

Brown County Sheriff's Office

Gordon Ellis, Sheriff

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Press Release

DATE: February 9, 2017

OFFICE POINT OF CONTACT: Sheriff G. Ellis

01-22-17, at approximately 9:30 PM, Deputies of the Brown County Sheriff's Office were dispatched to a residence in Jackson Twp in reference to a report of an aggravated burglary while the occupants of the residence were home. Deputies arrived on scene and discovered forced entry into the residence. Evidence gained at the scene indicted that several rounds from a handgun were fired at the residence.

On January 23, 2017, Mr. Wesley A Gibson, whose date of birth is 04/20/1983 was taken into custody by the Brown County Sheriff's Office. He was charged with aggravated burglary (O.R.C. 2911.01A1), abduction (O.R.C. 2905.02A2), and impersonating a police officer (O.R.C. 2921.51E).

The investigation led by Det. Lt B. Moore into this incident has continued and as a result, (3) additional suspects have been identified and charged. Franklin Griffith, whose date of birth is 6/6/1980, of Manchester has been charged with aggravated burglary, aggravated robbery, abduction, Intimidation (O.R.C. 2921.03) and Impersonating A Police Officer. Benjamin Nickum, whose date of birth is 9/1/1986, of Cincinnati was charged with aggravated burglary, aggravated robbery, abduction, and impersonating a police officer. Preston Cress, whose date of birth is 11/5/1989, of Leesburg has been charged with complicity (O.R.C. 2923.03) to aggravated burglary, aggravated robbery, abduction, Intimidation and impersonating a police officer.

Mr. Gibson, Mr. Griffith and Mr. Cress are currently incarcerated.

The Brown County Sheriff's Office would like to thank the Brown County Prosecutor's Office and the Highland County Sheriff's Office for their assistance with this investigation.

Anyone with information on the location of Benjamin Nickum is encouraged to call the Brown County Dispatch at (937) 378-4155