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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 12, 2010

Killeen Police arrested a 45 year old man when he was caught stealing cable from a telephone pole in the 500 block of west Rancier Ave. on Tuesday, August 10, 2010.

A Killeen Police Sergeant was driving in the 500 block of w. Rancier Ave. just before midnight when he saw a white male on a ladder that was next to a telephone pole. The male was wearing a safety vest and a white hard hat and he appeared to be cutting the wiring running from one telephone pole to another along Rancier. There was also a maroon Chevy pickup that had an orange cone by the back bumper. Another officer approached the area as well due to the time of night and the number of copper thefts that had occurred in the past. The male told officers he was working for Time Warner as an independent contractor but changed his story to be working for Sprint.

Representatives for Time Warner, Oncor and Century Link responded to the location. The cable was identified as Century Link cable and it was verified that the male did not work for Century Link; he was taken into custody and transported to the Killeen City Jail.

This case was reviewed by the Bell County District Attorney's Office and a complaint was returned charging Matthew Jay Vannatter with Theft of Copper. He is currently in the Bell County Jail on a \$20,000 bond.

Carroll Smith
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