



HAWTHORNE POLICE DEPARTMENT

12501 South Hawthorne Boulevard, Hawthorne, California, 90250

PRESS RELEASE

Issued: July 27, 2011

HPD DR #11- 10255

Suitable For Public Dissemination

Two Arrested in Take-Over Robbery of Hawthorne Home Depot Store

On Tuesday, July 26, 2011, at approximately 9:45 PM, Hawthorne police patrol units were dispatched on a report of an armed robbery to the Home Depot store at 14603 S. Oceangate Avenue, in the City of Hawthorne. Two officers in an arriving patrol unit saw two suspects exit the rear of the store, and run along the 405 Freeway embankment to the west of the business. As officers set up a containment in the area, patrol units from the Redondo Beach, El Segundo, Manhattan Beach, and Gardena police departments, all sent assistance. The LAPD and LASD also provided helicopter support during the incident.

After a short period of time, one of the suspects was located in the bushes along the northbound lanes of the 405 Freeway, close to Marine Avenue, and taken into custody. With the assistance of a FLIR unit, the second suspect was located a few minutes later, also hiding in the bushes along the freeway. The second suspect surrendered without incident when officers announced they were releasing a police dog.

An evidence search of the area was conducted using K-9's. Officers eventually recovered two handguns, items of the two suspect's clothing, and over \$3,000 in currency, which was taken in the robbery. Hawthorne police detectives are currently investigating the robbery, trying to determine if additional suspects were able to elude detection by store employees and witnesses, as well as by responding officers. Detectives will also see if there is any evidence linking the two suspects to additional "take-over" style robberies of Home Depot stores in the southern California area. No one inside the business was injured during the robbery.

In Custody for Suspicion of Robbery:

- ***Jamico Wright, 19 year old resident of Sherman Oaks***
- ***Antoine Hicks, 21 year old resident of Lancaster***

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