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For Immediate Release

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PRESS RELEASE

Two Individuals Charged after Stolen Mail and Packages Found in their Vehicle



Stephanie Klus



Edwin De Jesus

On January 27, 2023, Mount Prospect Police Department Gang Unit Officers charged Stephanie Klus, 32 years old, of 3282 7th Street, Park City, with one count of continuing financial crimes enterprise, one count of possession of a controlled substance, one count of unlawful use of weapons, and one count of unlawful possession of hypodermic needle. Gang Unit Officers also charged Edwin De Jesus, 49 years old, of 3282 7th Street, Park City, with one count of continuing financial crimes enterprise and one count of unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia. These charges stem from a traffic stop on the evening of January 26, 2023.

Gang Unit Officers conducted a traffic stop on a Kia Spectra on January 26, 2023 at approximately 7:50 PM in the 1800 block of West Palm Drive for multiple traffic violations. While speaking with the driver and passenger of the vehicle, Stephanie Klus and Edwin De Jesus, officers learned of drug paraphernalia in the vehicle. Officers conducted a search of the vehicle, which resulted in locating numerous credit/debit cards, checks, mail, packages, driver's licenses and a passport that did not belong to Klus or De Jesus. Officers also located a stun gun, butterfly knife, brass knuckles and purported illegal drugs.



With COURAGE we protect, with COMPASSION we serve.

Gang Unit Officers learned Klus and De Jesus had stolen packages and mail from multiple locations across the Chicagoland area and used the stolen credit cards to make unauthorized purchases. Officers have been able to identify over 40 victims, most of them residing outside of Mount Prospect.

The Cook County State's Attorney's Office approved charges on Klus of one felony count of Continuing Financial Crimes Enterprises, one felony count of Possession of a Controlled Substance, one misdemeanor count of Unlawful Use of Weapons and one misdemeanor count of Unlawful Possession of Hypodermic Needle. Edwin De Jesus was charged with one felony count of Continuing Financial Crimes Enterprise and one misdemeanor count of Unlawful Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

Klus and De Jesus were taken to a bond hearing, where Klus' bond was set at \$10,000 "D" and De Jesus' bond was set at \$10,000 "I". The next scheduled court date for Klus is set for February 17, 2023 at 9:00 AM in room 108 of the 3rd District Cook County Courthouse in Rolling Meadows. The next scheduled court date for De Jesus is set for March 3, 2023 at 9:00 AM in room 108 of the 3rd District Cook County Courthouse in Rolling Meadows.

The public is reminded that criminal charges are not evidence of guilt and that all defendants in a criminal case are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in a court of law.

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