



Salisbury Police Department
699 W. Salisbury Parkway
Salisbury, MD 21801
(410) 548-3165



45th

PRESS RELEASE

September 17, 2020

(Arrest- Burglary Investigation)

1 of 2

During the month of August of 2020 and the beginning of September 2020, members of the Salisbury Police Department have been investigating burglaries to residential sheds as well as burglaries to construction type storage trailers. In many of the incidents, the complainants have reported yard equipment and power tools stolen.

During the late hours of Friday, September 11, 2020 into the early morning hours of Saturday, September 12, 2020, members of the Salisbury Police Department conducted a covert operation in response to the burglary investigations. At approximately 3:02 in the morning on Saturday, an officer of the Salisbury Police Department observed 43 year old Kenneth Gattis riding a bicycle while appearing to be carrying a piece of construction equipment. The bicycle Mr. Gattis was operating did not have adequate lighting and the officer stopped Mr. Gattis on the 300 block of Penn Street. As result of contact with Mr. Gattis, officers and detectives had contact with 69 year old Robert Johnson who resides on the 300 block of Penn Street. Contact with Mr. Johnson revealed that Mr. Johnson was in possession of an amount of suspected cocaine indicative of an intent to distribute stored within his residence in plain view of officers and detectives.

Further investigation revealed that a construction trailer located on the 100 block of Center Street had been recently burglarized. It was determined that the piece of equipment Mr. Gattis was carrying was stolen from the construction trailer. A search and seizure warrant was authored and later conducted on Mr. Johnson's residence wherein several items were located and recovered, to include stolen yard equipment and power tools, as well as a loaded .38 caliber revolver styled handgun.

Both men were placed under arrest, transported to the Salisbury Police Department, and later released to the Wicomico County Detention Center where they had initial appearances before a District Court Commissioner.

For up to date information follow us: [Twitter@SalisburyPD](https://twitter.com/SalisburyPD) and [Facebook.com/SalisburysFinest](https://facebook.com/SalisburysFinest)

CASE # 202000030327/202000030328

Lieutenant Ryan Koerner



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ARRESTED:

Kenneth Gattis, 43 years of age
Salisbury, MD

CHARGES:

Burglary Second Degree, Burglary Fourth Degree, Theft, Trespassing



ARRESTED:

Robert Johnson, 69 years of age
Salisbury, MD

CHARGES:

Possession of a Controlled Dangerous Substance with Intent to Distribute, Possession of a Controlled Dangerous Substance

The investigation is ongoing and further charges are pending for both men. The Salisbury Police Department requests anyone with information regarding this incident to contact Crime Solvers of the Lower Eastern Shore at (410) 548-1776 or the Salisbury Police Department Criminal Investigation Division at (410) 548-3165.

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