



MEDIA RELEASE

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY Sheriff-Coroner

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Jim Hart
Sheriff-Coroner

Cabrillo College Gas Thief Arrested

DATE / TIME: 7/27/18 at 1000 hours **CASE #:** 18-05886
LOCATION: 6500 Soquel Drive (Cabrillo College), Aptos, CA 95003
TYPE OF CRIME: Vehicle Burglary

SUSPECTS ARRESTED:

Michael Harrington, 31-year-old Watsonville Resident

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT:

During the months of May and June, numerous gas thefts have occurred at several county locations including Cabrillo College. During several thefts, a black GMC Yukon style vehicle is captured on surveillance cameras during the thefts at Cabrillo College. During one incident on 7/9/18 several gas tanks were siphoned, and one gas tank was drilled causing approximately \$2,400 dollars in damage.

On 7/27/18 at around 5:20 AM, a suspect drilled a gas tank on a vehicle in the Emeline Complex at 1000 Emeline Avenue. A black GMC Yukon style vehicle was also seen on a nearby surveillance camera.

Around 7:00 AM, another gas tank was siphoned from a car parked at Cabrillo College and a black GMC Yukon was seen being driven by the suspect.

At around 10:00 AM, a Sheriff's Sergeant spotted the same black GMC Yukon being driven by Michael Harrington at 41st Avenue and Soquel Drive. The GMC Yukon smelled of gas and contained gas siphoning equipment, a drill, and several gas tanks inside the car. Michael Harrington was interviewed and later arrested for vehicle Burglary.

The Sheriff's Office and Watsonville Police are working together to gather additional evidence linking Harrington to the numerous cases of gas thefts and vandalism over the last month and a half. The investigation is ongoing and anyone with information is asked to contact the Sheriff's Office at (831) 471-1121.

PREPARED BY:

Sergeant Brian Cleveland

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