

EL SEGUNDO POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Metal Theft Alert







Copper coils Backflow device

Installed backflow device

The El Segundo Police Department has experienced an increase in metal theft from commercial and industrial buildings particularly involving copper pipes and water backflow devices. Backflow devices are part of the plumbing system and are easily accessible since they are located outside of the building.

In addition to the theft of these plumbing fixtures, thieves are targeting copper flashing, wiring of all types, and copper coils within air conditioning systems.

Here are some tips to deter metal theft:

- Log and highlight serial numbers located on metal items and/or use spray paint to create a distinguishing mark.
- Encase backflow equipment within a locked metal cage.
- Increase security lighting around your facility.
- Install security cameras and post signage stating "Security Cameras are in use."

• If appropriate, copper piping and backflow devices exposed to public view should be painted a neutral, blending color or concealed with shrubbery to make them less visible.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Crime Prevention Officer Laurie Risk at (310) 524-2274.