



For Immediate Release
December 27, 2023
Case #MN23-4465

MENIFEE POLICE COLLABORATED THE ARREST OF PROLIFIC BURGLARY SUSPECTS

Menifee, CA – On September 24, 2023, the New Hub Pharmacy in Menifee was burglarized in a “Smash and Grab” style burglary. Three masked suspects forced open an exterior door to the business, destroying the external security system and causing nearly \$10,000 worth of damage. Once inside, suspects continued to vandalize the interior of the business and helped themselves to numerous prescription medications. Patrol Officers from the Menifee Police Department were able to identify the involved parties and through coordinated efforts from The Menifee Police Department, The Escondido Police Department, and The Riverside County Sheriff’s Department, the suspects were linked to nearly 50 similar burglaries spanning from San Diego to Ventura County. These suspects are responsible for tens of thousands of dollars in damage to related businesses, and close to \$250,000 in stolen merchandise.

The suspects were found to be documented gang members from the City of Compton with lengthy criminal histories and violent priors. Many of these suspects were also found to be on Parole or Probation for gun offenses. Through the coordinated efforts of the Menifee Police Department, the Riverside County Sheriff’s Department, and the San Diego County District Attorney Office’s Organized Retail Theft division, numerous felony charges were brought against the involved suspects, and warrants were obtained for their arrest.

On December 12, 2023, three separate locations were searched, and warrants were executed in the City of Compton in a joint operation involving numerous other agencies. The collaborative effort resulted in the recovery of evidence from the series of commercial burglaries along with the recovery of several unregistered and unserialized firearms. The search led to the arrest of the burglary suspects and an arrest for unrelated weapons offenses.

In total, this investigation resulted in the arrest of six documented gang members with violent priors and the recovery of numerous unlawful firearms, stolen prescription medication, evidence of narcotics sales, and evidence potentially linking the subjects to several gang-on-gang-related shootings.

Commercial retail theft has a debilitating effect on local businesses and is on the rise statewide. The Menifee Police Department is committed to coordinating our efforts with our surrounding agencies to ensure these offenders are brought to justice. If you have any information regarding similar incidents, please contact Officer Robert Cultrera at rcultrera@menifeepolice.org

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