



CYNTHIA RENAUD, CHIEF OF POLICE
SANTA MONICA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Press Release

VANS & REI LOOTING ARREST

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Santa Monica, CA – On 05-31-20, the REI and VANS stores in Santa Monica were ravaged by looting. In the following weeks, Detectives with the Santa Monica Police Department scoured hours of security video and social media posts. A suspect vehicle was identified by searching social media videos of the civil unrest. It showed a vehicle license plate with two suspects loading various items from REI. After reviewing REI security video, the two subjects were identified inside the store removing thousands of dollars of merchandise. During the investigation one of individuals was also identified as the suspect of an assault on a police officer.

The Manhattan Beach Police Department stopped the wanted vehicle and notified Santa Monica Police Department Detectives. The occupants of the vehicle were determined to be the two outstanding suspects and were subsequently arrested.

A search of the suspect vehicle pursuant to a search warrant led to the recovery of several stolen items from both the REI and the VANS store.

Suspect #1

Martinez, Sebastian M/H 2/22/1996
El Segundo, CA
Cited out due to COVID for 463(a)PC
and 459PC.

Suspect #2

Gutierrez, Christopher M/H 11/5/2000
Transient Los Angeles
Booked for 245PC and 463(a)PC;
In SMPD custody.

If you have any information related to this crime please contact Detective Buus or Detective Burciaga at (310) 458-8491.

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