

## SAUSALITO POLICE DEPARTMENT

John Rohrbacher Chief of Police

## PRESS RELEASE:

## LICENSE PLATE RECOGNITION CAMERAS LEAD TO ARREST OF THREE PEOPLE FOR IDENTITY THEFT, STOLEN PROPERTY, AND NARCOTIC CHARGES

For immediate release:

9-2-21 1700 Hours PR 1 SP21-525 Captain Bill Fraass (415) 289-4170

On Thursday, September 2, 2021, at approximately 11:25 AM, the Sausalito Police Department received an alert from our License Plate Recognition cameras of a vehicle entering Sausalito from the 4000 block of Bridgeway. The license plate had been stolen from an Audi in San Francisco on August 17, 2021. The photograph taken by the LPR camera showed that the stolen license plate was on a Toyota sports utility vehicle.

Sausalito Police Officers responded immediately and began to search for the Toyota. At approximately 11:32 AM, Officer Adam Clerici located the Toyota and a traffic stop was affected at the intersection Bridgeway and Gate 6. Officers removed the driver, Alexander KOLESNIKOV (39-year-old male resident of San Francisco), and the two passengers, Marie NICOLO (32-year-old female resident of San Francisco) and Edward STILLWELL (44-year-old male resident of Alameda) without incident.

None of the occupants of the Toyota were its registered owner. A search of the vehicle revealed tools commonly used to commit burglaries, suspected methamphetamines, suspected heroin, stolen mail, an additional stolen license plate, fraudulently obtained property, and equipment used to make fraudulent identification cards for identity theft associated crimes.

KOLESNIKOV was arrested for possession of stolen property, conspiracy to commit a crime, possession of burglary tools, and identity theft. NICOLO was arrested for possession of stolen property, conspiracy to commit a crime, possession of burglary tools, identity theft, and false identification to a police officer. STILLWELL was arrested for possession of stolen property, conspiracy to commit a crime, possession of burglary tools, identity theft, possession of methamphetamines, and possession of heroin. KOLESNIKOV, NICOLO, and STILLWELL were all transported and booked in the Marin County Jail.

Since the City of Sausalito's License Plate Recognition Camera program became operational on Thursday, May 18, 2017, fifty-five (55) stolen vehicles have been recovered and sixty-five (65) individuals have been arrested for various crimes. The goal of the License Plate Recognition Camera program is to



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increase public safety by utilizing technology to alert law enforcement to wanted vehicles, enhance post-crime investigative abilities, and deter crime by increasing the likelihood of suspect identification.

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