

## Residential Burglaries Investigation with Arrest

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**10/30/2014**

**Incident:** Residential Burglaries Investigation with Arrest

**Contact:** Watch Commander, 805-339-4416

**Location:** 12 Ventura area residences

**Date/Time Occurred:** July 2014 – September 2014

**Officer(s) Involved:** Ventura Police Street Crimes Unit detectives and Ventura Police patrol officers

**Suspect(s):** Robert Beltran, 28 years of Ventura

**Narrative:**

Beginning in July 2014, the City of Ventura began experiencing an increase in daytime, residential burglaries. Most of the crimes were occurring on weekdays, between mid-morning hours and early afternoon hours. During the same time period, several residential burglaries occurred at residences that were being fumigated.

Ventura Police Department Street Crimes Unit (SCU) Detectives began a comprehensive investigation into the crime trend. In mid-August, several leads were developed in the investigation that led to the suspect, Robert Beltran.

When Beltran was identified as the suspect, he already had an active felony warrant in Ventura County for a grand theft case handled by the SCU, and he also had a felony warrant out of Los Angeles County. He was on active probation in both Ventura County and Los Angeles County for narcotics related offenses.

For the majority of the daytime burglaries that occurred in the Ventura area, Beltran used stolen vehicles so that they would not be traced back to him if it was seen by any witnesses during the commission of the crime. He would dress in construction attire or as a fumigation worker to blend into the neighborhoods and park directly in front of or adjacent to the victims' houses, walk around the property and usually enter by breaking a rear or side door or window. He was typically very selective in what property was taken: firearms, jewelry and high-end electronics. These were chosen because of their value and ease in selling, pawning and trading for drugs.

The investigation led to east Los Angeles County where it was discovered Beltran had been staying periodically throughout the crime spree in attempts to avoid law enforcement in Ventura County. Some of the stolen property from a specific Ventura residential burglary had been pawned in that area.

At that point SCU Detectives began working with Los Angeles County Sheriff's burglary detectives. This portion of the investigation led investigators to at least eight additional residential burglaries that Beltran was responsible for in that jurisdiction.

Information regarding Beltran being a suspect in the on-going daytime residential burglaries had been provided early on to area agencies and specifically to Ventura Police patrol officers through their daily and weekly briefings. This was done in an effort to help them identify any similar, fresh residential burglaries that Beltran may be involved in and to possibly help patrol officers locate him or his vehicle while on their patrols.

On September 12, 2014, Ventura Police patrol officers located Beltran in a stolen vehicle. He was arrested in the 2600 block of E. Main Street in Ventura. The subsequent search of the stolen vehicle revealed a stolen firearm from a recent Ventura County residential burglary and additional stolen property from other area residential burglaries. The stolen vehicle was recently stolen from a residential burglary in Ventura.

Since Beltran's arrest, detectives have conducted extensive follow up that has led to additional searches, arrests and recovery of additional stolen property. At this time, all stolen property recovered has been returned to the rightful owners.

Beltran was booked on numerous charges on the date of his arrest and has since been transferred to Los Angeles County where he is in custody on violation of probation. SCU detectives have completed a warrant charging Beltran with numerous counts of residential burglary and possession of stolen vehicle.

The investigation into this incident is ongoing. Anyone with information related to this incident is urged to call the Ventura Police Department at 339-4309.