FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: October 11, 2025

Fugitive Captured After High-Speed Pursuit, Foot Chase, and Drone Search

Gardner, IL – On October 10, 2025, at approximately 8:55 PM, a deputy with the Grundy County Sheriff's Office initiated a traffic stop on a black Mercedes sedan after the vehicle failed to yield while turning onto IL Route 47 from the I-55 southbound exit ramp, nearly causing a crash with the patrol vehicle.

The driver, initially identifying himself as "George R. Snow," exhibited signs of extreme nervousness. Deputies quickly discovered the identity provided was false. The driver was later identified as Cameron Cudney, 32 years old, of Oakwood, IL, and he was a wanted fugitive with active no-bond warrants in Lawrence, Vermillion, and Ogle Counties for Burglary, Criminal Damage to Property, and Aggravated Fleeing.

During the stop, deputies observed disguises inside the vehicle and suspected drug paraphernalia. Cameron refused to comply with commands, rolled up his window, and fled southbound on IL Route 47—striking spike strips laid behind his vehicle during the stop. The vehicle's right rear tire deflated, but Cameron continued at speeds exceeding 100 MPH northbound. Deputies lost sight of the vehicle near Stonewall Road due to traffic conditions.

Following investigative coordination with the Danville Police Department, Cameron was positively identified, and information was shared that he may be armed and known to wear a ghillie suit to evade capture. A cellphone ping revealed the vehicle's location in a cornfield near Goodfarm Road and Old Mazon Road.

Deputies deployed a drone, locating the vehicle approximately 80 yards into the standing corn. The vehicle was found running and unoccupied. A subsequent search located 3 grams of methamphetamine and a meth pipe in the driver's side door. The vehicle was impounded, and a field search was conducted.

A short time later, deputies using thermal imaging observed Cameron walking through an adjacent field. Despite announcing their presence and warning him to stop, Cameron fled on foot into a ditch. He was quickly apprehended and found to be in possession of \$10,296 in cash, believed to be related to ongoing burglary investigations. No weapons were located on his person at the time of arrest.

He was transported to the Grundy County Jail, where he was booked on the following preliminary charges:

- Obstructing Justice
- Driving While License Suspended
- Aggravated Fleeing to Elude a Peace Officer
- Possession of a Controlled Substance Methamphetamine

The \$10,296 in suspected burglary proceeds was seized as potential evidence.

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