



AURORA POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS RELEASE

Office of Public Information
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February 21, 2026 – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Aurora Police Arrest Two Juveniles After Pursuit; Stolen Loaded Firearm Recovered

Aurora Police arrested two 17-year-old juveniles late Friday night following a vehicle pursuit on the city's Near-East Side. Officers recovered a stolen, loaded handgun during the incident.

At approximately 11:00 p.m. on February 20, 2026, patrol officers received information that a blue Kia Sportage recently reported stolen from a neighboring community had entered Aurora traveling southbound on Farnsworth Avenue.

Officers located the vehicle and attempted a traffic stop. The vehicle fled, initiating a brief pursuit with assistance from the Kane County Sheriff's Office. The pursuit ended when the vehicle became stuck in an open field near Fifth Avenue and Hill Avenue. Both occupants fled on foot.

Officers immediately apprehended a 17-year-old from Bensenville. During the arrest, officers recovered a loaded .40 caliber handgun that had been reported stolen by the Round Lake Beach Police Department.

A coordinated grid search involving Aurora patrol officers, Kane County Sheriff's deputies, APD Drone Unit, and APD K9 unit resulted in the apprehension of a second 17-year-old from Addison, who was located hiding in the 300 block of Kendall Street.

Both juveniles were taken into custody without further incident. No additional suspects are outstanding.

Following review by the Kane County State's Attorney's Office, the juveniles were charged as follows:

17-year-old from Bensenville:

- Aggravated Unlawful Use of a Weapon
- Aggravated Fleeing and Eluding
- Resisting a Peace Officer

17-year-old from Addison (documented street gang member):

- Possession of a Stolen Motor Vehicle
- Resisting a Peace Officer

Aurora Police Department
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Both juveniles were transported to the Kane County Juvenile Justice Center, where a detention hearing will be held to determine continued custody.

“This incident highlights the serious danger posed by stolen vehicles and illegally possessed firearms in our community.”, said Aurora Police Chief Matt Thomas. “When stolen cars and stolen, loaded weapons are involved, the risk to residents and responding officers increases significantly.

I am proud of the disciplined, professional work of our Aurora Police officers, whose quick coordination and training led to the safe apprehension of both offenders. I also want to recognize the strong collaboration with the Kane County Sheriff’s Office, which continues to strengthen public safety across our region.

We remain focused on addressing stolen vehicles and illegal firearms to keep our neighborhoods safe.”

The investigation remains ongoing. Anyone with information related to this case is encouraged to contact the Aurora Police Department’s Investigations Division at (630) 256-5500.

Charges are not proof of guilt. The subjects listed in this release are presumed innocent and are entitled to a fair trial, where it is the burden of the State to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

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*P.I.O. Lt. Joe Howe #963
(APD Report: AUPR26002402)*