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Michael T. Green, 32, Middlesettlements Road, Maryville, was charged by Alcoa police detectives on Sunday, Oct. 18 with theft of property greater than \$1,000. Green was free from the Blount County Jail on a \$5,000 bond.

Officers responded on Saturday, Oct. 10 to Alcoa Fire Department Station 3, 3545 Central Park Blvd., Alcoa, to the report of a theft. During a shift change, firefighters discovered that someone had entered the station's bay and stole firefighter equipment sometime during the morning hours. One of the firefighters reported seeing a suspicious vehicle in the area at about 6:15 a.m.

On Friday, Oct. 16, patrol officers responded to the report of a suspicious man driving a white van in the area of the fire station on Central Park Boulevard. Upon their arrival, officers discovered a man, matching the description of the driver, walking away from the area. The man was held for questioning and his van was found a short time later between tractor trailers in a nearby business parking lot.

"Upon approaching, officers could see items that appeared to be fire equipment inside of the van," Detective Sgt. Terry McGill said.

A search warrant was obtained and several pieces of Alcoa fire equipment were found in the van. They recovered a helmet, jacket, pants, boots, tools and other items, worth a total of about \$2,570. Detectives are still searching for a pair of firefighter boots, three pairs of gloves and a personal rescue device.

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