

PRESS RELEASE



Seal Beach Police Department
911 Seal Beach Boulevard
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Motorcycle Thieves Arrested After Pursuit

SEAL BEACH, CA. – Two men were arrested by the Seal Beach Police Department after they had stolen a motorcycle and led officers on a vehicle pursuit. The Seal Beach Police Department has partnered with the Orange County Auto Theft Taskforce (OCATT), a multijurisdictional law enforcement program which investigates vehicle theft and fraud cases, to help capture criminals who steal cars and motorcycles.

On Thursday, May 7, 2020 at about 5:15 am, Seal Beach Police Department officers responded to the area of First Street and Pacific Coast Highway and located individuals suspected of stealing a motorcycle. The suspects fled south on PCH and crashed into an oil field area near Goldenwest Street in Huntington Beach. Both suspects were captured after fleeing from the vehicle with the assistance of the Orange County Sheriff's Dept. helicopter unit, the California State Park Peace Officers and the Huntington Beach Police Department. The Orange County Sheriff's Department canine unit also responded to the scene and assisted with locating an illegal firearm.

The suspects were identified as Fred James Posey and Daniel Lee Barton, both age 37 of Bakersfield, CA. Both suspects were arrested for vehicle theft, possession of a stolen vehicle, hit and run, conspiracy, possession of a handgun with no serial number, felon in possession of a firearm, and parole/probation violations. They were booked at the Seal Beach Police Detention Center and later transported to the Orange County Jail.

“Partnerships between Seal Beach detectives and OCATT investigators are critical to helping solve regional crime trends,” said Seal Beach Police Chief Philip Gonshak. “Today these officers took two experienced criminals with no regard for the safety of the public off the street.

The investigation is currently ongoing. The Seal Beach Police Department is seeking additional information that may assist in the investigation. If you have additional information, please contact Detective Jon Ainley at (562) 799-4100 ext. 1113.

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