



# FORT BRAGG POLICE DEPARTMENT



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## **\*\*MEDIA RELEASE\*\***

### **Catalytic Converter Thief Caught in Stolen Vehicle, One More At Large 07/08/2024**

On July 7, 2024 at approximately 12:30 AM, Fort Bragg police officers were dispatched to the 600 block of East Redwood Ave on the report of an interrupted vehicle tampering.

When officers arrived, they learned the victims heard noises from outside and saw a man and a woman under their full size van, cutting off the catalytic converter. The suspects fled when the victims yelled at them. The victims provided a basic description of the vehicle the suspects ran to and got a couple of letters from the license plate.

Using information from Flock camera data, officers identified the suspect vehicle and license plate, and gave the information out for other officers. At approximately 2:48 AM, the vehicle was spotted eastbound on Pine Street at a high rate of speed. Officers were trying to catch up to it, when it stopped in the 600 block of N. Harold and the male driver fled on foot. The female passenger, Katelyn Baguley, 18, of Saratoga Springs, Utah, was unable to open her door to flee and was subsequently arrested.

Officers determined the vehicle was stolen out of Lake County and had false license plates attached to it. Officers found burglary tools, a reciprocating saw, and narcotics in the vehicle. No other catalytic converters were found, indicating to them the suspects had not committed any other thefts in Fort Bragg yet. Data from the Flock cameras in Fort Bragg show the vehicle entered the city about 10:15AM on 7/6/2024.

Baguley was booked into the Mendocino County Jail on the felony charges of 594(b)(1) PC – Vandalism; 487(a) PC – Grand Theft; and 496(a) PC – Possession of a Stolen Vehicle. She was also booked on misdemeanor charges of 10852 VC – Vehicle Tampering; 466 PC – Possession of Burglary Tools; 11377(a) HS – Possession of Narcotics; and 11364(a) HS – Possession of Narcotic Paraphernalia.

Officers are currently attempting to identify the male suspect.

Anyone with information on this incident is encouraged to contact Officer Arellano of the Fort Bragg Police Department at (707)961-2800 extension 228.



This information is being released by Chief Neil Cervenka. All media inquiries should contact him at [ncervenka@fortbragg.com](mailto:ncervenka@fortbragg.com).

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