For Immediate Release
Jul 10, 2013

Suspect Charged in Burglaries to Tented Homes

Arrested Suspect; Christopher Alexander, W/M, 02/26/1988

Wanted Suspect: Michael Joseph Murphy, W/M, 10/22/76

On Monday June 8th, at about 8:55 a.m., officers responded to a reported burglary in progress at 4235 32nd Avenue North. The resident at that address had observed the suspect, later identified as Alexander, attempting to break into his house via the back door.

As the officers arrived on the scene, Alexander fled and entered the garage of another residence down the street attempting to hide from the police. A K-9 officer tracked him to the garage at 4210 33rd Avenue north where he was found hiding in the rafters.

Prior to his arrested yesterday, burglary detectives had been looking for Alexander regarding his involvement in a series of burglaries to homes that had been tented for fumigation. Over the previous five months, twelve residences that had been tented by various pest control companies have suffered burglaries city wide.

Alexander became a suspect in late June when his wife, Candice Marie Alexander, 10/20/1987, sold some property taken in one such burglary to an antique store. She was subsequently charged with Dealing in Stolen Property and Violation of Probation for Grand Theft.

Initial efforts to locate Christopher Alexander after his wife’s arrest were unsuccessful until yesterday.

Christopher Alexander is being charged with six counts of residential burglary with three of those cases being to tented residences. Alexander acknowledged his participation some of the burglaries, but not all twelve. He stated that he would break into the fumigated homes, but would have his face covered with a painters mask to protect himself.

Detectives are also looking for a co-defendant who they believe participated with Alexander in several of the burglaries. He has been identified as Michael Murphy, 36 and his current whereabouts are unknown. Murphy is 5’10” 145 lbs with red hair and brown eyes. He has a tattoo of a tiger on the inside of his left forearm and one of a dragon on his right.

St. Petersburg Police are asking for the public’s assistance in locating Murphy. 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.

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