

PRESS RELEASE



City of Seal Beach
211 Eighth Street
Seal Beach, CA 90740

September 25, 2020
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Sergeant Nick Nicholas
(562) 799-4100 ext. 1160
nnicholas@sealbeachca.gov

VEHICLE THEFT SUSPECT ARRESTED AFTER PURSUIT

SEAL BEACH, CA — A man was arrested after stealing a car and leading officers on a vehicle pursuit.

On Thursday, September 24, 2020, at about 6:40 pm, the Seal Beach Police Department responded to a call of a stolen vehicle from the area of First Street and Ocean Avenue.

Later that evening at about 7:55 pm, the initial investigation led a Seal Beach officer to locate the occupied stolen vehicle in neighboring Garden Grove. The officer attempted to stop the vehicle but the driver refused to yield. A vehicle pursuit ensued as the driver evaded officers.

The driver of the stolen vehicle later lost control and collided with a curb in the area of Lampson Avenue and Brookhurst Street. The driver then fled on foot into a parking lot where he was apprehended with the assistance of a Garden Grove Police Department canine and the Anaheim Police Department helicopter. The suspect was taken into custody without further incident.

The suspect driver was identified as John Earl King, age 49, of Santa Ana, California. As a result of the collision he sustained moderate injuries and was transported to a local hospital for treatment. King was charged with vehicle theft, felony evading, possession of stolen property, and several other California Vehicle Code violations. A Parole hold was obtained.

This is an ongoing investigation. Anyone with information regarding this incident is encouraged to contact Officer Bruno Balderrama at (562) 799-4100 ext. 1628 or bbalderrama@sealbeachca.gov.

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