Charter Fishing Captain Catches Tackle Thief

St. Petersburg Police arrested a 15-year old boy for stealing several hundred dollars worth of fishing rods and tackle from a charter fishing captain's backyard.

The victim, Craig Richardson, 830 40th Ave N.E., had fishing tackle stolen from a gazebo in his fenced-in backyard three or more times since Thanksgiving and decided to install a hunting/sports camera.

Early January 5th, the camera captured a teen climbing the fence and taking rods and tackle from the gazebo.

Richardson posted the photos on his facebook page (C.A. Richardson) and within minutes several friends identified the teen as frequenting local fishing shops and nearby fishing spots. Richardson found the suspect on Facebook and matched the photos.

Richardson reported the theft and all the information he gathered to St. Petersburg Police detectives on January 5th. Police detectives arrested the juvenile that same day. He is charged with residential burglary.

Richardson is willing to talk to the media. He can be reached at 727-647-9356.

This is another example of how surveillance cameras can help fight crime. Please register all commercial and residential cameras with the St. Petersburg Police's Eagle Eye program on the department website.

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Yolanda Fernandez