

Juveniles Arrested After Smoke Shop Break-In; Father Charged

By Bryleigh Middleton
Reporter

ken window and an empty, broken register lying on the ground. Along the roadway, the responding officers observed money and merchandise scattered, as if dropped while someone was running. The trail of money and merchandise continued down KY 3439 to Whitesburg Hollow Road, and then approximately 50 yards from Franklin and Frazier Street.

According to an arrest citation obtained by The Mountain Advocate, officers made contact with the first apartment on Frazier Street, where they observed a male juvenile through the window of the suspected apart-



Jonathan Elliott

ment, who matched the description of the individual seen in the Barbourville Smoke Shop security footage. The male matched the description of a suspect wearing similar clothing, muddy boots, and wet pants.

Officers would then knock on the door of the apartment, officially making contact with 37-year-old Jonathan Elliott, who was identified as the male juvenile's father.

Across from that apartment, a separate apartment rented

by the same family, housed another male juvenile fitting the description of a suspect captured on the security camera footage.

Once inside the second apartment, officers discovered a large wad of cash and a blue duffel bag containing stolen merchandise.

Upon making contact with apartment 101 again, the father was informed that his son would be placed under arrest, and to either have him step outside or allow them to enter the home. Elliott stated that the officers would not be entering his home and that his son is not under arrest, then took it a step further by

refusing to remove his large dog from the doorway, allowing officers to enter the home and conduct the arrest.

Upon Elliott's refusal, officers advised him that he, too, would be placed under arrest if he continued to hinder the prosecution of the juvenile. After being reminded of the consequences several times, Elliott was asked to step outside and place his hands behind his back, to which he responded, "No," and began to turn around and reach behind his back.

Following Elliott's resistance, officers deployed a taser, as Elliott continued to

reach behind his back, not following the officers' commands. Elliott was then assisted to the ground by officers and taken into custody.

Elliott was charged with hindering prosecution or apprehension in the second degree, disorderly conduct in the second degree, menacing, resisting arrest, and obstructing governmental operations.

At the time of the report, Elliott had been released from the Knox County Detention Center, had an arraignment on February 19 at 9:30 a.m., and had a pretrial conference scheduled for March 17 at 9:30 a.m.

SENTENCED FROM A1

Department of Community Based Services. Carter was arrested in Stanton and extradited to Kentucky, where he was booked into the Knox County Detention Center, according to local reports. He later died Feb. 24 after officers went to serve a warrant at a residence on Hubbs Hollow Road in Knox County, where an altercation led to an officer-involved shooting, authorities said. Kentucky State Police said its critical incident team opened an investigation and it was announced earlier this year the Knox County grand jury had declined to indict anyone

in the shooting death of Carter.

Broughton-Jones, meanwhile, faced an escalating series of allegations in state court. A Knox County Grand Jury returned a 32-count indictment on Feb. 28, 2025, accusing her of crimes over a period of just more than a year involving three children — now ages 10, 10 and 11 — including multiple counts of rape, sodomy and incest, along with charges tied to producing, promoting and distributing recordings, according to the indictment. She was held on a \$250,000 cash bond at

the Knox County jail at the time, officials said.

Federal prosecutors later took the case forward in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky, where Broughton-Jones was indicted and initially pleaded not guilty, according to court records cited in local reports.

Her eventual conviction and sentencing stemmed from conduct described in a plea agreement: On Jan. 5, 2024, Broughton-Jones used a minor to engage in sexually explicit conduct — conduct she participated in — for the purpose

of producing a visual depiction, authorities said.

The conviction was announced by the U.S. Attorney's Office, Eastern District of Kentucky. The investigation was conducted by Homeland Security Investigations and the Barbourville Police Department, and the case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Justin Blankenship, officials said.

Federal officials said the prosecution was part of Project Safe Childhood, a national effort aimed at combating child sexual exploitation.

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RECURRING

Lend-A-Hand Food Pantry

Need help with food? Lend-A-Hand can help! To sign up, you need: a driver's license and the names and birthdays of family members living in the same home. The pantry is open every third Saturday of the month, and one Thursday each month. To make an emergency appointment, please call 606-524-3901, 606-622-7384 or 606-622-2286.

Knox County Preschool, KCEOC Head Start Screenings

Screenings will be held for Knox County Preschool and KCEOC Head Start on the following dates: March 6 - Jesse D. Lay Elementary, March 13 - Flat Lick Elementary, March 13 - G.R. Hampton Elementary, March 20 - Lynn Camp Elementary and March 20 - Central Elementary. Call 606-645-2830 ext. 2419 for an appointment today.

Al-Anon meets weekly

Al-Anon (Support for Families and Friends of Alcoholics) meets weekly on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church in Barbourville.

Therapeutic Foster Care

Benchmark Family Services is a Therapeutic Foster Care agency offering free orientation classes for anyone interested in information about becoming a Foster Parent. Please call our office at 606-526-6992 for more information.

Redemption & Recovery

Fridays at 12:30 p.m. Redemption & Recovery meets at East Barbourville Baptist Church. Lunch provided.

Feed My Sheep Community Meal

Feed My Sheep Community Meal is once again starting our free weekly meal. We will serve on each Thursday at 6 p.m. except for 1st Thursday of the month. Hope to see all our old friends. We are located in Corbin on College St in The Barn.

Community Events

Send your Community Events items to news@mountainadvocate.com
Deadline: Monday for Week of Publication

Send us your news! Find various submission forms on our website at mountainadvocate.com or scan this QR code with your phone!



Leadership Tri-Co. Meet and Greet Alumni Social

Leadership Tri-County Class of 2026 will host a Meet and Greet Alumni Social on Thursday, February 26, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at The Depot, 101 North Main Street, Corbin, Ky. Appetizers will be provided. For more details, contact Amanda Buchanan at 606skin@gmail.com, or call or text 606-524-3495.

Knox Co. Public Library Dr. Suess Day

The Knox County Public Library will host Dr. Seuss Day from 5:30-7 p.m. on Thursday, February 26. There will be a book giveaway and drinks and snacks will be provided. The event is sponsored and hosted by Barbourville Junior Woman's Study Club.

FRI., FEB. 28

Gospel Barn hosts Gospel Musicians - Joyful Sound Trio and The Hagers

Williamsburg Gospel Barn invites you to an evening of gospel music with the Joyful Sound Trio of Weaverville, N.C., the Hagers of Corbin, KY, and Greater Purpose of Weaverville, N.C., on Saturday, February 28th at 5 PM. Admission is free. Doors open at 4 PM with open mic.

MON., MARCH 2

Food for Life - Healthy Cooking Class

The Knox County UK Cooperative Extension Service will host a Food for Life - Healthy Cooking Class with Colon Cancer Prevention Month Focus at 10 a.m., Monday, March 2 at its office at 215 Treuhaft Boulevard, Barbourville. ARH General Surgeon Dr. Paul Haney will share about cancer prevention, and the Extension Service will share how to cook a healthy shrimp creole. Each family will leave with a \$25 IGA gift card. Space is limited, so please register by contacting Whitley Gatliff at 606-627-5337 or wgatliff@arh.org.

TUES., MARCH 3

Knox County UNITE Meeting and Luncheon

The Knox County UNITE Coalition will host its monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 3 at 12 p.m. Los Primos Mexican Restaurant in Barbourville. Everyone is welcome.

WED., MARCH 3

Pleasant Ridge Baptist Revival

Pleasant Ridge baptist Church at Bailey Switch will be having a revival beginning Wednesday, March 4th beginning at 7pm. Different speakers each service. Pastor James Bargo invite everyone to attend.

THURS., MARCH 19

Farmers' Market to host Vendor Potluck Dinner and

sign up

The Knox County Farmer's Market will hold a Vendor Potluck Dinner and 2026 vendor sign up from 5-7 p.m. on Thursday, March 19 to kick off the 13th farmers' market season. RSVP by Thursday, March 12, by calling or texting Mary Beth Jewell at 606-627-1810. Please bring a side dish. Sign up for an annual \$50 membership and receive a free gift! A \$20 nonrefundable application fee applies to all members. The \$50 membership fee covers all markets, or you may pay the \$10 setup fee each week. The Knox County Farmers' Market is sponsored by Knox County Farmers' Market, Knox County Extension Office, Hometown Bank, ARH Hospital, and Barbourville Tourism.

SAT., MARCH 28

Autism in Flight Celebration Day at Thompson Park

A free, family-friendly event celebrating Autism Awareness Month will take place from 2-6 p.m. on Saturday, March 28 at Thompson Park. The event will feature fun, sensory-friendly activities, community resources, food, and local vendors. Outside food is welcome. All ages welcome.

20th annual Knox Co. UNITE Fishing Tournament

Knox County UNITE will host its 20th annual fishing tournament from 7 a.m. - 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 28 at Laurel Lake Grove Marina. A dinner, rules and registration will be held at 6 p.m. on March 27 at Tracker Boat in Corbin. Entry fee of \$100 per boat. Checks payable to: Knox County UNITE. Registration - cash only at Rules Dinner and day of tournament. Applications being taken now at Tracker Boat, Corbin.

SAT., APRIL 11

Local Candy Showcase

All local candy makers are invited to showcase your sweets at the Knox County Extension Office for "The Sweet Life: The Story of Ruth Hunt" on April 11. For more information, call 606-546-3447 or email knox.ext@uky.edu.

THURS., FEB. 26