



## PRESS RELEASE

Pursuant to Cal Govt. Code sect 6254(f)  
Gilroy Police Department  
Press Information Office  
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**TYPE OF CRIME:** Multiple Graffiti Arrests  
**LOCATION:** Various locations (see below)  
**SUSPECTS:** See Below

**CASE NUMBERS:** See Below  
**DATES:** 3/31/09 – 4/16/09

### Details

Gilroy Police Department Officers have arrested 8 Graffiti Vandals since 4/1/09.

On 3/31/09 at approximately 2324 hours, (2) 17 year old males were arrested for vandalism in the 1000 block of Byers St. These graffiti vandals were using stickers with their graffiti monikers and felt tipped markers to deface light poles when a citizen spotted them and called 911. The 17 year olds were arrested for conspiracy to commit vandalism, felony vandalism (over 400\$ in damage) and possession of graffiti implements. Case 09-1538. Our Anti-Crime team graffiti investigator, Hugo Del Moral conducted additional follow up and ultimately charged 1 of the 17 year olds with an additional 120 counts of vandalism. All of these counts of vandalism occurred within the City of Gilroy. Cost estimates are not available at this time, but this cleanup will likely cost several thousand dollars. Case 09-1594.

On 4/1/09 David Anthony Dimas (DOB 10/14/1989) and a 15 year old juvenile were arrested to the rear of the Hecker Pass Plaza shopping center located in the 1300 block of First St. These suspects were using spray paint to "tag" the shopping center walls. Dimas and the 15 year old were charged with vandalism, and conspiracy to commit vandalism. Dimas was also charged with contributing to the delinquency of a minor. Case 09-1577. Our Anti-Crime team graffiti investigator, Hugo Del Moral, conducted additional follow up and ultimately charged the 15 year old with 3 additional counts of graffiti (7933 Wren Av, 7681 Monterey St, and El Roble Park). Case 09-1701.

On 4/8/09 at approximately 2106 hours an anonymous citizen called the police department to report suspicious subjects on the campus of El Roble School. Officers contacted several juveniles and ultimately arrested a 17 year old male for "tagging" a water fountain with a marker. This 17 year old may be responsible for more graffiti within the City and this case is currently under investigation. Case 09-1706.

On 4/10/09 at about 2004 hours a GPD Officer witnessed a 16 year old "tagging" a utility box with a marker near the intersection of Camino Arroyo and E. 6th Street. The juvenile ran when they noticed the officer. Ultimately officers arrested the 16 year old for misdemeanor vandalism. Case 09-1733.

On 4/15/09 at about 2249 hours GPD officers responded to 350 Mantelli Drive (Las Animas Park) on a report of a male harassing a female. Upon arrival an officer contacted 6 juveniles in the area of the picnic tables. Officers located graffiti implements and "tagging" on the picnic tables. A 17 year old male was arrested for misdemeanor vandalism and possession of graffiti implements. Case 09-1815.

Investigator Del Moral is currently working on cost estimates to remove all of this graffiti (not currently available. Early indications lead us to believe that these 8 individuals are responsible for several thousand dollars worth of damage throughout the City.

For any media inquiries please call (408) 846-0347. Anyone with information on Graffiti Vandals are urged to contact Investigator Del Moral at 846-0384.

**\*End of Media Release\***

BY: Sergeant Gillio #2244