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PRESS RELEASE

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On Tuesday, January 2, 2018 the Sioux County Iowa Sheriff's Office filed charges against Artis Kattenberg, age 50, and a juvenile male, both from Brandon, SD. Kattenberg was charged with: Second Degree aiding and abetting criminal mischief, contributing to the delinquency of a minor and reckless use of a firearm. The juvenile was charged in Juvenile Court with: Second Degree Criminal Mischief and reckless use of a firearm.

The charges stemmed from a joint investigation between the Sioux County Sheriff's Office, Rock Valley Iowa Police Department, Lyon County Iowa Sheriff's Office, Brandon South Dakota Police Department, Minnehaha County South Dakota Sheriff's Office, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, South Dakota Division of Criminal Investigation and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The investigation began on Monday, December 25, 2017, after a victim near Rock Valley, Iowa reported that someone shot a firearm at their residence. Additionally, it was discovered that shots were fired at another rural home in Lyon County, Iowa. This incident had been investigated on an earlier date by the Lyon County Sheriff's Office. In both cases, there was nobody home when the shots were fired at the victims' residences.

The victims are members of a church in Rock Valley, IA. The shootings are believed to be in retaliation of an incident that happened between Kattenberg, the juvenile and church members.

Information and evidence was relayed to a Brandon Police officer. The investigation revealed that the suspects lived in South Dakota. After a meeting with local, state and federal authorities, an arrest warrant was issued for Artis Kattenberg and the juvenile, who were subsequently interviewed by investigators. The juvenile is believed to have fired the weapon in both shootings.

On Friday, Dec. 29, 2017 a search warrant was issued for Kattenberg's home in the 1400 block of Lakota Avenue in Brandon. Investigators discovered approximately 80 guns, ranging from .22 caliber rifles to fully automatic .50-caliber tactical rifles, along with ballistic armor and shields.

Kattenberg is currently charged in South Dakota with child abuse.

The case remains under investigation.