



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: November 4, 2008
Contact: Lt. Vic Williams, Area Commander,
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Copper wire theft suspect arrested at local park

RIVERSIDE, CA — On November 3, 2008 at 12:14 a.m., the Riverside Police Department arrested a suspect for stealing copper wire from a local park. The suspect was arrested by uniformed officers at Reid Park in the North Neighborhood Policing Center (North NPC) while taking wire from the lighting fixtures in the park. In the past week alone, there have been two separate thefts of wire at Reid Park, from the basketball and volleyball area light fixtures.

Two officers patrolling in the park inspected an unoccupied vehicle after midnight. The officers saw a pair of high-voltage safety gloves, wire cutting equipment and binoculars in the passenger compartment of the vehicle. The officers immediately canvassed the park and saw the suspect, Roger Dunn MINK, 48, in the process of removing wire from one of the lighting fixtures. The suspect was arrested without incident. Officers discovered that the suspect had already removed wire from two other light fixtures and had cut the wire from three other lighting poles.

The investigation indicated the same suspect took wire from the park on the two other occasions earlier in the week. The stolen wire was taken to a recycling center in the city of Fontana, for cash. At this time, the preliminary loss and costs of repair to the lighting fixtures is in excess of \$10,000.

Anyone with information related to this case, or who has knowledge of other incidents involving copper wire or metal thefts in the city of Riverside, are asked to call Riverside Police Detective Eric Detmer at (951) 826-8719.

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