



**Jeffrey C. Hutchinson**  
Chief of Police



## **TOWN OF GUILFORD**

### **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

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Deputy Chief of Police

### **Press Release**

Over the past several weeks, the Guilford Police Department and surrounding agencies have investigated dozens of thefts of catalytic converters from parked cars. The thefts typically have been taking place in commuter parking lots and train station parking lots along the shoreline. The suspect(s) had been cutting the catalytic converters from the underside of the victim vehicles during daylight hours while commuters are away from their vehicles for the day.

Recently the Guilford Police had developed information on a possible suspect and suspect vehicle being used in these thefts. On 1/29/2018 at 1130 hrs, a member of the Guilford Police Department, while actively looking for the suspect vehicle, observed one matching its description parked in a commuter lot in the area of the Boston Post Rd. The Officer made contact with the driver of the suspect vehicle and after an investigation, it was determined that the suspect had four (4) recently cut catalytic converters he was attempting to hide in the cab of his vehicle. During further investigation, a battery powered sawzall was located under the drivers seat of the suspect vehicle, with the blade color matching that transferred onto the cut catalytic converters.

Shortly thereafter, after reaching out to area departments, Madison Police identified a vehicle parked at the Madison Train Station that had its catalytic converter cut out. Officers were able to quickly match up one of the recovered catalytic converters to the victim vehicle in Madison and confirm that it had been stolen from that vehicle within the past few hours. A short time later, a second victim vehicle from the same parking lot in Madison was located and another of the recovered catalytic converters was matched to that vehicle.

Arrested was: Jeremy Ghiroli, 29 years old of Branford. He was charged with 2 counts of Larceny 6th (by possession) and held at the Guilford Police Station in lieu of a (total) \$3,000.00 bond. Madison Police also charged Mr. Ghiroli with criminal mischief for the damage he caused to the victims vehicles in their town. Mr. Ghiroli was transported to court for his arraignment on 1/30/2018.

At the time of this arrest, only 2 of the 4 recovered catalytic converters have had their owners identified. If you or someone you know has fallen victim to this type of incident, please contact the Guilford Police Department at 203-453-8061 or your local Police agency. Anyone with information on any of these incidents over the past several weeks is also encouraged to call.