Suspects Charged in Burglaries to Police Vehicles

Arrested Suspects:

Rashaud Desean Benjamin, B/M, 02/10/1994 of 2700 26th Street North, St. Petersburg

Randy Revell Stanley, B/M, 04/18/93 of 2464 14th Avenue South, St. Petersburg

On Saturday, April 6th, 2013, officers investigated a burglary to a City of St. Petersburg issued covert police vehicle which was parked outside the home of one of our undercover detectives.

The home is located in the NW portion of the city and the burglary took place sometime between 3:00 pm on April 5th to about 7:00 pm on April 6th, 2013.

During the burglary the suspect(s) stole the detective's ballistic vest, a police radio, cell phone charger and flashlight. No firearms were in the car at the time.

That same afternoon officers located the stolen police radio and flashlight inside a recently recovered stolen Lexus RX330 sedan. Forensic evidence from that vehicle was linked to the two noted suspects above, Benjamin and Stanley.

Benjamin was stopped and arrested by detectives yesterday afternoon in a Honda Civic at 13 Avenue North and 25th Street. At that time he was found in possession of property taken from the burglary of the undercover detective's vehicle as well as property taken from the unmarked police vehicle of Detective Matthew Furse which was stolen on March 25th, 2013 and later found in Lake Maggiore.

After his arrest, Benjamin assisted detectives in recovering three police ballistic vests stolen from the two police vehicles.

Benjamin was subsequently charged with two counts of auto burglary to the two police vehicles and one count of auto theft related to the theft of the Lexus.

Randy Stanley was arrested by detectives this morning and claimed that while he did not participate in the burglary to the two police vehicles, he did take possession of the three police ballistic vests for which he paid $600. He was charged with Dealing in Stolen Property and 1 count of Auto Theft related to the stolen Lexus as well.
Detectives say that it's not clear at this point whether Benjamin and Stanley were specifically targeting police vehicles or not. Detectives do believe that there are others who have knowledge or participated in these crimes and are asking anyone with information to come forward.

Anyone with information should call the non-emergency number at 727-893-7780, Text-A-Tip to 727-420-8911 or leave a confidential tip at 727-892-5000.

Information released by Mike Puetz, 727-893-7550, michael.puetz@stpete.org

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