



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: Friday, June 13, 2008
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Serial robbery suspect arrested

Riverside, CA -- The suspect in a series of armed robberies and attempted robberies in the Mission Grove area of Riverside was arrested Thursday night when a police officer recognized the suspect and his vehicle.

Suspect Larry Donnell SMITH, 31, of Perris, was spotted about 10:30 p.m., in the parking lot of a gym. A traffic stop was conducted at the corner of Alessandro and Sycamore Canyon boulevards and the suspect was arrested and booked into Robert Presley Detention Center for two counts of robbery, one count of attempt robbery and one count of kidnap for robbery.

In the most recent incident, at about 10:15 p.m., Wednesday, June 11, Smith confronted a customer at the Mission Grove branch of Wells Fargo Bank, 483 E. Alessandro Blvd., and ordered the man at gunpoint to withdraw money from the automated teller machine (ATM). A security guard witnessed the robbery, saw the suspect get into a vehicle and took note of the license plate number. The information lead to identification of the suspect, who was then positively identified by the robbery victim.

Witness statements and video surveillance images tie Smith to four other recent robberies in the Mission Grove during the past month. The suspect is positively identified in connection with robbery at the ARCO AM/PM store at Alessandro and Hwy. 215 on May 16, and an attempted robbery at Popeye's Chicken, 7400-block of Mission Grove Pkwy., May 22.

Detectives continue to investigate possible links to additional robberies in the area. Anyone with information helpful to this investigation is asked to call Detective Rick Cobb at (951) 353-7135.



Larry Donnell Smith

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