

[Elma man allegedly forces ex-girlfriend to help him steal propane tanks from Warm company](#)

Local News

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ELMA, Wash. - Yesterday morning at approximately 4:30 am, an alarm was activated at The Warm Company on Niels Lane of Elma. This particular alarm has notification sent to an employee. The employee later responded to the company and discovered someone had broken into the yard and stolen 8 full propane tanks. These tanks were used to run the various forklifts at the facility. Deputies were called and responded to the business to investigate. Deputies later developed information that a 29 year old man living on Rosemary Lane of Elma was responsible for the burglary to the business. Rosemary Lane is located just south of the Warm Company. Deputies also learned that the man may have forced his estranged 38 year old girlfriend to assist him with the crime. Investigators later contacted the estranged girlfriend and learned the man threatened to harm her children if she didn't assist.

Investigators contacted the 29 year old man and arrested him on an unrelated warrant. The man appeared to be under the influence of drugs and became hostile. While the deputies escorted him to the patrol car, the man head-butted the passenger door of the car causing minor damage. The suspect was eventually secured in the car and transported to the county jail. Deputies were able to obtain a search warrant for the man's residence and located the stolen propane tanks. The man was booked into the Grays Harbor County Jail for Burglary, Theft, and Malicious Mischief to the patrol vehicle. The estranged female has since obtained a restraining order against the man. Deputies were also able to verify the female's account of threats by the estranged boyfriend. At this point, the female is not looking at any charges.