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Chief of Police

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Media Release

Date: March 3, 2016

Case Number: TI16-4183

Classification: Grand Theft

Offense Date/Time: March 2, 2016

Offense Location: 11903 Gulf Blvd, Treasure Island

On March 2, 2016, the Treasure Island Police Department received a call for service, regarding a stolen bicycle. The victims, who were vacationing from Michigan, were staying at the Ebbtide Motel in Treasure Island at the time of the theft. The bicycle was described as a 29-inch men's cobalt blue "Felt", valued at approximately \$600.00 dollars. At that time, suspect information was limited.

On March 3, 2016, the victims discovered their bicycle for sale on Craigslist for \$150.00 and contacted the investigating officers. Using information from Craigslist, Treasure Island Police Department officers made arrangements to meet with the suspect to "purchase" the bicycle. Officers met with the suspect at his workplace on John's Pass in Madeira Beach; however, the suspect had sold the bike to another person before officers arrived. Post Miranda, the suspect, Richard Sancho, admitted to the theft and provided information to officers which assisted them in the investigation. Utilizing investigative resources, Treasure Island Police Department Officers tracked down the bike to an address in Largo. Sancho, age 38, was arrested and charged with Grand Theft and Dealing in Stolen Property and later transported to the Pinellas County Jail.

This afternoon, the victims were reunited with their bicycle.



If you believe you are the victim of a similar crime and it occurred in Treasure Island, please contact this agency and make a report by calling 727-547-4595.

Detective Dan Savarese

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