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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Restaurant Burglars Arrested

During September and October 2017, several restaurants in Union County were burglarized after hours by suspects using large rocks or bricks to break the glass and gain entry. The suspects entered the businesses and quickly removed cash and sometimes cash drawers from registers before fleeing in a dark colored SUV. Multiple Union County restaurants in Indian Trail, Wesley Chapel, Stallings and Monroe were targeted by these suspects, resulting in a joint investigative effort by the Monroe Police Department and the Union County Sheriff's Office. Other agencies, including CMPD and the Bessemer City Police Department have assisted in the investigation.

Two Charlotte teenagers have been arrested in connection with this string of restaurant burglaries. **Zion Deandre Kirkpatrick, age 17**, of Linda Lake Drive, Charlotte and **Nathaniel Desean Nicholes, age 17**, of Dunwoody Drive, Charlotte are in the Union County Jail facing numerous charges associated with these incidents.

Earlier this month, Monroe Police detectives arrested Kirkpatrick for breaking into various businesses within Monroe and stealing cash and cash registers. Working alongside Union County Sheriff's detectives, investigators identified Nathaniel Nicholes as one of his accomplices in many of the incidents. Detectives connected the pair to the Milton Road Gang from Charlotte and suspect other members of this gang may be involved in restaurant burglaries in Union and surrounding counties. The investigation is ongoing but thus far, Kirkpatrick and Nicholes face

numerous counts of Felony Breaking and Entering, Larceny after Breaking and Entering, Felony Conspiracy and Multiple Counts of Injury to Personal Property.

The Union County Sheriff's Office filed charges for burglaries occurring at the following businesses:

- **Brooklyn Pizza in Wesley Chapel**
- **Hungry Howies in Indian Trail**
- **New York Pizza and Pasta in Indian Trail**
- **Firehouse Subs in Indian Trail**
- **Pizza Palace in Indian Trail**
- **Jack's Pizza in Indian Trail**
- **China II in Indian Trail**
- **Chokh Di Noodle in Indian Trail**

Detectives with the Monroe Police Department filed charges against the suspects for many other restaurant burglaries occurring in their jurisdiction.



Kirkpatrick



Nicholes

Point of contact for this press release is Chief Communications Officer Tony Underwood, 704-292-2707.

Citizens with information concerning criminal activity are encouraged to call:

Union County Sheriff's Office at 704-283-3789

Or

Union County Crimestoppers at 704-283-5600

