



West Linn Police Department Press Release

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For Immediate Release:

Tuesday, October 21, 2008

Contact:

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West Linn Police Break Up Car Prowl Ring

WLPD Officers executed 3 search warrants as a result of an investigation initiated by Ofc. Matt Lysaght, 4 people arrested, with more arrests expected to follow.

Date & Time: October 21, 2008/3:30 P.M.

WEST LINN – On October 1, 2008 a West Linn resident was on his way home when he drove past a car that was stopped in the middle of the road with its lights out. He noted the license number on his I-Phone and went home, a few blocks away. He realized that something was wrong, and went back to where he saw the car. He found a neighbor's car window had been broken out. He then called 9-1-1 and reported the break-in and suspect vehicle license to the WLPD. The witness had been a car break-in victim a few weeks before discovering this theft. The witness has asked not to be identified, but West Linn Police Chief Terry Timeus said "Without citizen involvement like this, this crime spree would still be continuing."

Based on information from the witness, West Linn Police Officer Matt Lysaght initiated an investigation into a string of car break-ins in our area. During the course of his investigation, he discovered that the suspects were responsible for close to 40 reported car break-ins in West Linn, Lake Oswego, and Happy Valley. The thieves told Ofc. Lysaght that they targeted these areas due to their affluence; they knew they would find expensive things in the cars there. The thefts occurred during the months of August and September. Ofc. Lysaght partnered with Detective Nick Amendolara.

The thieves got into unlocked cars, and broke into locked ones taking items that are easily sold. Numerous IPODS, and MP3 players, laptop computers, global positioning systems (GPS), cell phones, game consoles, calculators, designer clothes, sunglasses and purses were taken. One of the suspects told investigators that they targeted West Linn on week nights because they knew that students would leave their backpacks in their cars and they would be easy to take, and would be full of electronics.

Investigators were able to match up pawn slips from the suspects with property stolen from throughout the County.

Arrested were:

- FINCUANE, Reade Eugene: 121989: 17606 Roethe Place, Milwaukie, OR 97267
- JOHNSON, Adam Samuel: 080886: 607 JQ Adams, Oregon City, OR 97045
- PEREZ, Nicholas Joseph: 080486: 4916 SE 28th Ave. #477 Portland, OR

A 17-year-old female (from Oregon City) was also taken into custody and lodged at the Clackamas County Juvenile Reception Center, in Oregon City.

On Tuesday October 21, 2008, Ofc. Lysaght, Detective Amendolara along with numerous officers from the WLPD, Oregon City Police Department, Clackamas County Sheriff's Office and the Lake Oswego Police Department assisted in the execution of the search warrants at:

- 17606 Roethe Place, Milwaukie, OR 97267 (Finucane's residence)
- 607 JQ Adams, Oregon City, OR 97045 (Johnson's residence)
- 4916 SE 28th Ave. #477 Portland, OR (Perez's residence)

The suspects were lodged at the Clackamas County jail on the following charges of:

<u>Charge(s)</u>	<u>Bail</u>
ORS.164.055 - THEFT I	\$15000
ORS.164.045 - THEFT II	\$7500
ORS.164.365 - CRIMINAL MISCHIEF I	\$15000
ORS.164.354 - CRIMINAL MISCHIEF II	\$7500
ORS.164.055 - THEFT I	\$15000
ORS.164.272 - UNLAW ENTRY INTO MOTOR VEH	\$7500
ORS.164.045 - CONSPIRACY THEFT II	\$7500
Total	\$75000

At this time the total loss due to theft and damage is estimated to exceed \$15,000.

The West Linn Police would like to remind everyone of a few quick tips to avoid becoming a victim of a car break-in. First, do NOT leave anything of value in view in your car. This includes GPS devices, I-PODS, backpacks and purses. Next have the serial numbers of all your electronics saved in a safe place. A convenient form for this will be available on our web site at www.westlinnoregon.gov/police.



FINCUANE, Reade Eugene



JOHNSON, Adam Samuel



PEREZ, Nicholas Joseph

###WLPD###

About the City of West Linn:

The City of West Linn is a community where citizens, civic organizations, businesses and city government work together to ensure that the community retains its hometown identity, quality of life, and natural beauty. The estimated population is 24,180. The City Council consists of the Mayor and four Councilors who act as the board of directors of the City of West Linn municipal corporation. The Council sets policies for the city government, enacts ordinances and hires, directs, and evaluates the city manager. Municipal services are provided by City employees and headed by the City Manager. The city operates its own police department, a municipal court, water, wastewater and storm water utilities, street operations, planning, engineering, fleet management, library, and parks and recreation.