

WINTER HAVEN POLICE

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Date: Dec. 10, 2015
Time: 3 P.M.
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WINTER HAVEN – An Auburndale man was caught attempting to leave a subdivision after he burglarized a home under construction overnight. (In Winter Haven alone, there have been 26 cases involving appliance thefts from new homes under construction.)

On 12-11-15 at approximately 4:30 a.m., Winter Haven officers received information that a home under construction along Benton Manor Dr. in Winter Haven was possibly being burglarized. Officers immediately responded to the area and set up a perimeter. An officer observed a U-Haul truck at one of the new homes located at 1104 Brenton Manor Dr.

The driver, 35 year-old Arnold Buchanan (DOB 9-26-80, 2471 Smoke Rd., Auburndale, FL) was seen getting inside of the truck and he proceeded toward the subdivision exit along Lucerne Park Rd. As he approached the entrance, officers located at the entrance turned on their emergency equipment. At that point, Buchanan jumped out of the truck and started to run south, but was quickly captured and taken into custody without incident.

In the cab of the truck, there were saws, plyers, screwdrivers and other tools that are consistently used in burglaries. Officers opened the back of the enclosed portion of the truck to see if any other suspects were inside and they found a new air conditioner unit and handler, refrigerator, stove and a dolly.

Buchanan was booked into the Polk County Jail for Burglary of Dwelling, Grand Theft, Possession of Burglary Tools and Driving While License Suspended or Revoked (3+ incidents.)

Buchanan was released from the Florida State Prison in November, 2012 where he served a year and a half for Burglary and Grand Theft. He has an extensive criminal history in Polk County dating back to 1997 for multiple charges of Grand Theft, Drug offenses, Driving While License Suspended or Revoked, Resisting Arrest, Fleeing to Elude, Burglary and Credit Card Theft.

Detectives continue to investigate the string of thefts across the city to see if Buchanan is involved in any of those cases.