

CHATHAM COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Chief Jeffrey M. Hadley

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UPDATE: Bauer was arrested by the St. John's County Sheriff's Office in Florida and booked into their jail on August 14, 2020 in connection with an unrelated case. At this writing, he is still being held at their detention center.

NEWS RELEASE For Immediate Release August 3, 2020

Chatham County Police Department Looking for Man Wanted in Connection with Crime that Happened Hours After He Was Released From Jail

Chatham County, GA (August 3, 2020) – The Chatham County Police Department is looking for a man in connection with an auto theft that happened just hours after he was released from jail last week.

Detectives are working to find Justin Bauer in connection with the crime, which happened around 11 p.m. on July 27, 2020 at the Parker's located at 5906 Ogeechee Road. A customer parked their grey Nissan Sentra at the gas pumps, and then left their vehicle door open with the car keys inside while they went into the store. That's when a man who was sitting in the back of a pick-up truck parked next to the Sentra hopped out of the pick-up truck bed, got into the Sentra, and drove off. The entire incident was captured on surveillance cameras.

When police questioned the driver of the pick-up truck, they learned that he gave the man a ride from the Chatham County Detention Center when they were both released from custody earlier in the day. Chatham County Police detectives have since identified the suspect as Justin Bauer, who had been arrested by the Pooler Police Department on July 15, 2020 in connection with another stolen vehicle incident.

Chatham County Police Detectives believe Bauer may now be in the Jacksonville, Florida area.

Anyone with information is asked to call Chatham County Police Department detectives at 912-651-4718 or Crime Stoppers at 912-234-2020, where tipsters are anonymous and may qualify for a cash reward.

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