



City of Ridgecrest Police Department

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Ronald Strand, Chief of Police

Press Release

DATE and TIME OF INCIDENT: June 17, 2008, 1840 hrs.

TYPE OF INCIDENT: Unlawful Disposal of Hazardous Waste

CASE # 08-1954

VICTIM: State of California

LOCATION OCCURRED: Pearson Park-1100 Blk. N Downs St

On 06/17/2008 at about 1840 hours, Officers Ryan Marrone and Bill Groves responded to Pearson Park on the report of several hypodermic syringes having been found near the playground.

Upon arrival, Officers located several used syringes with exposed needles scattered around the park. The park was quickly closed and calls for assistance went out to the Police Departments Volunteer Organizations.

Several members of the Ridgecrest Police Departments PACT (Police and Citizen Together) and CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) groups responded to the scene to assist. With the assistance of PACT and CERT, a thorough search of the entire park was conducted however, no additional syringes were located. These same search teams then responded to other parks in our community and conducted systematic searches at those locations. No contraband was located at the other locations either.

At the time of this press release, no suspects have been identified. This investigation is ongoing and the Police Department is dedicated to identifying the persons responsible for this crime. If you have any information that may assist us in this case, please call us at 760)499-5100.

Please remember that syringes and other medical equipment may be dangerous if handled improperly. Please also ensure that children do not have access to these types of medical instruments and always remember to dispose of used syringes properly.

Ronald N. Strand- Chief of Police

PREPARED BY: Sergeant Robert OBergfell

Wednesday, June 18, 2008