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Police Seize Modified Shotgun and 3D Printer After Stolen Car Tracked to Notting Hill.

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Two men have been arrested after a police operation led officers from a stolen car to a residential address in Notting Hill, where illegal weapons manufacturing equipment and a modified firearm were discovered.

According to Victoria Police, the incident began shortly after midnight on Friday, July 18, when officers identified a stolen Subaru Impreza in the parking lot of a fast-food restaurant at the intersection of Wellington Road and Dandenong Road in Clayton. The vehicle had reportedly been stolen just a day earlier near Carrum Railway Station.

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When officers attempted to intercept the car, the driver fled at high speed. The Victoria Police Air Wing, a helicopter unit specializing in aerial surveillance and support, tracked the fleeing vehicle from above. It was followed by a residence on Elwood Street in Notting Hill.

Upon arrival at the property, officers observed a man discarding an object into a backyard shed. Police units on the ground, including the Dog Squad K9 unit trained for property searches and suspect apprehensions, swiftly secured the area. Two suspects, a 39-year-old from Notting Hill and a 30-year-old from Dandenong, were taken into custody at the scene.

During a search of the premises, officers discovered a 3D printer that was in the process of producing what appeared to be a firearm scope. These devices, often used to increase accuracy when aiming a weapon, raise concern when manufactured illicitly, as they may be attached to unregistered or modified firearms. Further investigation led to the recovery of a modified shotgun, concealed in the backyard.

The arrested men are expected to be interviewed by police today. Charges are likely to include firearm offenses and involvement in the manufacture of illegal weapons.

While the investigation is ongoing, this case adds to growing concerns over the use of emerging technology, such as 3D printing, in the production of unregulated weapons. Law enforcement officials have repeatedly warned about the challenges these technologies present to public safety, especially when they fall into the wrong hands.

Critics argue that current leadership continues to downplay the rise in crime involving illicit firearms and organized operations exploiting technological loopholes. In many communities, including outer suburbs like Notting Hill and Dandenong, residents are voicing frustration at what they see as a lack of deterrence and firm action against repeat offenders.

Authorities are urging anyone with further information to contact Crime Stoppers Victoria.