

NATIONAL EQUIPMENT REGISTER SEARCH FOR VICTIMS

FRAUDS COMMITTED ON LIGHT CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT

Offenders steal light construction equipment from dealers, retailers and rental operators through a scam involving stolen credit card numbers and over the phone orders, purchasing cut off saws, generators and other light construction equipment which they then pawn or sell online through sites such as craigslist.com. The victimized business may not realize a fraud occurred until they receive a chargeback on the transaction weeks or even months later.

There has been little recourse for these victimized businesses to pursue the offenders. Now is the opportunity to change that.



Information from American Rental Association members distributed in an ARA/NER Advisory generated leads on an offender committing these frauds in Oklahoma, which NER communicated to Investigator Jim Wolfe at Tulsa County Sheriff's Office. Using information provided by the victims, Investigator Wolfe's unique intuition, dedicated follow-up and diligent police work lead him to the identification and location of the offender; Investigator Wolfe coordinate an arrest in Kay County, Oklahoma in April, 2009.

The offender was identified by fingerprints as Daniel L Ashworth- pictured above at his arrest, and below is the Chevrolet Pickup used in many of the frauds. Ashworth is accused of committing frauds in Colorado, Kansas, Kentucky, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas, and potentially elsewhere, using the alias **John Paul Ancona**.

Investigator Wolfe has secured the cooperation of the Chief Prosecutor of the US Attorneys Office, Northern District of Oklahoma, to prosecute Ashworth on Federal

charges; as Ashworth is a habitual, career offender conviction on these charges could result in very significant prison time- ***if enough victims come forward.***

To bolster the Federal case, it is critical that anyone victimized by Ashworth/AKA Ancona report information on the crimes to Investigator Wolfe As Soon As Possible

If you believe you were victimized by the subject, or received reports potentially involving the subject, please contact Tulsa County Sheriff's Office investigator Wolfe (918-596-8703) or email details to jwolfe@tco.org

The suspect potentially originated in Florida, and may have committed similar thefts from California to Arkansas and any points in between. Please forward this advisory to any potential victim.

A PDF version of this advisory, and Security Video of attempted theft can be viewed at:

http://www.stopequipmenttheft.com/Advisory_OK.html



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