



PRESS RELEASE

*Seal Beach Police Department
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ARREST MADE IN \$74,000 COMMERCIAL BURGLARY

Seal Beach, CA – the Seal Beach Police Department arrested a commercial burglary suspect responsible for a \$74,000 theft of jewelry.

On September 1, 2023, Kohl's loss prevention officers reported to Seal Beach Police Department that on August 31, 2023, three male suspects had worked in concert to steal approximately \$73,877 in gold jewelry from the Kohl's department store located at 12345 Seal Beach Blvd, in the City of Seal Beach. Surveillance cameras captured the commercial burglary and provided a detailed description of the suspects.

After the commercial burglary occurred, all three suspects fled the area in a grey BMW sedan and the license plate was recorded by loss prevention officers. A Kohl's internal "Be On the Look Out" (BOLO) was created and distributed to all Kohl's department stores in the region.

On Friday, September 15, 2023, a loss prevention officer at the Kohl's department store located at 4093 Grand Ave, in the City of Chino, observed several subjects inside the store and detained them based on suspicious activity. Upon detention, the loss prevention officer recognized one of the subjects from the Seal Beach BOLO.

On September 15, at about 4:30 pm, the Chino Police Department responded to the Kohl's department store and detained the subjects including the male subject believed to be involved in the commercial burglary from the Seal Beach store on August 31st. Seal Beach police detectives were notified and responded to the Chino Kohl's location.

The male subject was recognized from the Seal Beach commercial burglary, placed under arrest, and transported to Seal Beach Police Department. During a Miranda interview, he admitted involvement in the commercial burglary in Seal Beach on August 31st and confirmed he was one of the suspects depicted on the Seal Beach Kohl's surveillance footage.

The male suspect was identified as Brandon Libardo Bustos-Bermudez, age 30, of Riverside. Bustos-Bermudez was subsequently transported to Orange County Jail and booked on charges of CPC 459, Burglary; CPC 487(a), Grand Theft; and CPC 182(a)(1), Conspiracy to a commit a crime.

"The Seal Beach Police Department is committed to maintaining the safety and security of our community. We take incidents of retail theft seriously and will diligently investigate all such cases. Retail theft not only harms businesses but also impacts the prices consumers pay for goods. Perpetrators of retail theft will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law," said Chief Michael Henderson.

Chief Henderson continued, "We encourage business owners and employees to report any suspicious activity and provide any information that can assist in our investigations. The Seal Beach Police Department commends Kohl's loss prevention officers who remain diligent in their surveillance and investigations to identify, detain, and prosecute those who commit retail theft."

This is an ongoing investigation, anyone with information is asked to contact Detective Sergeant Gibson at (562) 799-4100 ext. 1172 or jqgibson@sealbeachca.gov.

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