

Office of the City Manager · 555 Santa Clara Street · Vallejo · CA · 94590 · 707.648.4575

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 26, 2013

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Lieutenant Lee Horton, Bureau of Professional Standards, Public Information Officer, 707-649-3570, lhorton@ci.vallejo.ca.us

Nimat Shakoor-Grantham, Code Enforcement Manager, 707-648-4469, nimat@ci.vallejo.ca.us
Mike Schreiner, Assistant Maintenance Superintendent, Streets, 707-648-4319,

mikes@ci.vallejo.ca.us

CITY OF VALLEJO ARRESTS FOR ILLEGAL DUMPING AND GRAFFITI VANDALISM

The City of Vallejo announces several citations and arrests for Illegal Dumping and Graffiti Vandalism. Since its inception in December 2012, the City's Inter-Departmental Collaboration Team has been actively working and sharing information that have led to several citations and arrests in connection to Illegal Dumping and Graffiti Vandalism. The team is comprised of City staff from several Departments and Divisions, including the Police and Public Works Departments, and Code Enforcement Division, among others, who work together on a number of quality of life issues facing Vallejo residents, businesses and visitors.

Less than a week after the first Inter-Departmental Collaboration Meeting, contact was made with a resident suspected of illegally dumping a mattress in the roadway. A citizen witnessed the illegal activity, and after obtaining the license plate number contacted the Vallejo Police Department (VPD) to report the crime. VPD Officers were able to track down the suspect who admitted to the crime and received a misdemeanor citation.

Two additional subjects were subsequently arrested for illegal dumping on February 8, 2013. The first subject repeatedly dumped refuse into the dumpster of a private business on Fairgrounds Drive. He was identified by the VPD and arrested for illegal commercial dumping. The other subject dumped furniture into the middle of Lozier Alley. A resident witnessed the crime, took down the business information on the side of the truck, and notified the Code Enforcement Division in person. Code Enforcement Officers went to the dumping site to capture photographs to later be used as evidence, and VPD Police Officers identified the suspect via photo line-up. An arrest warrant was later issued and the suspect arrested.

Additional arrests were made on December 31, 2012 when Vallejo Police Officers located three men suspected of Graffiti Vandalism. Two of the three were minors. The adult, Matthew Oranje, was arrested for vandalism, conspiracy, and for a violation of his probation. Oranje, also known in the tagging world as Harn, owes nearly \$13,000 in restitution for the tagging of City Property since his initial judgment in 2009, and to date has only paid \$60.00 towards his original charges.



"We are enthusiastic about the collaborative efforts to improve Vallejo's quality of life," said Police Chief Joseph Kreins. "We will continue to work together as a team to isolate these issues, investigate the complaints, identify the suspects, and prosecute to the fullest extent of the law."

Citizen complaints of illegal dumping are referred to Code Enforcement, 707-648-4469, unless the dumping is in progress, in which citizens should call 9-1-1 immediately. As many details as possible should be provided to the dispatcher, including; license plate number, suspect description, and anything else that might be helpful to identify the suspect in the future.