



FRANKLIN COUNTY **SHERIFF**

PRESS RELEASE

CASE #: 25FRC001811
DATE(s)/Time(s): 08/13/2025
Incident Type/Charge(s): Larceny
Location of Incident: Highgate, VT
Accused: Robert W. Witham DOB 10/17/1969

All persons are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

The Sheriff's Office does not set bail or conditions of release and is not involved in the decision to modify or dismiss cases submitted to the courts. Further, the Sheriff's Office doesn't publish names of minors or victims of domestic or sexual assault.

Summary:

On 08/13/2025, at approximately 9:32 PM, a deputy with the Franklin County Sheriff's Office observed a male, later identified as Robert Witham, to be possessing a large black garbage bag in the area of 2996 Vermont Route 78 in the Town of Highgate. When the deputy passed by Witham's location, he was observed discarding the black bag and walking away from it at a fast pace. Believing this behavior to be suspicious, the deputy looked in the now discarded garbage bag and found it contained an outboard boat motor before making contact with Witham.

Investigation revealed that Witham had just stolen the motor from a residence on Route 78 to sell to support his drug problem. The motor was promptly returned to its rightful owner, and Witham was issued a citation to appear at Vermont District Court on 09/16/2025 at 10:00 AM to answer the charge of larceny.

