



Porterville Police Department Press Release

Incident: Burglary
Possession of stolen property
Narcotics

Date/Time: January 17, 2012/ 2:56 AM

Location: 2000 block of W. Tomah Avenue, Porterville

Suspect(s): Brian Matthews, 46 years, Porterville resident
Robert Reed, 34 years, Porterville resident

Narrative:

On January 17, 2012, at about 2:56 AM, officers of the Porterville Police Department contacted 46 year old Brian Matthews in the area of Tomah Avenue and Mathew Street. Matthews was riding a bicycle while carrying a pillow case full of faucets, towel racks, light fixtures, and other scrap metal. Matthews was found to be under the influence of controlled substance and also in possession of a hypodermic syringe. Nearby officers located a vacant residence in the 2000 block of W. Tomah Avenue with the front door standing open. The door had been forced open and the faucets, towel racks, and a light fixture were missing from a bathroom. A responsible party was contacted and the items located on Matthew's person were positively identified as coming from the residence. Matthews was arrested and booked at the Tulare County Jail for residential burglary, possession of stolen property, being under the influence of narcotics, and possession of a hypodermic syringe. A second suspect was believed to have been involved in the burglary, as a bicycle and backpack with additional stolen property were found lying in a neighboring yard, but Matthews was uncooperative with the investigation.

At 5:50 AM a neighboring residence called to report dogs barking and a suspicious subject in the area. As officers checked the area, 34 year old Robert Reed was located walking several blocks from the initial burglary scene. Reed confessed to his involvement in the burglary and he was subsequently arrested and booked for the same charges as Matthews. This case remains under investigation.