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CITY OF KEARNEY **PRESS RELEASE** ***For Immediate Release***

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Vehicle Fire Investigation Leads to the Identification of Juvenile Suspects

On Wednesday, August 13, 2025, at approximately 3:50 p.m., Kearney Police Department (KPD) Officers and the Kearney Volunteer Fire Department (KVFD) responded to a report of a vehicle fire in the 3600 block of Avenue X.

A joint investigation was conducted by KPD, KVFD, and the Nebraska State Fire Marshal's Office to determine the cause and origin of the fire. Video surveillance and witness statements indicated two male juveniles were observed running through the neighborhood, entering unlocked vehicles, and stealing various items from the vehicles.

Following the investigation, it was determined the vehicle fire was intentionally set by the same two male juveniles, both 9 years old.

The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services and the Buffalo County Attorney's Office were contacted to assist with the handling of the juveniles. Both were released to the custody of their parents.

KPD reminds residents to lock their vehicles, remove valuables, and report suspicious activity immediately. Anyone with information regarding this incident is encouraged to contact KPD at (308) 233-5248, or Buffalo County Crimestoppers (308) 237-3424

Check out our web site at www.cityofkearney.org.

We are sending this News Release as a service to the news media and citizens of Kearney.