

Idaho Falls Police Department

News Release
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For Immediate Release:

Prisoner Escape Foiled by Witness

Idaho Falls Police captured an Idaho Department of Corrections inmate early Wednesday morning after a witness saw him escape from the work penitentiary on Bombardier.

William Robert Stirm, 35, was arrested for felony escape. His girlfriend, Sarah C. Johnson, was also arrested for rescuing a prisoner.

According to a report, police contacted a man at the Common Cents on Broadway and Hansen around 11:15 p.m. The man reported that he spotted an inmate, later identified as Stirm, jump the fence at the IDOC work penitentiary and get into a grey 2002 Ford Focus, owned by Johnson.

The man said he followed the vehicle to an apartment in the 400 block of Hansen.

Officers confirmed that Stirm escaped and responded to the apartment where they found Stirm and Johnson inside. Stirm, who initially acted uncooperative, was handcuffed and taken to Bonneville County Jail.

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I.F. Man Arrested for Attempted Strangulation

Idaho Falls Police arrested Israel Valencia-Chavez Tuesday for attempted strangulation.

A woman reported to police that Valencia-Chavez, 44, grabbed her throat and hit her face during an argument at Central Park late Tuesday morning.

He was booked into the Bonneville County Jail.

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The Idaho Falls Police Department arrested/cited 12 people on Tuesday.

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