and the stencil. Several items of evidence were collected that associate the men with the crime. Anyone having property vandalized by having the figure of a man painted on it is encouraged to call the Juneau Police Department at 586-0600.

Alcohol was involved.

The investigation is on going and charges will be filed.

Alaska law does not allow police officers to arrest for most misdemeanors on probable cause, including criminal mischief. In those situations, charges must be filed with the prosecuting agency and prosecutors decide if the case will be pursued.

To arrest on most misdemeanors the crime must be committed in the officer's presence or in the presence of a civilian willing to cooperate with executing a citizen's arrest. Domestic Violence assault and driving while intoxicated are two misdemeanors where probable cause arrests are permitted.

Any charges reported in this press release are merely accusations and the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

*** END OF STATEMENT ***

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JPD3 (Rev 2/2009)

