



BOONE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

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Media Release

Incident: Three Suspects Charged In Burr Oak Tree Vandalism
Location: McBaine
Date & time: 1/9/2016 (Date of Report)
Case Number: 16-0164

Details:

Three suspects from Boonville, Mo., have been charged by the Boone County prosecuting attorney with vandalizing the historic Burr Oak tree in McBaine several months ago.

One of the suspects, Joseph C. Cary, 22, turned himself in at the Boone County Jail March 17 and was released after posting a \$1,000 bond on a charge of 2nd Degree Property Damage. Also charged in the vandalism are Taylor S. Gee, 18, and Ethan F. Hessing, 20. Gee and Hessing remain at large and face the same 2nd Degree Property Damage charge with a bond of \$1,000.

The Burr Oak tree, estimated to be between 350 and 400 years old, is a popular tourist attraction in southern Boone County. Sheriff's deputies began an investigation after learning the tree had been spray painted some time in late 2015 or early 2016.

Release date & time: 3/22/16 @ 0900
Release authorized by: Det. Tom O'Sullivan, #5040