



# WHITMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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BRETT J. MYERS, SHERIFF

## MEDIA RELEASE

January 13, 2022

**COLFAX, WA-** Whitman County Deputies Investigating Retail Thefts After Suspects Are Observed Loading Up On Items At Rosauers In Colfax, WA.

At approximately 6:00 pm Wednesday evening law enforcement officers were notified of a possible theft in progress at the Rosauers grocery store in Colfax. Information had been provided by store clerks that two individuals had come into the store and began to load their personal bags with groceries, before leaving the store without paying for the items.

Based on a description of the suspects and the vehicle involved, officers were able to stop the vehicle and identify the persons as they pulled into a local convenience store. During the initial contact, deputies were able to observe a substantial quantity of what appeared to be "new in-the-box" merchandise located in the backseat of the vehicle. This lead deputies to be alerted to a possible case of Retail Theft.

After confirming the identities of the individuals, deputies learned that the driver of the vehicle, identified as 43yoa Jesse Aldrich of Spokane WA, had a suspended driver's license, as well as a lengthy criminal history to include multiple convictions for property related crimes. The passenger 43yoa Sommer Callahan also of Spokane also had a prior criminal record for similarly related incidents.

After confirming with Rosauers' employees that the individuals detained were those involved in the incident, deputies applied for and were granted a search warrant to further the investigation. During the search of the vehicle, deputies located approximately 5,000 dollars of what is believed to be stolen merchandise and a loaded .45cal hand gun, and other items from the theft at Rosauers.

Both suspects were transported to the Whitman County Jail where they were later booked on a variety of charges to include charges of Retail Theft, Possession of Stolen Property, Unlawful Possession of a Firearm, Driving While License Suspended.

This case is still under active investigation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brett J. Myers".

Brett J. Myers  
Sheriff WCSO