



# SUCCESS THROUGH PARTNERSHIP BOLO NEWS



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[ScrapTheftAlert.com](http://ScrapTheftAlert.com)

## ISSUE 5 – June 11, 2010

Welcome to the fifth edition of BOLO News. Sorry for the delay. It's been a busy spring for all of us.

### ScrapTheftAlert.com

ScrapTheftAlert continues to be gaining in success and popularity with law enforcement, recyclers, and other stakeholders. As of this printing, almost 1350 alerts issued and there are over 7500 registrants on the system nationwide. Of those, nearly 1600 are law enforcement officers, with more registering daily. Based on the number of alerts issued so far this year, well more than twice as many alerts will be issued through ScrapTheftAlert.com in 2010 than in 2009.. Generally, the alerts are much more informative, with excellent descriptions of the stolen property. More of you are attaching photos with your alerts. This is very helpful for the recyclers as they try and locate your stolen property. **Thanks for your extra effort!**

### What NOT to list in a Theft Alert

I know I harp on you folks a lot about what you SHOULD include in a theft alert, but there's one thing we ask that you NOT include: suspect or arrestee information. As cops, we all benefited from some amount of freedom to discuss suspects. But the scrap industry doesn't have that same freedom. If someone is mistakenly misidentified as a suspect, the scrap industry is not as immune to civil action as you are in most jurisdictions. So, I'd like to ask that when you issue your alerts, to **NOT** list suspect or arrestee information. Some alerts have come to me with this information, and I have had to edit it out. Feel free to list a physical description of your suspect, clothing description, or a vehicle description. If you have suspect information, you can note that in the narrative, and request that anyone who needs further information can contact you.

### **Here are a few tips or suggestions when using ScrapTheftAlert:**

After you register for ScrapTheftAlert, remember your password. If you have forgotten it, click on "Forgot Password" or you can contact me and I can get it for you.

When issuing an alert, click on the "submit" button only once. It usually takes a couple of minutes for your alert to be broadcast.

Make sure that the spelling for the city and the zip code are correct. If the zip is wrong or if the city is misspelled, it will cause the program to act like one of my former sergeants. The program gets totally confused and little work gets done.

When submitting your photos, make sure they are 2 megs or less each, and when you name each photo you are uploading, do not include any symbols or spaces in the name, i.e. # - ! % @. This will cause the program to reject them.

If you have a problem entering your alert, contact me and I can assist you.

### Success Stories

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### **Pasadena, California**

On 05-03-10, **Jed Holley** of **SA Recycling** in **Hesperia, California**, issued a theft alert on behalf of **Pasadena Police Department** for stolen antique light poles that been stolen several days prior. **Gary Morgan**, Manager of SA Recycling of the Long Beach facility received the alert (which had photos attached) and realized that he had taken this material in just prior to the alert having been issued. He contacted the case officer, **Detective Andrea DeLeon** from the Pasadena Police Department. All of the stolen property was recovered, and arrests are imminent. **Congratulations and nice job!**

### **Ypsilanti, Michigan**

On 05-04-10, **Detective Justin Scott** of **Eastern Michigan University Police Department** in Ypsilanti issued a theft alert for several spools of direct burial primary cable. The stolen cable was specific and easily identifiable. Later that day, Detective Scott was contacted by **Rick Wade, VP of Purchasing for H & H Metals** in nearby Inkster, Michigan. Rick Wade, who had received the theft alert, advised Detective Scott that he had material matching the description from the alert. Detective Scott able to obtain a positive identification on the property and H & H Metals. Working with Rick Wade, Detective Scott was able to identify the two suspects in the theft. Arrests are imminent and most of the property was recovered. **Congratulations and nice job!**

### **Suggestions**

If anyone has any suggestions for material to be included in these newsletters, please let me know. I'd like to include items that would be of interest to the law enforcement community.

Please encourage your fellow officers, crime analysts, supervisors, and patrol officers to sign up for ScrapTheftAlert at [www.scraptheftalert.com](http://www.scraptheftalert.com).

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