



Press Release

City of Redondo Beach
Police Department

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE

Subject : Redondo Beach Police Arrest Four Suspects for Identity Theft

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From April 25th to May 3rd, 2007, detectives from the Redondo Beach Police Department served several search warrants in Los Angeles, Pasadena, and Inglewood. This was in connection to an identity theft case that involved the illegal 'skimming' of victims' credit cards. Detectives identified numerous victims who had used their credit cards in local restaurants and had their account numbers compromised. However, there may be many more victims. The suspects, who were employed in a specific restaurant that the victims' patronized, carried small concealable 'skimming' devices that they used to download the victims' information. This scam was usually accomplished when the victim gave the suspect their credit card to pay for their bill.

Arrested were 19 year old Aaron Davis of Inglewood; 25 year old Brandon Thomas of Pasadena; 24 year old Kelvin Kaufman of Los Angeles; and 25 year old Rochelle Bennett of Los Angeles. Detectives recovered skimming devices, a laptop computer, a credit card encoder with software, approximately fifty counterfeit credit cards, several hundred blank credit cards with magnetic strips, and eighteen thousand dollars in cash.

It is believed that once the suspects were in possession of the victims' credit card information, they manufactured a new card using the victims' account numbers. They would then go on shopping sprees at various department stores or obtain gift cards that they could use or sell.