

Welcome to this edition of BOLO News. BOLO News is a monthly newsletter for law enforcement subscribers of [ScrapTheftAlert.com](http://ScrapTheftAlert.com) to share success stories and other information that may be pertinent in the ongoing fight against metals theft.

### Theft of U.S. Postal Service Property

According to U.S. Attorney Office news releases, from July 2010 through early 2014, two employees of a private mailer used their employer's truck (and later a rented truck) to steal more than 2,500 aluminum postal carts from two U.S. Postal Service bulk mail centers in Maryland. The men spray painted over the postal logos and sold the carts to area metal recyclers, reportedly receiving more than \$400,000 during the span of the thefts. The pair was arrested and both eventually entered guilty pleas to multiple charges in U.S. District Court. One of the defendants was sentenced to seven years while the other received a two year sentence. Both were ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$404,795.

Unfortunately, this is not an isolated case. From plastic pallets to aluminum mail carts, theft of delivery equipment costs the Postal Service millions of dollars each year. The replacement costs in the aforementioned case alone was \$3.5 million. The Postal Service does not sell used or damaged delivery equipment. Disposal of damaged equipment is done through certified recyclers and is managed by the Mail Transportation Service Center. Individual postal employees are not authorized to sell or dispose of equipment.

ISRI is working with the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, the law enforcement branch of the Postal Service, to raise awareness among law enforcement and scrap recyclers as to the seriousness of the theft of postal equipment. Theft or misuse of postal equipment is a federal offense; a violation of Title 18, U.S. Code, Section 1707 – Theft of property used by Postal Service. Violation of this section calls for up to three years in prison and/or a fine.

Attached is a [poster](#) distributed by the Postal Service identifying mail transportation equipment (MTE) and calling for the return of any such property. Law enforcement and scrap recyclers are reminded - just as any stolen metal can be cut or disguised, so too can MTE.

The MTE Recovery Hotline number is (866) 330-3404 or email [HQMTE@usps.gov](mailto:HQMTE@usps.gov).

### Look for ISRI at Upcoming Law Enforcement Gatherings

As part of ISRI's ongoing effort to build awareness and work with law enforcement to tackle metals theft, ISRI will be participating at the



### Reader Poll

Have you worked with the U.S. Postal Inspection Service or any other federal agency on a metals theft investigation?

- A.) Yes
- B.) No

**VOTE**

Last month we asked readers, "Are you aware of the scrap metal business reporting requirements in your state?"

Here are the results:

Yes	67%
No	22%
Not Sure	11%

following upcoming law enforcement conferences:

#### **National Sheriffs' Association Annual Conference**

*June 26-July 1, Baltimore, MD*

ISRI will be presenting a seminar titled *Tackling Metals Theft: A Billion Dollar Crime in Need of a Community Based Solution* on Sunday, June 28 from 9:45 – 10:45 a.m. (worth 1 credit hour). This seminar focuses on the efforts taken by ISRI and the recycling industry to combat metals theft by working hand-in-hand with law enforcement, prosecutors, and community leaders. The seminar will help you gain an understanding of scrap recycling operations, the economic damage and threat to our critical infrastructure caused by metals theft, metals identification, industry compliance requirements, and ISRI resources available to law enforcement to fight metals theft.

In addition, look for ISRI at booth 733 on the exhibit show floor.

#### **FBI Annual Training Conference and Exhibition**

*July 11-14, Seattle, WA*

Look for ISRI on the exhibit show floor at booth 207.

#### **Fraternal Order of Police National Conference**

*August 9-13, Pittsburgh, PA*

Look for ISRI on the exhibit show floor at booth 314.

#### **IACP Annual Conference and Exposition**

*October 24-27, Chicago, IL*

Look for ISRI on the exhibit show floor at booth 4855.



#### **In the News**

[Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries Partners with MCPA to Combat Metals Theft](#)

*Minnesota Police Chief Magazine, Spring 2015*

[Copper Thieves Risk Lives; Disrupt Others](#)

*Williamson Daily News, June 7, 2015*

[Fast-Thinking Cop Foils Scrap Metal Theft](#)

*One News Page, June 2, 2015*

[Copper Theft from Rails Rise with Metal Prices](#)

*CNBC, June 2, 2015*

#### **Questions?**

Contact ISRI Director of Law Enforcement Outreach [Brady Mills](#) or call (202) 662-8526 for more information.



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