

Brothers jailed for stolen vehicles

**(KNZA)--A man was arrested behind the wheel of a stolen vehicle, en route to bail out his brother who had been arrested earlier Friday morning, also while driving a stolen vehicle.**

**That allegation is made by Jackson County authorities, who say 36-year-old Eric McCracken, of Topeka, was arrested first, taken into custody around 1:30 following a traffic stop, west of Mayetta. He was taken into custody at the scene for driving while suspended.**

**It was later learned the 2007 Chevy Trailblazer he had been driving was stolen from Jefferson County.**

**McCracken's brother, also of Topeka, was arrested hours later after he was spotted driving what a press release from Jackson County Sheriff Tim Morse said was a 2015 Chevy Silverado.**

**Alerted around 5:00 Friday morning by the Shawnee County Sheriff's Office that they were tracking the vehicle with GPS, an off duty Jackson County Sheriff's Deputy spotted the vehicle, northbound on U.S. Highway 75, began following the vehicle into Holton where a police officer attempted to stop it on Banner Road.**

**The vehicle drove through yards and stopped behind the former Country Mart Store, where Morse said the driver fled on foot.**

**With a perimeter set up north of Banner Road to 3rd Street, a sheriff's office K-9 began to track the suspect, who was spotted by Undersheriff Darrel Chapman inside a convenience store, located on Arizona.**

**Sheriff's Deputies and Holton Police Officers arrived on the scene and took him into custody.**

**He is identified as 32-year-old Keith McCracken.**

**He was booked into the Jackson County Jail for fleeing and eluding a law enforcement officer, reckless driving, driving while suspended, and possession of stolen property.**

**Along with driving while suspended, Eric McCracken also faces a charge of possession of stolen property.**

**Morse said the owner of the Trailblazer was not aware it had been stolen at the**

**time of the initial traffic stop.**

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