



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: July 22, 2010
Contact: Lt. Victor Williams, Area Commander
East Neighborhood Policing Center
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Police Arrest Metal Thieves

RIVERSIDE, CA — On April 20, 2010, Riverside Police patrol officers responded to a vacant commercial building located at 3069 4th Street, owned by Bank of America, regarding a burglary and theft of copper wire that occurred over the weekend. The amount of copper wire that was stolen from the building was valued at approximately \$20,000. The suspects entered the building via a smashed window, stripped the wire from the building and left through a rear door. Patrol officers responded and collected evidence at the scene which later assisted detectives in discovering the identities of suspects in this case.

On July 15, 2010, Detectives from the Riverside Police Metal Thefts Unit arrested three suspects related to the burglary. Detectives arrested John PENDERGRAFT, 52 of Riverside, Joseph RAY, 47 of Riverside, and Tammy TOMORY, 45 of Riverside. All three suspects were booked into Robert Presley Detention Center for the crime of commercial burglary. Detectives are requesting the public's help in identifying an additional person of interest in this case, a female, possibly transient who frequents the University Avenue corridor. She is known as "Jeanette" and is described as a white female in her 40's, with blond hair, approximately 5-foot 6-inches tall, and weighing approximately 110 pounds.

The problem with metal thefts is a national problem and is influenced by the downturn in the economy causing many thieves to steal metal for scrap value or resale on the black market. Anyone with information related to thefts of metal is asked to report this information to police by calling the Riverside Police Department's Dispatch center at 951-787-7911, callers can remain anonymous.

This investigation is ongoing and anyone with information is asked to contact the Riverside Police Department's East NPC Investigations Bureau Detective Dehdashtian 351-6289 or Detective Brazil 951-351-6249.

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