



Marina Police Department

PRESS RELEASE

SUSPECT ARRESTED FOR POSSESSION OF STOLEN VEHICLE AND PROPERTY

DATE OF INCIDENT: November 27, 2010
TIME OF INCIDENT: 5:19 AM (0519 hours)
LOCATION OF INCIDENT: Southbound Hwy 1 at Eucalyptus Grove
PREPARED BY: Sgt. Scott Clegg
DEPARTMENT CONTACT: Lieutenant Richard Janicki

On November 27, 2010, about 5:19 AM, a Marina Police officer stopped a vehicle for speeding on southbound Highway 1 near the grove of eucalyptus trees between Seaside and the old Main Gate to Ft. Ord. The officer initiated a traffic stop on the vehicle and contacted an adult male and a juvenile female inside.

The officer subsequently determined the driver, identified as Charles Norman Gaskins, age 36, of Seaside, was under the influence of alcohol. The California Highway Patrol was contacted to conduct a DUI investigation and subsequently arrested Gaskins for driving under the influence.

The Marina Police officer making the initial traffic stop began to look into the ownership of the vehicle being driven by Gaskins. The officer also became suspicious when a search of the vehicle turned up credit cards, a driver's license and a checkbook belonging to the owner of the car; however, the vehicle owner was not present at the time of the stop. The officer had a Seaside Police officer make contact with the vehicle's owner and it was discovered that the vehicle and other property had been stolen from the victim. The victim was unaware of the theft until contacted by police.

Subsequent investigation also revealed that Gaskins had used the victim's stolen credit card to make a purchase at a store in the city of Seaside just prior to being stopped by the Marina Police.

Gaskins was arrested and booked into Monterey County Jail for DUI, burglary, possession of stolen property and credit card fraud.

Gaskins' female juvenile passenger was determined to be a runaway juvenile from Santa Cruz County. She was held by police until her parent could come take custody of her. The juvenile was not charged with any crimes related to the theft or possession of the stolen property, or the use of the stolen credit card.