



## **PALMDALE STATION**

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[www.lasd.org](http://www.lasd.org)

### **News Release**

**Leroy D. Baca, Sheriff**

Industry Sheriff's Station team members of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Industrial Plastic Theft Task Force located stolen trademark plastic products worth in excess of \$500,000.00, and an illegal plastic grinding operation.

The discovery was made at 9:00 A.M. on Wednesday, October 26, 2011, when members of the task force conducted a Business and Professions Code Compliance check at a recycling yard at the 500 block of East Pine Street, Compton. Also related was an adjacent residence on the 500 block of Oak Street.

There were several thousand trademarked plastic products along with a plastic grinder, saw and scale at the location

67-year old Suspect Ernest Ojeda is the owner of the recycling yard and was arrested at the location for felony violations of Receiving Stolen Property, 496 PC and Illegal Possession of Trademark Plastic Products, 565 PC. Suspect Ojeda was released after posting bail of \$20,000.00. Compton Fire Department firefighters were called to the scene by deputies to remove hazardous materials including oil and other toxic substances on the property. The recycling yard is under investigation for operating a business without a license.

The Industry Sheriff's Station Industrial Plastic Theft Task Force continues to make major recoveries of stolen plastics and to make arrests of persons for these crimes.

The theft of these plastics is an organized effort by thieves who have trucks and co-conspirators working at businesses throughout Los Angeles County and the entire region. Sheriff's investigators are recovering property stolen from victims throughout Los Angeles County, especially the San Gabriel Valley as well as communities in neighboring counties such as the Inland Empire. The plastic pallets are often stolen from the loading docks behind businesses. Below are news releases from a few other recent recoveries and arrests by sheriff's deputies: \$2 million in stolen plastic and \$120K in marijuana recovered (October 10, 2011): (Update: Investigators with the United States Postal Service are seeking federal prosecution of the suspects involved in this case): <http://bit.ly/sKFLxE>

\$1.3 million worth of stolen plastic containers recovered (May 11, 2011): <http://bit.ly/sKFLxE>

Detective Shelley Jones

Sergeant Nabeel Mitry

Industrial Plastic Theft Task Force

Industry Sheriff's Station

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Forwarded by:

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Partner to prevent or report crime by contacting your local Sheriff's station. Or if you wish to remain Anonymous, call "LA Crime Stoppers" by dialing 800-222-TIPS (8477), texting the letters TIPLA plus your tip to CRIMES (274637), or using the website <http://lacrimestoppers.org>

To receive detailed, up-to-date information directly from the LASD via e-mail and/or text, register for "Nixle" alerts at <http://www.Nixle.com> and register for "LASD-HQ Newsroom (SHB), Los Angeles County Sheriff" and also register for your local LASD station area. Or, text you zip code to 888777 to receive text alerts only. Standart text messaging rates may apply, depending on your calling plan.

For Additional Information Contact:

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