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Sheriff's Arson Unit Seeks Help Identifying Suspects in Green Line Fires

- Seeking two 'persons of interest' in elevator fires ruled arson

By NED RACINE

(Dec. 11, 2007) Transit Services Bureau (TSB) detectives are asking for help in locating two "persons of interest" who might have information regarding two fires in Metro Green Line elevators.



Sheriff's arson investigators are trying to identify two black males caught on surveillance cameras. They are suspected of starting fires at two Metro Green Line stations. If you have information about this case, please contact the Arson & Explosive Detail and Crime Impact Team, attention Detective M. Digby or deputies Smith or Mammolite, at 323-881-7500 or 323-563-5000. Digby can also be reached at mdigby@lasd.org.

On Thursday, Dec. 6, TSB deputies responded to an elevator fire at the Green Line's Harbor Freeway Station at 7:42 p.m. They responded to another elevator fire, at the Vermont Station, at 8:09 p.m.

Based on the suspicious natures of the fires, deputies notified the Sheriff's Department arson unit. An investigator from that unit determined on Dec. 7 that the fires were not caused by an electrical problem, were caused by arson and were started using the same method.

A review of station closed circuit television records showed a black male in his 20s wearing an oversized gray hooded sweatshirt at both stations near the time of the fires.

According to Luis Castillo, Rail Operations supervisor, the elevators have been repaired but await final Metro approval.

Sheriff's arson investigators are seeking information on two persons of interest:

> A black male, 18-25 years old, approximately six feet tall and between 195 and 215 pounds with medium complexion. On the video the person is wearing a Sean-Jean long-sleeve gray hoodie sweat shirt with blue stripes on the sleeves, white T-shirt, dark baggy pants, and basketball shoes with white shoe laces, black toe, and white sole

> A black male, 18 to 25 years old, approximately six feet tall and between 175 and 190 pounds with dark complexion. He was wearing a black baseball cap, extra large white T-shirt, dark baggy pants and black and white shoes with a white toe.

