



EL SEGUNDO POLICE DEPARTMENT

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DAVID CUMMINGS, CHIEF OF POLICE

Press Release

October 20, 2007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Police Arrest “Stars and Stripes” RV Bandit Responsible for Numerous Commercial Burglary Thefts of Laptops and Electronics



EL Segundo Burglary
8/18/07



LAPD Wilshire Area 07/28/07



Booking 10/20/07



El Segundo Traffic Stop 10/20/07

On October 20, 2007, the El Segundo Police Department arrested Tony Pruitt, AKA Tony Wilborn, 43 years old, DOB 01-16-1964, LASD Booking #1026562. He is suspected of using pieces of cement and bricks to smash ground floor glass windows and doors stealing electronic equipment such as laptops, flat screen monitors and photography equipment.

Investigators from the El Segundo Police Department, Santa Monica Police Department and the Los Angeles Police Department located video surveillance footage from a series of burglaries dating back to July 2007 of the suspect and his distinctive "Stars and Stripes" red, white and blue "Lazy Daze" motor-home. Crime bulletins were distributed alerting local businesses and the law enforcement community to be on the look out for this suspect and vehicle.

At 2:06 pm on October 20, 2007, El Segundo Police Officers received a radio call that the suspect involved in these previous burglaries and his motor-home were at 880 Apollo Avenue. The suspect was attempting to break a window with a piece of concrete. The witness observed Pruitt hitting a ground floor window of his office building with a piece of concrete numerous times. After several unsuccessful attempts to smash the window, Pruitt entered his motor-home and fled the location. The witness provided responding police officers with a vehicle description and the direction of travel. A traffic stop on the motor-home was conducted a block away on Nash Street near Park Place in El Segundo. Pruitt was arrested without incident and booked at the El Segundo Police Department for 459 P.C. Burglary, 496 P.C. Possession of Stolen Property, 3056 P.C. Violation of Parole, several outstanding warrants and is being held without bail.

El Segundo Police Investigators believe Pruitt is responsible for at least seven commercial burglaries within the City of El Segundo dating back to April 2007, based upon physical evidence, video footage and his method of operation.

If you have any information regarding similar crimes or have seen either this motor-home or subject near your business and have been a victim, please contact your local police or contact El Segundo Police Detective Marco Lemus at (310) 524-2284 or Sergeant Danny Kim at (310) 524-2261.

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