



OCEANSIDE POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release

July 6, 2009

Armed Juvenile Suspects Arrested for Residential Burglary

On 07-03-09, at 1006 hours, a citizen called the police department to report seeing two white males, wearing masks and bandanas, flee a residence in the 1300 block of California Street, armed with rifles. According to the citizen, the suspects left a door to the residence standing wide open and fled in a two door older model Ford Explorer. Another witness called the police department and provided a license plate of the suspect vehicle.

When OPD Dispatch broadcast the call to area patrol units, Motor Officer, Richard Schickel, saw the suspect vehicle traveling north on Coast Highway. Officer Schickel stopped the vehicle in the 400 block of Wisconsin, made contact with the occupants, and saw shotgun shells on the floorboard of the vehicle. He subsequently located three shotguns and a backpack containing property belonging to the victim. Witnesses positively identified the subjects as the ones they had seen running from the home with guns.

When officers went to the home to investigate the residential burglary, the steel security screen to the front door had been pried, but no entry was made. Officers found the point of entry to be a side door where an adjacent window had been broken out to defeat the door lock.

Police contacted the homeowner who responded to the scene and identified one of the shotguns as his, as well as property from inside the backpack.

The investigation also revealed the suspects brought one of the shotguns, which was loaded, with them to the crime. Three juvenile suspects were arrested, one age 16 years, and a resident of Oceanside and two age 17 years, from Vista.

While officers were at the victim's residence, another witness contacted them who had seen the suspects casing the area earlier in the morning. This witness confronted the suspects and asked why there was a piece of paper covering the front license plate of their vehicle. One of the suspects got out of the vehicle and removed the paper. The witness then wrote down the license plate information and turned it over to police.

Detectives from the General Investigations Division responded to assist with the follow up investigation into additional crimes. Detectives are asking anyone else who may have witnessed this crime to call the Oceanside Police Department.

The juveniles were arrested for residential burglary, possession of stolen property, and possession of a loaded firearm.

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