



# **KANAWHA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

*LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION*  
*301 VIRGINIA STREET EAST*  
*CHARLESTON, WV. 25301*  
*304-357-0169*

**Sheriff Michael Y. Rutherford**  
**Chief Deputy Joseph H. Crawford**

## **NEWS / MEDIA RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**January 5, 2024.**

**Contact:** Sergeant Joshua L. Lester  
[joshualester@kcsso.us](mailto:joshualester@kcsso.us)  
Phone: 304.357.0732 office  
681.910.3649 cell

### **Stolen Vintage Signs**

**Kanawha County, WV-** The Kanawha County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigative Section is currently working on an investigation with the Kingwood Police Department (Preston County, West Virginia) after several vintage signs were recovered in Kanawha County.

Detective B.S. Middleton with Kanawha County Sheriff's Office says the signs were reported stolen from Westbrook's Esso, a nostalgic service station that remains a preserved time capsule of history in Preston County, back in the summer of 2023. Six total signs were reported stolen back in June and those vintage signs are valued at over \$29,000.00.

Kanawha County Sheriff's Office Detectives became involved in the case after an investigation led them to a residence in Kanawha County where two of the six signs were recovered. Although we are thankful to be able to return two of the stolen signs, we have reason to believe the other four signs are still here in the Kanawha County area.

We are asking the public for assistance with locating these antique pieces of history and to help us bring the thief to justice. If you recognize these four signs (*attached*) or possibly purchased them from someone, please contact Detective B.S. Middleton with Kanawha County Sheriff's Office at 304-357-0556 or submit anonymous "tips" at [www.kanawhasheriff.us](http://www.kanawhasheriff.us).

A story about Westbrook's Esso's history can be found in a story from WCHS at <https://wchstv.com/community/traveling-west-virginia/traveling-wv-westbrooks-esso>.



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