MEDIA RELEASE For immediate release October 25, 2019 Contact: Chief andy Bohlen, 507-334-4305 Sergeant Matt Long, 507-334-0952

FARIBAULT – On Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, Faribault Police Department detectives executed a search warrant at a Faribault residence in relation to a numerous burglary investigations. The subject of the investigation, Austin Steven Veal, 28, was arrested. In a post-*Miranda* interview with detectives, Veal admitted to committing several of the burglaries.

Over the past two weeks, Faribault officers have responded to numerous burglaries of businesses and commercial buildings in Faribault. Detectives are currently investigating approximately 14 burglaries. During the search warrant, detectives seized numerous items which had been reported stolen, including three safes, keys, office equipment and money.

Detectives were able to identify Veal through one business' security video surveillance. A photo of the suspect was quickly identified by several police officers and staff as Veal, which led to the search warrant.

"This string of burglaries was solved through great detective work and images provided by a security video at one business. We encourage business owners to utilize quality video systems, which may not only solve a crime at their business, but others as well", commented Chief Andy Bohlen.

Veal was charged with 3<sup>rd</sup> degree Burglary, 5<sup>th</sup> degree Controlled Substances, and 1<sup>st</sup> degree Damage to Property. As the investigation wraps up, additional charges are expected.

