

# Suspects booked for illicit sex acts

By Nick Todaro  
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A 26-year-old woman was jailed Saturday on an obscenity charge for a public sexual act, and a 70-year-old man and 37-year-old woman both went to jail Sunday for their roles in an apparent sex-for-money transaction.

Ruston police got a call at 2:13 p.m. Saturday from a woman who had pulled into the parking lot of John's One Stop on Martin Luther King Drive with her grandchildren in the back seat of her car and saw a woman performing sexual acts on a man on the east side of the store.

When police responded to the area, they found a suspect matching the woman's

description — Ruston resident Demika Latrice Owens.

"After interviewing her, she openly admitted to the act, and that it was in public view," said Ruston Police Public Information Officer Lt. Curtis Hawkins. "She was immediately placed under arrest for obscenity." Police were unable to locate the male suspect, who had fled the area.

Owens was charged with obscenity because there was no evidence of any kind of transaction, which would have led to prostitution charges, Hawkins said.

"This is an area that is extremely high in pedestrian traffic, and the store sits on a state highway," Hawkins added. "It's obviously out in view — very blatant and very public. Our officers take

swift and immediate action when they encounter things like this."

An obscenity charge carries a fine between \$1,000-\$2,500 or between six months or three years in jail, or both.

Bobby Traylor, 70, of Grambling, and Anjali Nicole Young, 37, of Ruston, were booked after police responded to an argument in the Dollar General parking lot on Arizona Avenue at 9:29 a.m. Sunday.

Traylor called and said his car keys had gone missing at the store, Hawkins said.

"When officers arrived, they spoke with Traylor, who had apparently had an argument in his vehicle with Young," Hawkins said. "He had picked up the girl and she wanted a ride — he took her

to the Dollar General."

While the two were in the store parking lot, Hawkins said, there was a discussion about exchanging sex for money that soon turned into an argument over payment.

"He demanded she get out of the vehicle and she refused," Hawkins said. "Both parties told us that the other had Traylor's keys."

Based on the information gathered at the scene and the testimonies of the two people, police arrested Traylor for pandering and Young for prostitution and theft under \$300 for the keys.

A prostitution charge carries a fine of up to \$500 or six months in prison or both. Pandering charges carry a fine of up to \$5,000 or up to five years in prison or both.