SCREW UP LEADS TO PRISON ESCAPE

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by Kieran Banks

Police are seething that known escapist Josiah Binsaris wasn't subjected to higher surveillance by corrections staff despite breaking free from Don Dale on three prior occasions.

Fugitives Binsaris and Trey Mawson aged 17, smashed a window in the youth detention centre's low security section during a storm and sealed a fence to freedom at 6pm on Wednesday. The NT News understands Binsaris and Mawson were on the run for 45 minutes before authorities were aware they had escaped. Police are furious that Binsaris wasn't closely monitored by corrections staff given his history of escaping from Don Dale.

Police launched a citywide manhunt focusing on the northern suburbs and Palmerston which continued yesterday. Strike Force Trident Detective Sergeant Rob Jordan said Binsaris was a “violent” criminal and feared he would commit crimes while evading authorities. “Josiah has a propensity to get on a crime spree, so we are using all of Trident and some of the Serious Crime Unit to find him,” he said.

Sen-Sgt Jordan said six teams of officers were searching for the pair, targeting family and friends of the escapees. “We're also targeting any known associates or any linked addresses until we catch them,” he said. “We're looking in Palmerston, the northern Suburbs and in particular Karama and Malak, those areas.”

Deputy Chief Minister Nicole Manison said an overhaul of youth detention was dependent on the outcome of the Royal Commission [into the Protection and Detention of Children in the Northern Territory].”