



# ***PRESS RELEASE***

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date: Saturday, January 21, 2009**  
**Contact: Ed Collins, Sergeant**  
**Phone: (951) 353-7108**

### **Graffiti Vandalism suspects arrested**

Riverside, CA -- On Saturday afternoon about 2 P.M., a City of Riverside Police Officer spotted two persons in an area known to the him for repeated acts of tagging. The 215FWY / SR-60 underpass and the center median K-Rails in this area have been plagued with the unsightly "Tagging" caused by graffiti vandals for several years and has cost the city money for its' graffiti removal and cleanups.

Officer Steve Warlick, a twenty year-plus veteran officer and member of the police department's Graffiti Unit had just finished participating in the "Graffiti Kick-Off", an event at Nichols Park, sponsored by the City of Riverside and geared towards the ongoing city efforts to combat graffiti vandalism. Officer Warlick observed both suspects in the act of painting graffiti upon city owned property and called for the assistance of uniformed patrol officers who detained, identified and arrested them. Douglas G. Hartman, 36 years old of Grand Terrace, California and Jonathan J. Kenny, 29 years old of Santee, California were arrested for felony vandalism and possession of Graffiti Tools, and booked into the Robert Presley Detention Center in downtown Riverside. Hartman has prior vandalism arrests and may face enhanced charges after review by the District Attorneys Office.

Reports of new and old graffiti are constantly reported to the police department and employees assigned to the Graffiti Unit coordinate the removal and cleanup with the city's Public Works Department. The City of Riverside spends almost \$1 million annually on graffiti cleanup and persons arrested for these types of crimes can expect to be prosecuted. If you see someone committing graffiti vandalism in the act, please call the Riverside Police Department via 9-1-1.

Anyone with information about this case or requests for Graffiti-related Public Education Information is asked to contact the Riverside Police Department Graffiti Unit at (951)353-7132.

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