

# Broome County Office of the Sheriff



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155 Lt. Van Winkle Drive  
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## MEDIA RELEASE

October 3, 2022

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The Broome County Sheriff's Office made the following arrests earlier this morning:

Late last night on October 2, 2022, Sheriff's Office patrols responded to the area of 581 Old State Road in the Town of Kirkwood for a report of a stolen 2020 light utility trailer with a 2020 Polaris side-by-side Utility Terrain Vehicle (UTV) mounted on it. A neighbor in the area heard a vehicle with a loud muffler and a commotion outside. He stated he observed a dark-colored, older model pick-up truck towing the trailer headed westbound on Old State Road. There were sparks coming from the ground from the trailer jack which was dragging along the roadway. The neighbor recognized the trailer and UTV combination and knew they were parked near his residence as the owner lives out of town.

Deputies followed the gouge marks in the roadway for several miles to an address on Monroe Street in the City of Binghamton. There they located the stolen trailer with a badly damaged trailer jack. The UTV had been removed from the trailer. While interviewing residents on Monroe Street, the above-described suspect vehicle, a 2005 Nissan Pick up truck drove down the street with four occupants inside. Deputies were able to stop the vehicle and identify the occupants as 45-year-old Michael Benedict of Monroe Street, Binghamton, 42-year-old Stephen Parson of County Route 32, Greene, 56-year-old Melissa Johnson and 36-year-old Patrick Hill both of Marvin Road, Smithville Flats. Further investigation determined that the 2020 Polaris UTV had been taken to a different address on the Southside of Binghamton. The 2020 Polaris UTV was ultimately located and recovered on Cross Street in the City of Binghamton.

At the completion of the investigation the subjects located in the pickup truck were each charged with two counts of Grand Larceny 3<sup>rd</sup> degree, class D felonies. They were transported to the Broome County Sheriff's Office Correctional Facility to be arraigned on the charges at the Central Arraignment Part. The owner of the utility trailer and UTV lives in Skaneateles, New York and was notified of the theft and damage.

**Arrestees:**

Michael Benedict, 45 years of age  
Monroe Street, Binghamton, NY

Stephen Parsons, 42 years of age  
County Route 32, Greene, NY

Melissa Johnson, 56 years of age  
Marvin Road, Smithville Flats, NY

Patrick Hill, 36 years of age  
Marvin Road Smithville Flats, NY

**Charges:**

Grand Larceny 3<sup>rd</sup> degree, a class D felony – 2 COUNTS