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## Police arrest city man suspected of stealing copper wire

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NEW BEDFORD — Police this week arrested a city man who was allegedly trying to steal copper wire from the vacant Aerovox building at 740 Belleville Ave.

Patrick S. Deterra, 40, of 161 Maxfield St. was arrested just after midnight Tuesday. He is charged with breaking and entering with intent, larceny from a building and resisting arrest.

Mr. Deterra was arrested after Police Officers Steven Wadman and Kenneth Mendes reportedly saw him and another man on the Aerovox property. The officers were patrolling the property after a rash of recent breaks in which copper wire had been stolen, court records said.

During the patrol, Officer Wadman said he heard a noise that sounded like someone hitting a chain link fence. He turned his attention to the area of a small shed, where nearby there was a small hole cut in the fence, a suspected entry point, court records said.

Near the fence, Officer Wadman saw two men holding a long, black cable. The intruders saw the police, dropped the cable and fled west alongside the building, court records said.

Officers Wadman and Mendes pursued the suspects around the property. Other officers arrived for backup.

While pursuing the suspects, the officers were instructed by a dispatcher not to go inside the vacant Aerovox building due to "extreme hazards" inside, court records said.

Mr. Deterra was captured, but the other unidentified suspect got away. Mr. Deterra told police he went to the building with a man named Kevin to smoke marijuana, but denied he was there for the copper wires, police reports said.

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