

SCOTT LACHASSE CHIEF OF POLICE

BURBANK POLICE DEPARTMENT

200 North Third Street, Burbank, CA 91502

OFFICIAL NEWS RELEASE

COMMERCIAL BURGLARY

OVER \$50,000 IN CAMERA EQUIPMENT STOLEN

Date: October 20, 2015

On October 20, 2015, at about 3:40 am, an alert Burbank Police Officer saw a suspicious van parked in front of Wooden Camera, 923 W. Olive Avenue. The officer saw several people run from the business to the van. He made a u-turn to get a better look at the van and people, but the van hastily drove away without its headlights on.

The officer tried to pull the van over, but the driver failed to yield and a vehicle pursuit was initiated. The van traveled east on Olive Avenue and onto the Olive overpass where the occupants began lobbing property from the van onto the roadway. The van continued onto the northbound Interstate 5 Freeway, where the occupants tossed more property onto the freeway and shoulder.

The van exited the freeway at Van Nuys Boulevard. The van struck a concrete center median and eventually came to a stop in the Walgreens parking lot located at Van Nuys Boulevard and Woodman Avenue. Five suspects fled the scene on foot. Two were immediately captured without incident. Three suspects remain outstanding at this time.

A search of the van revealed stolen camera equipment and burglary tools. Those tools include saws, a pry bar, gloves and masks. The owner and employees of Wooden Camera estimate the value of the stolen equipment to be over \$50,000. The police department is working with Wooden Camera to itemize the merchandise, but it appears all the stolen equipment has been recovered from the roadway, freeway and van.

The two arrested suspects have been identified as 38 year old Angel Cortes (unknown city of residence) and 29 year old Rolando Alcides Flores of Canoga Park. Mr. Cortes was booked for commercial burglary, felony evading and obstructing a police officer. His bail has been set at \$75,000. Mr. Flores was booked for commercial burglary and obstructing a police officer. His bail is \$20,000. They are both due to appear in the Burbank Branch of the Los Angeles Superior Court on Thursday morning.

The outstanding suspects are described as two males and one female.

Burbank Police Property Detectives continue to investigate this case. Anyone with information is asked to contact Burbank Police investigators at (818) 238-3210.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS STATEMENT MAY BE DIRECTED TO SERGEANT CLAUDIO LOSACCO, @ 818-238-3240 OR CLOSACCO@BURBANKCA.GOV

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