

T O R R A N C E

Press Release

Police Department

Commercial Burglary Arrest

DR# 120073809

March 9, 2013

After a three-month long investigation, Torrance Police Detectives charged four adults from the Los Angeles area with multiple counts of commercial burglary, conspiracy to commit a crime and possession of stolen property stemming from several commercial burglaries that occurred throughout Torrance and Los Angeles County.

Javon Zachery, 21-year-old from Compton, Dean Hampton, 26-year-old from Lynwood, Reginald Wilson, 20-year-old from Compton and Avion Speed, 21-year-old from Bellflower, were charged after Torrance investigators were able to pin them to 16 commercial burglaries in Torrance and over 50 commercial burglaries total throughout Los Angeles County.

The subjects would enter a department store that was open for business, select a large amount of women's clothing and/or accessories, conceal it on their person and leave the location while making no attempt to pay for the items selected. The suspects would target women's dress shoes and purses when entering each respective store.

Warrants were later served in the cities of Compton and Bellflower and additional stolen property was recovered which helped investigators link the suspects to additional commercial burglaries. Torrance Investigators were also able to tie all four suspects with a criminal street gang based out of the City of Compton which now allows the District Attorney's Office to add gang enhancements to all of the suspects' charges. Gang enhancements allow for suspects to be given longer sentences and makes them ineligible for early release under Assembly Bill 109. AB109 was enacted by the state in 2011 and allows for low-level inmates to be released early from their respective sentences as the state attempts to reduce the state prison population.

This case could not have been culminated without the assistance from other local law enforcement agencies, the District Attorney's Office and the relentless follow-up by Torrance Gang Investigators. The Torrance Gang Unit is comprised of three Gang Enforcement Detectives and 12 Gang Enforcement Officers that was formed when the city identified the need to conduct regular checks with these early release inmates who are on parole or probation and who live in or impact the City of Torrance. Torrance City Council was instrumental in the addition of the three detective positions and the re-formation of the Gang Unit which has shown immediate results.

This investigation is being investigated under the command and direction of Captain Rodney Irvine of the Torrance Police Department Patrol Bureau. Anyone with additional information about this arrest is encouraged to contact the Torrance Police Department at (310) 328-3456.

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TORRANCE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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