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NAMPA POLICE DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE

Nampa Police officers arrest man for grand theft after short standoff.

On Dec. 27 at 9:48 a.m., Nampa Police officers were dispatched to the area of Franklin and I-84 for a possible stolen vehicle. The reporting party advised that the vehicle had been stolen the day before in Boise. They had left the car running and unattended while they went inside for a few minutes and when they returned the vehicle was missing. They had a tracking device on the vehicle and were able to track the vehicle and locate it near Franklin and I-84 in Nampa.

When officers arrived they discovered that the vehicle was occupied by a man, later identified as Leon Jason Fortner, a 48-year-old, Boise resident. Fortner ignored officer's commands which resulted in a 45-minute standoff. During this time, Fortner would not show his hands and purposely kept them hidden under a blanket. Officers were forced to break out some of the windows on the vehicle and were able to take Fortner into custody after a brief struggle. During a search of the vehicle, a small amount of suspected methamphetamine was recovered.

Fortner was booked into the Canyon County jail for grand theft, possession of a controlled substance, and obstruct and delay.

The Nampa Police Department would like to take this opportunity to remind motorists not to leave your vehicle unattended while it is running. Though is it winter and we all like to drive a warm vehicle, leaving the vehicle running is an invitation for someone to steal it. Another reason to avoid leaving your vehicle running while unattended is that drivers can be issued a citation for doing so.

For further information, please contact Sgt. Tim Riha at 468-5606.