



Fresno County Sheriff's Department
Margaret Mims, Sheriff
News Release

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MEDIA ADVISORY: Two Theft Suspects Arrested After Alarm. Investigators Seek A Third.

Fresno County Sheriff Margaret Mims today announced the arrest of two subjects on grand theft and possession of stolen property charges. A third subject is being sought.

On May 14 at approximately 3:05am, patrol deputies were dispatched to Cal West Rain located at 4939 N Madera Ave regarding a silent burglar alarm call. Upon arrival, deputies were able to set up a perimeter around the business and surrounding area.

During their investigation, two subjects were seen jumping a fence and running south from the business towards a grape vineyard. Deputies later stopped 45 year old Donald Eugene Deaver who was driving a white Ford Thunderbird through the vineyard with no headlamps. A small piece of copper wire was found in Deaver's pocket. The wire matched a large roll of copper wire located in the yard of the business.

With the assistance of the California Highway Patrol helicopter H-40, deputies located the second subject, 23 year old Christopher Willy Pearson, who was crawling through the vineyard.

Two spools of copper wire located in the yard of the business, estimated to be worth \$1300.00 each, had been moved to the rear gate where the suspects had been seen jumping the fence upon the deputies arrival. Evidence in and around the scene tied both Deaver and Pearson to the theft.

Deaver, a Merced resident, was arrested for possession of stolen property, possession of burglary tools, grand theft, and attempted burglary. Pearson, a resident of Los Banos, was arrested for possession of stolen property, grand theft, and attempted burglary. Both subjects were transported to the Fresno County jail where they were booked.

Investigators from the Sheriff Departments Ag Task Force are investigating the case. A third suspect is being sought in connection to the theft.

Anyone with information regarding this case is asked to contact Detective Doug Bolton at 898-0667, the Fresno County Sheriff's Department at 488-3111, or CrimeStoppers at 498-STOP(7867).