



SANTA ANA POLICE DEPARTMENT



NEWS UPDATE

Date: 2/13/07
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On January 25, 2007 the Santa Ana, Costa Mesa, and Newport Beach Police Departments concluded a ten-month long investigation that focused on an identity theft ring that targeted the Vietnamese community and various high-end nationwide department stores. On that date, five residences were searched and evidence connected to the crimes was seized, along with four suspects taken into custody. A fifth suspect, Tammy Nguyen, was not located and a warrant was issued for her arrest.

Tammy Nguyen was arrested last night, 2/12/07, at her cousin's residence in the city of Garden Grove. Her boyfriend, Quang Huynh, was also arrested and charged with aiding Ms. Nguyen evade the police. The arrest was made by members of the U.S. Marshals Pacific Southwest Regional Fugitive Task Force in collaboration with detectives from the Santa Ana Police Department's Economic Crimes Unit.

The suspects used stolen identities to obtain fraudulent credit accounts which were used to purchase expensive merchandise. The merchandise was then returned to the stores in exchange for cash. The total number of victims is not known and value of the loss is estimated at \$248,000.

ARRESTEES:

- Tammy Nguyen, age 26, charged with multiple theft and identity theft related charges.
- Quang Huynh, age 25, charged with accessory to theft and identity theft related charges.

Booking photos available to the media