

Shreveport Police Dept.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Shreveport Police charge couple with Aggravated Kidnapping



Kayla Owen

Wilbert Vanzant

Shreveport Police Violent Crimes detectives have charges a couple in connection with an early morning kidnapping in west Shreveport.

On March 29, 2020, just before 4:00 a.m. Shreveport Police responded to Willis Knighton Piermont to contact a citizen who alleged that she had been assaulted. While investigating the claim Shreveport Police were contacted by Desoto Parish Sheriff's Deputies and advised that the female they were contacting, 29-year old Kayla Owen of Mansfield, Louisiana, was a suspect in a possible kidnapping incident they were working in Mansfield, Louisiana.

Violent Crimes Investigators were contacted and launched their investigation. Detectives learned that the victim, 36-year-old Stephen Hatcher, had allegedly been abducted by Owen and her boyfriend, 29-year-old Wilbert Vanzant of Many, Louisiana. The kidnapping allegedly took place at a hotel in the 5500 block of Financial Plaza around 1:00 a.m. Hatcher claimed that he was bound and beaten and was later taken to a location in Mansfield and forced to withdraw money from an ATM. Hatcher was able to escape and notified authorities in Desoto Parish.

Following interviews, both suspects were charged with Aggravated Kidnapping in connection with the incident. They were booked into the Shreveport City Jail. More charges are expected as the investigation continues.