



## BUNGLING BURGLARS

Sticky-920 Mulberry-Smith.  
Lefty-837 Mulberry-Baker.  
Shifty-901 Mulberry-Wilkes.  
Slappy-833 Mulberry-Rogers.  
Sharky-820 Mulberry-Jones.

### step-by-step

This first clue "Neither the Jones' nor the Rogers' live at 920 Mulberry."

A simple elimination clue is provided, therefore locate the following grid squares (and eliminate them): Row 920 - Jones, Rogers.

•This next clue : "The Smiths live 19 house numbers from the Wilkes family home, (which Shifty was caught burglarizing)."

We have the following house numbers : **820, 833, 837, 901, and 920**, therefore we must find the number combos that are exactly nineteen apart. Going over the list the only pair that fits this clue is **901 - 920**,

and we can make the following eliminations in the : Columns **Smith - 820, 833, and 837**. Likewise for the column **Wilkes- 820, 833, and 837**, while eliminating squares in these Rows **901 - Jones, Bakers, Rogers**, (as well as) **920 - Jones, Bakers, and Rogers**.

Don't forget we have from the last portion of this clue : ( "...the Wilkes family home, which Shifty was caught burglarizing.") Therefore, we are given the solution **Shifty-Wilkes**,

(From which we can then make these eliminations) :

Row **Shifty - Jones, Smith, Bakers, Rogers, 820, 833, and 837**.

Next, we can eliminate from the Column **Wilkes - Sticky, Lefty, Slappy, and Sharky**.

•The next clue "The two closest homes involved belonged to the Bakers and the Rogers (in some order)."

From our list of house numbers , the closest two **are 833 and 837** , therefore we can make the following eliminations:

In Rows **833 - Jones** (Followed by row) **837- Jones** , which leads to the solution **820-Jones**.

•The following clue "**Lefty tried to break into a house that was 17 house numbers away from the Jones'.**"

Is telling us the house Lefty tried to burglarize was 17 away from the Jones(which we just revealed as **820 Mulberry**),

therefore the house referred to here is **837**, and we have the solution **Lefty - 837** , which leads to the eliminations from Row **Lefty - Jones, Smith, 820, 833, 901 and 920**, then from

Column **837 - Sticky, Slappy, and Sharky**6.

•The next clue "**Slappy was caught at 833 Mulberry (the Rogers' home).**"

Here we are provided with a multiple solution **Slappy - 833 - Rogers**, from which

We can make our eliminations as follows, begin with

Row **Slappy - Jones, Smith, Bakers, 820, 901 and 920**.

Then from Column **833 - Sticky, Sharky** Followed by Column **Rogers - Sticky, Lefty, Sharky, 837, ,**

and from Row **833 - Bakers**, which leads directly to the solution **837 - Bakers**, (which is the house **Lefty** was caught at), so the solution **Bakers-Lefty** must also be true, which allows us to complete the Bakers column with these eliminations:

**Bakers - Sticky, Sharky .**

•Our final clue states: "**The Smiths' house is at 920 Mulberry which is 100 house numbers away from the house that Sharky broke into..**"

Begin with applying the solution **Smith - 920** to the grid, (which eliminates **Wilkes-920** (and as a consequence)

reveals the solution **Wilkes - 901**,and (consequently) **Shifty - 901**).

Finally we have the last part of the clue ("**...100 house numbers away from the house that Sharky broke into**").

Which means **Sharky broke into the house at 820** ( not the Smith's), therefore, **Sticky** is the one who

broke into the **Smith's house at 920** , and **Sharky broke into the Jones' home at 820** ( which is **100 houses from the Smith's**).

•Congratulations! Puzzle solved. To summarize:

Sticky-920 Mulberry-Smith.

Lefty-837 Mulberry-Baker.

Shifty-901 Mulberry-Wilkes.

Slappy-833 Mulberry-Rogers.

Sharky-820 Mulberry-Jones.

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