



Marin County Sheriff's Office
Bureau of Administration and Support Services
Professional Standards Unit

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Two Arrested in Theft from Indian Valley Golf Course

Novato, CA – Just after midnight on July 27, 2010, Marin County Sheriff's Office Deputy Chris Bondanza was conducting extra patrol in the area of Indian Valley Golf Course in response to reported ongoing thefts of gasoline from the facility's maintenance area. As he checked the area, he discovered a man hiding in the bushes. The man fled on foot but was subsequently apprehended by Deputy Bondanza. A pair of pliers and a flashlight was found in the man's possession.

As the deputy was handcuffing the first subject, he heard a second subject flee from a nearby area of vegetation. With the assistance of a canine unit from the Novato Police Department, the second subject was also apprehended.

During a search of the area, deputies located a green 1996 Ford Explorer belonging to one of the men parked on nearby Vineyard Road. Deputies located four full five gallon gas cans in the area of the SUV. During their investigation, deputies also found gasoline spilled on the ground from one of the maintenance trucks belonging to the golf course. In addition, two vent caps from the property's gasoline storage tanks had fresh pry marks on them.

Ronald Bolton (a 45 year old Novato resident) and Michael Mueller (a 57 year old Novato resident) were booked at the Marin County Jail on charges of theft, conspiracy and resisting arrest.

Anyone with information can call the sheriff's office at 415-499-7233 or Bay Area Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-TIPS and possibly receive a cash reward.