



PRESS RELEASE

Riverside Police Department • 4102 Orange Street • Riverside, CA 92501
Phone (951) 826-5900 • Fax (951) 826-2593

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2009
Contact: Sergeant Ed Collins
Phone: (951) 353-7108

Graffiti vandal arrested for multiple counts

Riverside, CA -- In January 2009, the School Resource Officer assigned to Norte Vista High School arrested a student for vandalizing property of the Alvord Unified School District. Detective Cathy Nelson of the Police Department's Graffiti Unit followed up on the arrest and learned the juvenile was on probation.

Detective Nelson and members of the Riverside County Probation Department conducted a probation search at the minor's home and located and seized additional evidence. Detective Nelson utilized G.A.T., the City of Riverside's Graffiti Analysis Tool System, which provides detailed imagery and mapping of the graffiti activity throughout the City of Riverside. It allows the City to generate custom reports for incidents and departmental costing and budget analytics, as well as assisting the Police Department in the identification and prosecution of offenders. With the help of G.A.T., fourteen additional counts of graffiti vandalism were located that were specifically linked to the suspect.

The vandal was arrested again after the probation search and charged with the additional counts. During the interview with Detective Nelson, the suspect admitted to all charges. The cases are being filed with the Juvenile Division of the Riverside County District Attorney's Office and also being submitted to the City of Riverside Attorney's Office for review of civil liability suits.

The City of Riverside reminds you that if you are witnessing graffiti vandalism in progress, please call 9-1-1. If you are reporting graffiti after the fact for eradication, or if you are interested in the City of Riverside Graffiti Rewards Program, please call the City's Call Center (951) 826-5311. Anyone with information related to this case is asked to contact Detective Cathy Nelson at (951) 353-7131.

###

