



EL SEGUNDO POLICE DEPARTMENT

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DAVID CUMMINGS, CHIEF OF POLICE

Press Release

November 9, 2007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Police Arrest Suspects Involved in Thefts from Unlocked Motor Vehicles



Adan Alarcon
Booking # 1047764



Diane Montes
Booking # 1047789

On November 6, 2007, Adan Alarcon 22 years old, DOB 11-04-85 and Diane Montes, 23 years old, DOB 05-04-84, were arrested shortly after their crime spree of stealing valuables in plain sight from unlocked vehicles parked on residential streets of El Segundo.

Shortly after 8 am, Los Angeles World Airport Police Officers came upon Alarcon and Montes standing outside their vehicle stuck in the sandy center median of Imperial Highway near Hillcrest Street. Their vehicle became stuck in the sand after attempting an illegal u-turn across the center median. The vehicle, a 2006 Mitsubishi Endeavor had no license plates on the vehicle. Officers conducted an

inquiry on the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) and learned it was reported stolen from the City of Downey on the previous day.

As LAX Officers received that information, Alarcon fled on foot into the residential area of El Segundo near Virginia Street and Imperial Avenue. LAX Police requested assistance from the El Segundo Police Department. Both agencies worked together to establish a large perimeter in the northwest section of our community.

While on the perimeter, residents and officers observed Alarcon running through backyards and hopping over fences. At one point, a resident came out of his home and told perimeter officers Alarcon was hiding in his backyard. Officers entered the backyard in the 200 block of West Acacia Avenue and took Alarcon into custody without incident.

While inventorying the stolen vehicle, officers located over 400 items that appeared to have been recently stolen. The investigation revealed that Alarcon and Montes were driving around residential streets in El Segundo and checking handles on vehicles looking for unlocked cars. Once inside, they stole everything from loose change to registration paperwork, garage door openers, sunglasses, music CD's, GPS systems, cellular phones and cameras.

Since their arrest, El Segundo Police Officers and Investigators have connected Alarcon and Montes to at least 8 separate thefts from unlocked vehicles.

The District Attorney's Office Charged Alarcon and Montes with felony grand theft auto, three counts of felony grand theft and four counts of misdemeanor theft from motor vehicle.

The El Segundo Police Department reminds you to **"Move It or Lose It"**. This theft prevention campaign, is one way of educating citizens how the simple act of placing valuables into the trunk of their car or out of sight ***before*** reaching your destination or the act of taking valuables with you from the car can significantly reduce the likelihood of being a victim of theft.

The El Segundo Police Department continues to proactively impact crime through directed patrol tactics, specialized deployments, apprehension of suspects, and public education and awareness efforts. ***We are asking that every citizen do their part in helping to fight crime by taking both preventative action and spreading the word about this ever growing problem. Working together we can make a difference.***

For further information on our "Move It or Lose It" theft prevention campaign, please visit our police department website at www.elsegundo.org and click on Police Department then Crime Prevention.

If any one from the public has information on either arrestee regarding their involvement in related or unrelated crimes, please contact El Segundo Police Investigator Lemus at (310) 524-2284.

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