

Multiple forgery, theft charges filed against mom who used teen to steal charge card

Written by George Browning

Tuesday, 14 August 2012 00:00 - Last Updated Tuesday, 14 August 2012 14:24

A woman who allegedly drove a teenage daughter to a friend's home to steal a charge card and then used the card to buy expensive electronics at Wal-Mart now faces multiple charges of theft and forgery.

Kimberly Grider, 40, Scottsburg, has been released on a \$3,000 10% cash bond after being charged with one count each of forgery, aiding forgery, conspiracy to commit forgery, theft, aiding theft and conspiracy to commit theft. All of the forgery and conspiracy to commit theft charges are Class C felonies. Remaining charges are Class D felonies, and one count of contributing to the delinquency of a minor filed against her is a Class A misdemeanor.

According to what Scottsburg Detective/Lt. Mike Nichols was told, a woman reported the theft of her credit card from her son's home in late January. Six unauthorized transactions had been recorded on the card for merchandise totaling \$2,278.97. Three of the transactions had taken place at Wal-Mart, while others were recorded at two Clarksville stores and a gas station in Henryville.

A few days later, a father in Washington State called the Scottsburg Police Department. He said that he had learned that his daughter, now living with him, may have been involved in dealings with a stolen credit card.

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Other statements indicated that Grider, the girl's mother, allegedly took the girl and two other children to a house, where Grider instructed the girl to look for the credit card and take it. The first attempt was not successful, it was reported, but the teenager found the card on a second visit.

It was after that second visit that Grider allegedly took the three children to Wal-Mart, where three iPods, an iPad an iTunes gift card and several other items were purchased using the card. Reportedly, Grider told her daughter to "...lie about the incident and to take responsibility since she is a juvenile and nothing would be done to her." In another statement made by one of the female juveniles, Grider purportedly told her to say that the man from whom the card was stolen had touched her inappropriately and had then given her the card so she would not tell police.

The probable cause affidavit filed with the charges stated that store surveillance tapes revealed when the purchases were made. The girl's father returned the property purchased with the card, and serial numbers matched those of items purchased.

A jury trial date of November 19 in Scott Circuit Court has been assigned to the case. No public defender had yet been assigned because Grider indicated that she would be hiring an attorney.